

NEW ORLEANS CENTER FOR THE GULF SOUTH
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

4th Annual NOCGS Indigenous Symposium
Tulane University, New Orleans
March 18-19, 2022

**Sassafras, Stickball, and Stories:
Indigenous Cultures of the Gulf South**

We are pleased to share with you the inaugural CFP for the Annual New Orleans Center for the Gulf South Indigenous Symposium at Tulane University. The symposium will take place March 18-19, 2022 on Tulane's Uptown campus and the first day will be devoted to presentations selected through our CFP. **Our theme is a broadly defined examination of the cultures of Indigenous Nations currently or formerly situated throughout the Gulf South.** In the wake of Hurricane Ida and the profound impact of climate change on Indigenous nations we are keen to hear from communities and cultural bearers from these areas. Whether in the face of disasters or discrimination, maintaining culture is an act of resistance against those forces seeking to destroy it.

We welcome presentations from a wide variety of disciplines, and would like to prioritize presentations on coastal communities, climate change and cultural response, resistance, and adaptation to these challenges. This CFP is open to both conventional paper presentations as well as artistic expressions. Graduate students, faculty members, independent scholars, and artists are welcome to submit proposals. We are especially interested in featuring Indigenous presenters. We describe the Gulf South as the coastal region roughly from Texas to the Florida Keys, and from the Gulf of Mexico inland via waterways and other roads well traveled.

Native people are often expected to demonstrate, embody, and perform culture by idealized mainstream notions. The symposium explores the notion of "culture" and the myriad ways it is expressed, and practiced in contemporary Native communities in the Gulf South region. We also invite proposals on the evolving practices and cultures of Indigenous peoples over time and the enduring power of community, tradition, and culture in shaping contemporary Indigenous identity and in addressing climate change and other challenges of our time.

Potential topics to explore may include but are not limited to:

- Artistic expressions via medium of choice
- Clothing
- Expression of Indigenous humor
- Dance
- Environment
- Foodways
- Language
- Material Culture

Music
Poetry
Songs
Sports
Storytelling trends

Submission Guidelines: Individual papers and panel submissions (3-4 participants) are welcomed, as are proposals for presentations in non-traditional formats such as poetry, film and other artistic expressions. Abstracts should be 250-300 words in length and include a brief (100-word) bio of each presenter. Proposals should be submitted to NOCGSteam@tulane.edu and the **submission deadline is November 15, 2021**. Notifications will be sent by the end of December.

We look forward to exploring these topics and more with you in this multidisciplinary event. Please send any queries to Dr. Jeffery Darensbourg and Dr. Laura D. Kelley at NOCGSteam@tulane.edu