

2023 Preliminary Information

The 2023 conference will feature Organized Symposia, General Sessions for individual papers, Poster Sessions, and Roundtable discussions. We provide preliminary information here for planning purposes: details on the how to submit proposals will be provided this summer.

Proposals for Organized Symposia or Roundtables will be due by a deadline of 1 September 2022.

An Organized Symposium features a set of thematically linked presentations plus time for discussion and/or Q&A.

Roundtables are primarily for discussion of a discrete topic identified by the organizer/chair, who will be responsible for organizing and moderating the discussion. There are no formal presentations at the roundtable meeting.

Proposals will be accepted between 1 August and 1 September. Submission instructions will be forthcoming. Submissions (and presentations) may be made in English or French.

Symposium proposals will include a session abstract and a list of presenters who have either agreed to participate or will be invited to do so, with tentative paper titles.

Roundtable proposals will identify the topic and the proposed discussion format – e.g., moderated open discussion among attendees, discussion among invited panelists, or some combination. If panelists are envisioned, names should be included.

Most sessions will be in hybrid format, accommodating both in-person and online presentations. Rice classroom and conference spaces are fully equipped for hybrid events: in-person attendees will be able to see virtual attendees on-screen, and virtual attendees will be able to see the speaker's screen-sharing.

There will be a limited number of online-only sessions. These will be scheduled in an early morning Houston time slot, to maximize participation by members and attendees in later time zones. Please take this into consideration if you are planning an organized symposium. Online sessions may be particularly useful where none of the participants envision attending in person.

The Organizing Committee will evaluate proposals and notify proposers by 30 September of their decision. Criteria for evaluation include scope and substance; the Organizing Committee may recommend changes, or request that individual papers or an entire session be considered for an alternative, poster format.

Paper and poster abstracts will be due by a deadline of 1 November 2022. Abstract submission forms and procedures will be made available at the beginning of October. Submissions (and presentations) may be made in English or French

All proposers should be familiar with the SAfA Statement of Professional Behavior and ensure that their contributions are consistent with the Society's values.

A note on roles

To maximize participation, each participant will be allowed to take on up to three of the following roles:

- Presenter of a poster or paper. Each participant is limited to being lead author/presenter on ONE paper or poster.
- Symposium or roundtable (co-)chair. Participants may chair more than one session.
- Symposium discussant. Participants may be a discussant in more than one session.

For example, a participant may be lead author/presenter of one paper, and co-chair two symposia. All participants leading a paper or poster, chairing a symposium or roundtable, or acting as a discussant, must be SAfA members. For papers and posters, there is no limit to the number of additional (non-presenting) coauthors.

Membership Requirement

It is a privilege of membership to be a participant in the Biennial Meeting of the Society of Africanist Archaeologists. All participants in SAfA 2023 Meeting must have current membership in the Society, both at the time of registration and the meeting itself.

If you have any questions regarding the submissions process or policies please email the SAfA Conference organizers safa2023conference@gmail.com