



AAMG 2025 BELONGING:

Storytelling Across Campus and Community

The 2025 AAMG Conference Committee invites participants to continue the conversation on belonging that started with last year's virtual conference. Belonging informs the work we do with our collections, exhibitions, programs, communications, and fundraising as well as our internal organizational infrastructure and culture. It is also a critical aspect of our respective institutions' relationships with students, campus and local communities. When examining how we create belonging in its multiple forms, how does that inform the stories we tell?

The question of storytelling taps into these pressing issues in our field and impacts how we position our institutions as well as how our campuses and the public view us. Storytelling as a strategy makes our teaching, research, and outreach legible to our parent institutions, governing bodies, and external communities.

AAMG members expressed enthusiasm to continue examining the theme of belonging and explore how to make a case for their museums and galleries to various stakeholders, particularly those outside the university system.

We invite proposals that include the voices of our college and university colleagues - faculty, students, administrators, staff, and others - as well as professionals outside the field who can help us learn together about what belonging means and how to put it into practice.

Some questions to start (but not limit!) your proposal:

- How does my museum tell its story within my higher educational institution via its teaching, programming, exhibitions, acquisitions, publications, staffing, funding allocations, and so on?
- What do I do as a museum staff member and/or AAMG member to support students telling their stories and social and academic relationship-building?
- How can museums and galleries help solve the problems facing higher education and our communities by providing spaces where difficult conversations can be held?
- How do we use our stories to build coalitions within and outside of higher education?

PROPOSALS ARE DUE WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2024

Proposal types:

session	poster throw (new this year!)	problem solving workshop
panel discussion	facilitated roundtable	

Have a proposal idea, but looking for more participants to fill it out? Query the AAMG listserv or social media platforms and find colleagues to connect with! Drop your note soon so that you don't miss the deadline.

All sessions will be 60 minutes each.
Items required for all proposal types:

1. Contact and institutional affiliation for all presenters including bios (up to 150 words)
2. Confirm that if submission is accepted you and all speakers will register and pay for conference registration. Discount codes will be provided for speakers.
3. Only AAMG members can submit proposals. AAMG members may sponsor a non-member presenter that is affiliated with the topic.
4. Confirm that you will provide and manage any slides or audio/visual presentations associated with your session.
5. Indicate proposal type from the list above.
6. Title of your proposal (15 words)
7. Description of your proposal (less than 350 words) Include why your session is innovative and relevant to the conference topic or academic museum field. Include up to three learning objectives/outcomes.
8. Abstract (less than 100 words) This is what will appear in the conference schedule.
9. Intended audience (Check all that apply: Curatorial & Collections; College/University and Museum Leadership & Management; College/University and Museum Education & Community; Visitor Experience; Diversity, Equity, Accessibility and/or Inclusion; Civic Discourse; Academic Museums 101; Emerging Professionals; Students)
10. How does your proposal fit the AAMG 2025: Storytelling conference theme and description? (less than 250 words)

Proposal Information & Guidelines

SESSION

Three presenters speak for ten minutes each on a focused topic, allowing time for a Q&A at the end (30 minute for presentations and 30 minutes for Q&A). Proposals must include information on all presenters. One person must serve as the chair of the session; they can be a presenter as well, or just serve as chair. Sessions are 60 minutes.

PANEL DISCUSSION

Panels have 3–4 speakers, with one panelist or convener serving as moderator. A minimum of 15–20 minutes should be reserved for dialogue with the attendees, following the discussion. The moderator is responsible for managing slides and timekeeping. Tell us the topic, what each panelist will contribute, and how the proposal relates to the conference theme. Panel discussions, including Q&A, will be 60 minutes (45 minutes for discussion and 15 minutes for Q&A).

POSTER THROW!

Introducing AAMG's first-ever "Poster Throw!" Combining the visual aids of posters with the high energy, quick paced presentations of throw downs, this session invites eight presenters to share 5 minutes talks on powerful ideas and research, while displaying their posters throughout the entire conference. This is an excellent opportunity for students and emerging professionals to share a special program, project, or practice. Poster specifications are as follows: each presenter will have an easel, a black foam core support (40"x32"), and two heavy duty clamps. Dimensions are limited to 40" x 32" (101.6 cm x 81.28 cm). Posters will be printed and paid for by AAMG - there will be no additional cost to you for presenting a poster.

*Would you like to be a part of our new presentation mentorship program? Stay tuned for a call for mentors to help our emerging community prepare for conference presentations. If you would like to be paired with a mentor, please indicate that in your proposal.

FACILITATED ROUNDTABLE

We are looking for 10 facilitators to host a small group discussion around a topic. No formal presentation is necessary. These roundtables create space for attendees to converse in a semi-structured format on a topic of mutual interest. This is a great networking opportunity! We invite you to propose a topic and explain why your skills, experiences, and interests will contribute to your success as a discussion leader, particularly as this relates to the conference's theme. As the roundtable facilitator you will offer a 15 minute overview of your topic and your personal or professional connection to it, and then facilitate a conversation with attendees. Facilitated roundtables will be capped at 10 participants.

Examples of Facilitated Roundtable Topics from 2024:

- From Welcome to Well-being: Fostering Mentorship in Internship Programs
- Innovations in Strategic Planning
- The Next Generation: How Do We Prepare Future Museum Professionals to Defend Their Value?
- Creating a Cohesive Project Team in Community Collaborative Exhibits
- No Liberation Without Community: Making Space for BIPOC Students in a Predominantly White Field

PROBLEM SOLVING WORKSHOP

Typically focused, workshops should be centered on a real or relevant problem of practice in your organization and encourage participants to collaborate on developing questions, strategies, and ideas for implementation. Whether through presentation, group discussions, or a combination of both, participants should have some kind of take away from these sessions to try at their own institutions.

Conference Planning Checklist to Get You Started

- Seek professional development support from your institution. Registration rates will be announced soon. Presenters and volunteers will receive a discounted registration rate.
 - Submit a proposal before the deadline!
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