

COMMON FIELD

OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS: 2019 PHILADELPHIA COMMON FIELD CONVENING

Now accepting proposals for the 2019 Philadelphia Common Field Convening

Convening dates: April 25-28, 2019

<https://www.commonfield.org>

Primary Venue: Friends Center, Philadelphia, PA

COMMON FIELD CONVENING: APRIL 25 - 28, 2018, PHILADELPHIA, PA

The Common Field Convening is an annual itinerant gathering that brings together 450+ visual arts organizers to share resources, ideas, and methods for artist-centered spaces, projects and practices. The Convening is a place for dialogue, workshops, practical and social exchanges exploring the current state of our field.

The goal of the Convening is to develop local and national peer connectivity, build knowledge from the field, and create a growing set of resources to share broadly. The Convening connects and incorporates the interests, themes, and issues of the national Common Field network with the issues, contexts, and conditions specific to the convening site. Common Field is committed to providing opportunities for both value-driven discussions and practical tools and skills— a need expressed by our Network members and the field at large.

Learn more about Philadelphia's art community while engaging people from artists' communities across the country—people who may become potential collaborators, mentors, mentees, and friends.

The Common Field Convening: (originally Hand-in-Glove) a local gathering organized by Threewalls in Chicago in 2011; has since been hosted in New Orleans 2013 (Press Street), Minneapolis 2015 (Soap Factory + Works Progress); Miami 2016 (BFI, Cannonball, Dimensions Variable, and Locust Projects); and in Los Angeles 2017 (Center for Land Use Interpretation, Human Resources, Materials + Applications, Women's Center for Creative Work).

Public registration for the Convening will launch in February 2019. Convening content will be documented and available for public access online after the Convening has concluded.

ABOUT COMMON FIELD

[Common Field](https://www.commonfield.org) is a national network of independent visual arts organizations and organizers that connects, supports, and advocates for the artist-centered field. Founded in 2013 and launched in 2015, the Common Field network has 545+ members across the US. Programs include national convenings, grants, research, resources, forums, meet-ups and advocacy. Our vision is to increase understanding, involvement and knowledge of artists organizations and their value, and increase their capacity through national connectivity, dialog understanding and support.

<https://www.commonfield.org>

GUIDELINES

DEADLINE

The 2019 Call for Convening Proposals will close at 11:59PM PST on Monday, November 5, 2018.

ELIGIBILITY

- You must be a current Common Field member in order to apply to the Open Call for Convening Proposals.
- All current members (organizations and organizers) are eligible. To learn more about how to join, visit <https://www.commonfield.org/join/>.
- Scholarships are available to offset the cost of membership. Contact hello@commonfield.org to learn more.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

- Submit your session proposal through our online [Submittable form](#).
- Carefully review the Guidelines before starting your application.
- Collective proposals are welcome and encouraged. Each proposal will be submitted under the name of one lead contact person and they will be main point of contact for all further communication.
- Sessions organizers who will not be participating can be proposed/organized by people who will not be presenting themselves; please note that we are only able to financially support those presenting with honoraria and travel support.
- You may submit more than one application; however, only one application may be selected for the Convening.
- We recommend you prepare your application in a separate Word processing program. When you are done, please copy and paste your responses into the submission form.

PROPOSAL CATEGORIES

Each proposal must be identified in one of the following categories. Please read below for more information about each category so that you may select the one that best suits your proposal. All sessions (with the exception of Projects/Tours) last 90 minutes.

*Conversation

*Dialogue

*Panel

*Projects/Tours

*Reports from the Field

*Workshop

Conversations: Conversation sessions offer an opportunity to explore practical and theoretical topics through intimate group conversation. These sessions are designed to begin with very short introductions by presenters, who then facilitate group dialogue, engagement and conversation with session attendees.

Up to 4 potential/confirmed presenters

Dialogues: These sessions feature two speakers in an intimate conversation, with time for discussion/questions from the audience.

2 confirmed presenters

Panels: These moderated discussions feature a curated group of 3 to 4 speakers who share perspectives and experiences, and include opportunity for questions/discussion with the audience.

Up to 4 potential/confirmed presenters (including moderator)

Projects & Tours: Artist projects can take the form of archiving projects, performances, tours, publications, book signings, and tables at the Convening site (Friends Center) and in adjacent neighborhoods. These should occur during the Convening's main hours: Friday and Saturday from 10am - 6pm.

Up to 3 potential/confirmed people

Reports from the Field: These presentations should highlight localized activity, organizers, or organizations, and share larger themes and ideas that give Convening attendees a window into a specific geographic focus, project, or topic.

Up to 4 potential/confirmed presenters

Workshop: In these small, skill-sharing sessions (~25 participants), attendees work with practitioners to develop and discuss tools, gain hands on experience, engage in specific types of training and exchange tactics.

Up to 2 potential/confirmed presenters

REVIEW PROCESS AND SELECTION CRITERIA

-Applicants will be notified on the status of their proposal by January 15, 2019.

-Proposals received through the open call are reviewed by a selection committee comprised of national and local partners.

-Common Field has the capacity to select approximately 25 proposals from the Open Call.

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- General strength and vision of proposed idea
- Timeliness of proposed topic as a current and pressing concern for organizers in the field
- Potential to build and share knowledge among convening attendees
- Supports a diverse range of presenters and organizers to participate in the Convening
- Values difference and supports diversity in all its forms
- Capacity of the applicant(s) to realize the proposal

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- Each Individual Presenter will receive an honorarium of \$200.

- If traveling from out of town, presenters will receive a travel stipend of up to \$600.

- They will receive a free one-year Network Membership and a free ticket (valued at \$150 or \$125) to attend the Convening.

- Detailed financial support will be shared with accepted presenters as part of the confirmation process if your proposal is accepted.

ATTENDANCE AND SCHEDULING

Proposals selected from the Open Call will be scheduled for Friday, April 26th or Saturday, April 27th. Selected presenters are required to present at the time and location assigned to them by

Common Field, and are strongly encouraged to be active participants in the Convening beyond their own session.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

If your proposal is not accepted through the open call process, Common Field has a national scholarship program you are welcome to apply for. The deadline to apply is January 25, 2019. Up to 25 scholarships are available. The total value of each scholarship is up to \$1,000, and includes a free one-year membership to Common Field, one membership level convening ticket (\$125 value), and up to \$875 reimbursement for round-trip travel and accommodations.

COMMON FIELD CORE VALUES & COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS

The organizers of the Common Field Convening strive to create an open and inclusive environment in which participants feel safe to take risks and engage in critical discussions. We see the need for safer spaces in all organizing and are committed to it as part of our work. We encourage our attendees to learn how to create such spaces in each of our gatherings and adopt such practices pertinent to their own organizing. It is very important that presenters, as well as participants, understand and agree to our values and vision for creating a safe and equitable Convening.

Core Values:

- We are a network of artists' organizations and organizers who embrace interwoven roles as artists, curators, administrators, and organizers. We build from the rigor, experimentation, risk-taking, and responsiveness of contemporary artistic practices.
- We challenge dominant discourses and offer alternatives to the status quo. We put difficult ideas and imaginaries into the world. We support practices and projects that emerge from the ground up.
- We organize as a field in order to strengthen one another through collective action, shared information, and mutual support. We demonstrate equitable pay, self-determination, and healthy work environments
- We value difference in all its forms. We create structures, build platforms, and advance thinking that support diversity in identity, geography, history, orientation, perspective, and circumstance.
- We support organizing that generates new contexts for creation, circulation, and critique. We engage with changing social, political, and economic conditions, prioritizing the role of art organizing within these broader concerns.
- We use sharing, open communication, and problem solving as a way of modeling new forms of equity and power. We are transparent in our governance, decision making, communication, goals, and finances.
- We foster a culture of collaboration. We are equally committed to listening, to self-critique, to feedback, and to modification and calibration as part of our collective evolution.

[Learn more about these working Values on our website](#)

APPLICATION

- To propose a session for the Common Field 2019 Convening in Philadelphia, please complete your application in our online [Submittable application form](#).
- DEADLINE: The 2019 Call for Common Field Convening Proposals will close at 11:59PM PST on Monday, November 5, 2018.
- Please review the Open Call for Convening Proposals Guidelines before completing your proposal!
- We welcome questions. Get in touch with Crystal Baxley, Convening Program Director, through convening@commonfield.org
- If submitting these documents electronically poses an accessibility barrier, please contact Crystal for assistance at: 626-566-8984 or convening@commonfield.org.

[Please review FAQs here](#)

HERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE APPLICATION FORM BELOW FOR YOUR REFERENCE AND TO HELP YOU PREPARE YOUR PROPOSAL:

Section 1: MEMBER & PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION

Section 2: PROPOSAL

Section 3: OPTIONAL SUPPORT MATERIALS

Section 4: PRIMARY CONTACT ADDITIONAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

SECTION 1: MEMBER & PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION

Common Field Membership Type

Link to Common Field Member Profile

Contact Information

First Name

Last Name

Organizational Affiliations (if applicable)

Email

Address

Phone

Website

Bio (150 word limit)

Social Media Handles (if applicable)

Proposal Organizers (if applicable)

SECTION 2: PROPOSAL

1. Session Format: Please pick your session format:

Conversation, Dialogue, Panel, Projects/Tour, Report from the Field, Workshop

If you are proposing a Workshop, how many participants can your workshop accommodate?

2. Session Title
3. Session Description (300 word limit)
4. Audience Engagement (100 word limit)
5. A/V Needs
6. Collaborative/Group Name (if applicable)
7. Additional Presenter Information (if applicable)
 - Name
 - Confirmed or Proposed
 - Link to Common Field Organizational/Organizer Profile (if applicable)
 - Organizational Affiliations (if applicable)
 - Bio/Website (150 word limit)
 - Email
 - Location (City, State, Country)
8. Accessibility Requests

SECTION 3: OPTIONAL SUPPORT MATERIAL

You may include up to two forms of support materials with your application. You will be prompted to upload digital files or type in URLs. Please include a short description of each image, video, URL or piece of writing. Upload your image description list as a single PDF document.

Uploads:

- Short description list (formatted as a PDF)
- Images: You may submit up to 6 digital images – formatted as JPG, GIF, TIFF, or PNG files (not to exceed 800 x 600 pixels, 180 dpi).
- Writing: You may submit up to two pieces of writing – formatted as PDF(s).

Links: Please add a list of your links to the Support Materials URL text box.

- Video: You may submit up to two videos or or three excerpts of videos. We will view up to FIVE minutes in total. Please submit URLs to Vimeo, Youtube, or a personal portfolio website.
- Web-based Projects: You may submit a list of up to 2 URL

SECTION 4: PRIMARY CONTACT ADDITIONAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Have you attended a previous Common Field Convening?

If so, which year(s) did you attend?

Have you presented at a previous Common Field Convening?

If so, which year(s)?

Have you participated in other Common Field projects such as Field Perspectives, Meet-Ups, Field Conversations, Field Grants, or Field Conversations.

If so, which one and when?

Are you a Philadelphia/surrounding area resident?

If so, what neighborhood do you live in?

Are you a student?

If so, what kind of program are you enrolled in?

I identify as (select as many as apply):

Black, Afro-Caribbean, or African American

Latinx

East Asian

South Asian or Indian

Middle Eastern or Arab

Native American, Alaskan Native, or First Nations

Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Non-Hispanic White or Euro-American

Unlisted

Prefer not to answer

I identify my gender as (select as many as apply):

Agender

Bi-Gender

Female

Gender-fluid

Genderless

Genderqueer

Gender Neutral

Male

Non-binary

Trans

Third Gender

Two-Spirit

Unlisted

Prefer not to answer

My pronouns are (select as many as apply):

She/Her

He/Him

They/Them

Ze

Unlisted

Prefer not to answer

I identify as LGBTQIA

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Age