

Crisis, Culture, and Communities

34th Annual Far West Popular Culture Association Conference

Las Vegas, Nevada | March 4-6, 2022

Call for Papers

The 34th Annual Far West Popular and American Culture Associations (FWPCA/ACA) Conference is currently accepting paper submissions and panel proposals. The conference will be held remotely from March 4 to March 6, 2022. The conference, true to its Las Vegas roots, is open to a variety of cultural and interdisciplinary studies and celebrates alternative and post-modern approaches.

The FWPCA welcomes contributions by established and rising scholars, including graduate students. Conference submissions are subject to peer review. Papers presented will be published in the online proceedings with no claims of exclusivity, meaning they can be submitted elsewhere as is or after further development.

This year's conference's theme touches on the ways that popular culture has reflected the challenges and reactions to them over the past several years. The experience of the pandemic, racial violence, and political upheaval left many feeling isolated; yet there is also the possibility of (re)joining with others to create positive change. The pandemic has influenced popular culture, but it also gives us a different lens through which to view past works.

We are accepting individual paper presentations, sessions of three thematically-linked papers, and roundtable panel discussions. Topics include the most inclusive range of popular and American culture studies, with a special focus on:

- Film/Television
- News Media
- Online and Social Media
- The American Far West
- Las Vegas and Urban Space
- Food and Cuisine
- Music
- Video Games
- Education and teaching
- Family
- Cultural Studies
- Social and Political Issues
- Protest and Resistance
- Black Popular Culture
- Latinx Popular Culture
- Asian and Pacific Islander Popular Culture
- Indigenous Cultures
- Queer Popular Culture
- Gender Studies
- Comic books
- Gambling
- Organized crime
- Pandemic Culture
- General Popular Culture
- Creative Work

Application

To apply for the conference, visit the [FWPCA's online portal](#). Click "[Submit Event](#)." If you do not already have an account, you may be prompted to create one. If you already have one, you will go directly to the "Submit Research" page. In the appropriate fields, provide the requested information.

There are three options for "Presentation Type:" "Paper" covers everyone who is presenting a traditional academic paper or creative piece. "Panel" is if you are a panelist on a roundtable who is not formally presenting a paper. "Keynote" is for someone giving a keynote address. If you are proposing a complete session, please have each presenter register independently, noting in the comments that they want to be on your session.

When you register, please submit a title, five to six keywords, and an abstract of no more than 250 words, with your full paper (if applicable) due shortly before the conference. We will be using this system to notify you about the status of your presentation, and you will use it to upload your finished paper (if applicable).

When your paper is accepted, you will be able to upload a full paper and register for the conference.

About the Conference

The FWPCA exists to foster the study of popular culture in its many forms across a diverse range of academic disciplines and through a variety of intellectual approaches, with a special emphasis on topics concerning Las Vegas, the state of Nevada, and the American Far West more broadly. It includes the study of literature, music, theater, film and television, comic books, games, and creative work of all types, both historically and of the current day, from across cultures.

To further this end, the FWPCA organizes an annual conference that embraces inclusivity, intellectual growth, and the exploration of how popular culture intersects with the past, present, and future. The conference embodies the legacy of FWPCA founder Felicia F. Campbell, who pushed boundaries and forged new paths throughout her long career. It is a platform for sharing ideas that help us rethink how what we read, hear, watch, play, and create can tell us more about ourselves and each other. The conference is held annually in Las Vegas, Nevada, either in person or remotely.

The FWPCA strives to create a welcoming, inclusive environment that fosters engagement and exploration by all. The organization does not tolerate discrimination based on age, creed, color, gender, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, military status, predisposing genetic characteristics, or any other category protected under applicable law. Our work is conducted in a spirit of mutual respect and intellectual curiosity.

To Learn More

The cost of registration and accommodation arrangements are forthcoming. The FWPCA will be accepting proposals for individual papers, complete sessions, and panel discussions until January 31, 2022, with applicants notified by mid February.

For all inquiries about the conference, the program, or the organization, please email popularculture@unlv.edu. For more information, see <https://www.fwpc.com>