

Call for Session Proposals

Society of Architectural Historians 80th Annual International Conference Chicago, Illinois, April 14–18, 2027

The 80th Annual International Conference of the Society of Architectural Historians (SAH) will be held in Chicago from Wednesday, April 14 to Sunday, April 18, 2027. The Society invites those interested in the history of the built environment to submit a proposal to chair a session at the conference.

The purpose of the SAH Annual International Conference is to inform conference attendees of the general state of research in architectural history and related disciplines. Session proposals covering every period in the history of architecture and all aspects of the built environment, including landscape and urban history, historic preservation, and cultural heritage are welcome. The scope is global.

Sessions may be theoretical, methodological, thematic, interdisciplinary, pedagogical, revisionist, or documentary in premise and have broadly conceived or more narrowly focused subjects. Sessions that embrace cross-cultural and transnational topics are particularly welcome. Session proposals that focus on Chicago and Midwest America are encouraged. Sessions may address critical issues in architecture in any period or topics that intersect architecture with archaeology, environmental studies, landscape design, and art history.

Each session will comprise 5-6 papers, with each presentation allotted a duration of 15 minutes. SAH encourages diverse presentation formats. In every case, the subject should be clearly defined in critical and historical terms. Proposals will be selected based on merit and the need to create a well-balanced program.

SAH welcomes SAH Affiliate Groups, SAH Chapters, SAH partner organizations, and other groups in the field to submit a proposal to organize a session. The Society also seeks proposals for sessions that further the goals of the [SAH IDEAS Initiative](#): Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accountability, and Sustainability, by exploring the intersection of architecture and social justice, inclusion and exclusion, diversity, transparency, accessibility, borders and conflicts, systemic inequalities, and methodological challenges.

Since late submissions cannot be considered, proposals must be submitted before the deadline.

Additional Information

- [Process for Annual Conference Session Selection](#)

Submission Guidelines

Session proposals must be submitted online by **11:59 pm CST, on Monday, January 12, 2026**. The Conference Chair and members of the Annual Conference Session Selection Committee will review and select the sessions.

Prospective session chairs (a session can have a maximum of 2 Session Chairs) must include the following in their proposal:

- A session title not longer than 65 characters, including spaces and punctuation
- Summary of the subject and the premise in no more than 300 words
- Name, professional affiliation (if applicable), address, telephone number, and email address for each session chair
- A current CV (2 pages max) for each chair

[SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL](#)

To be considered session proposals MUST be submitted through the online portal by the deadline.

Session Chairs of accepted session proposals may be asked to revise their proposal for the Call for Papers (no more than 300 words). The Call for Papers will be published on the SAH website on March 25, 2026, and distributed in subsequent SAH Newsletters, social media posts, and broadcast emails. See the [2026 Call for Papers](#) for examples of session descriptions (beginning on page 5).

SAH membership is required to chair a session and present research at the Annual International Conference. Non-members who are selected to chair a session or deliver a paper will be required to join SAH in August-September 2026 when conference registration opens for session chairs and speakers.

Session chairs are expected to fund their own travel and related expenses to participate in the conference. A copy of the Session Chair Guidelines that includes deadlines and step-by-step processes will be distributed upon selection. Session chairs and speakers are required to join SAH or renew their SAH membership and pre-register for the conference in August-September 2026.

Key Dates

January 12, 2026, 11:59 pm CST - Deadline to submit a session proposal

March 2, 2026 - Session selection notification begins

March 16, 2026, 5:00 pm CDT - Revised session proposals due

March 25, 2026, 3:00 pm CDT - Call for Papers opens

June 8, 2026, 11:59 pm CDT - Call for Papers closes

June 10, 2026 - Session Chairs start reviewing paper submissions

July 13, 2026 - Session Chairs make final selection of papers and begin to notify speakers

August 1, 2026 - Deadline for notification by Session Chairs to all submitters

August 12, 2026 - Session Chair and Speaker registration opens

September 30, 2026 - Session Chair and Speaker registration closes

Contact

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