



The Tri-Faith Initiative and UNO's Religious Studies department invites submissions for the second annual Race, Religion, and Social Justice Conference that will be held on **June 8th, 2023 on the Tri-Faith Commons in Omaha, NE**. The conference will address intersections between race, religion, and social justice across different sectors of society. We invite multi-sector approaches - nonprofit and civic leaders, diversity, equity, access, and inclusion (DEAI) practitioners, community members, educators, health and mental health practitioners, artists, religious communities, and scholars. We are seeking papers and presentations that address topics associated with Building Bridges of Hope.

Hope is not simply wishful thinking; hope is an intentional, confident expectation that the social issues we are addressing ought to, and can, be overcome. This conference is making connections across differences – institutional differences, divided communities, and dissimilarities between individuals.

We are seeking presentations on topics including but not limited to:

- Resiliency and wellness
- Diversity, equity, access, and inclusion (DEAI)
- Youth and education
- Immigration and refugees
- Multi-sectoral institutional responses to injustice and reconciliation, such as within religious institutions, businesses, and schools
- Arts, theater, and creative initiatives
- Political polarization and democracy
- Racial diversity within religious traditions
- Religious diversity within communities of color

Sessions will be focused on professional learning and community engagement and provide key takeaways for participants. We welcome the following types of presentation formats:

Education Sessions (30-minute presentations or panels with 15-minute Q&A)

Presenters share their work, innovations, or new opportunities. The presenters are responsible for leading the conversation, providing new and varying perspectives, and offering practical applications of their work. The education sessions can be held as brief individual presentations (e.g., TED Talks) or panels.

Conversation Sessions (45-minute time slots)

Presenters lead a facilitated conversation in which participants will discuss an issue or challenge, in order to help examine or solve the problem. The proposal should include the conversation topic and engaging questions for discussions. This session type should be highly interactive with planned activities for participant engagement, and the proposal should describe specific activities as well as specific discussion questions.

Workshops (45-minute time slots)

Presenters engage participants in an activity related to the conference topics. Workshops should be structured with collaboration between the presenter and participants and between participants. In the proposal, please clearly describe the activities in which participants will engage.

Visual and Performing Arts (45-minute time slots)

Presenters will develop a creative display of visual or performing arts that directly engages a conference topic. They will be available to discuss their presentation with conference participants. Space requirements and other accommodations may be specified in the proposal.

Other

If you have an idea and you are not sure how it fits, please propose it!

Proposals must include the following information:

- Presenter name(s)
- Professional bio (including experience and profession) - word limit, expectations of bio
- Title of proposal
- 200-word summary
- Key takeaways/Value/Learning Outcomes
- Presentation style - Lecture, PowerPoint, performance
- Special requests/needs
- Sign up to moderate options

Please submit your proposal by February 17, 2023 via the form at trifaiith.org/rrsj-cfp. If you have any questions, please email RRSJ@trifaiith.org.

The Journal of Interreligious Studies (JIRS) is planning a special issue for the annual conference. The issue will potentially include both peer-reviewed articles and conference proceedings. Presenters will have the opportunity to submit their work as a peer-reviewed article to the JIRS; acceptance to the conference does not guarantee publication in the special issue. All presenters will have the opportunity to submit conference proceedings and the journal's editorial team will work with presenters to accomplish this task. To learn more about the JIRS, visit www.irstudies.org.

In solidarity,

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