Dear TSA Members

We are excited to reannounce the 2020 Symposium in Boston, MA USA. At the Vancouver Symposium some of you voiced your concerns that the use of “women” in the symposium title limited and excluded. We heard you – and absolutely agree. Thank you so much for your deep thinking and thoughtful comments. We think you will find that the new conference title, Hidden Stories/Human Lives, acknowledges much of what we were trying to accomplish with the original title but is more inclusive of all who are in the textile and TSA community. We look forward to your thoughtful responses to the new theme and are excited to read your abstracts.

See below for abstract submission information.

See you in Boston.

TSA Board
Hidden Stories/Human Lives
Textile Society of America 17th Biennial Symposium
Boston, Massachusetts – October 14-18, 2020

Online submission process opens May 30, 2019
Deadline for submissions October 1, 2019
Deadline for financial aid applications February 15, 2020
Deadline for entries to Members’ Exhibition April 1, 2020

Application forms and submission guidelines for each category are available online: https://textilesocietyofamerica.org/tsa_symposium/symposium-2020/

All submissions must be made online at https://textilesociety.submittable.com/submit
Emailed, mailed, and faxed submissions will not be considered.

The 2020 Textile Society of America Symposium will take place in Boston, Massachusetts, at the Park Plaza Hotel. To maximize scholarly interchange, the Symposium will consist of multiple, concurrent sessions, plenary and keynote speakers, “Warp speed” presentations, an afternoon of site seminars at local museums, showrooms, galleries, and exhibitions that intersect with the scholarly program. Please see below for more information. In addition to the Symposium sessions and exhibitions, there will be a series of stimulating pre- and post-conference workshops and study tours to local and regional institutions, special programs, receptions, and an awards ceremony. The timing of these will be announced at a later date.

The theme Hidden Stories/Human Lives presents opportunities to reveal complex and hidden stories of global textile making and coincides with the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Yet, just as the voices of women of color, marginalized by the suffrage movement, are only now being recognized, the stories of the many human lives that have contributed – directly and indirectly – to textile making, including enslaved people, immigrant entrepreneurs, and industrial laborers, remain untold. With this Symposium, we hope to get “behind the curtain” to explore the wider human network engaged in textile production, bringing to light hidden stories and excluded voices of all kinds, genders, and colors.

Hidden Stories/Human Lives is a flexible theme that can accommodate a range of presentations and artist talks, from focused papers on or by individual makers and/or objects, to broader subjects that examine peoples, systems, and societies involved in global textile making.
TSA seeks proposals for individual papers/presentations, artist talks, organized panels, roundtable discussions, film/digital media, and “Warp Speed” lightning talks from all textile-related disciplines and interdisciplinary areas, including but not limited to anthropology, archaeology, art history, conservation, craft, design, economics, ethnic studies, geography, history, linguistics, marketing, material culture studies, mathematics, political science, science, sociology, studio art, technology, theater, and others. We encourage and desire original submissions from individuals from the widest variety of backgrounds and heritages. In addition, for Boston, we are encouraging the submission of complete organized panels and/or roundtable discussions. For all submission categories, the peer review committee will select submissions that cogently and directly address the theme of the Symposium and present new research or work.

Drawing on the theme Hidden Stories/Human Lives, a Member’s Exhibition is planned. All art should reflect the Symposium mission of inclusion and diversity. The submission process will open February 1, 2020 with a deadline for on-line submissions of April 1, 2020. Additional submission details and display venue will be announced.

We look forward to receiving your submissions and seeing everyone in Boston.

Lisa L. Kriner
TSA President, 2018-2020

Program Co-chairs
Pamela A. Parmal
Chair and David and Roberta Logie Curator of Textile and Fashion Arts, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Lauren Whitley,
Senior Curator of Textile and Fashion Arts, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Exhibition Chair
Karen Hampton
Assistant Professor of Fine Arts, 3D, Massachusetts College of Art

Proceedings Editor
Lynn Tinley
Adjunct Professor, American History, Oglethorpe University

Submission Categories Descriptions
Application forms and detailed submission guidelines for each category are available online: https://textilesocietyofamerica.org/tsa_symposium/symposium-2020/
**Individual Papers/Presentations/Artist Talks** are expected to be 20 minutes in length. These presentations will be organized by the Program Committee into 90-minute sessions of 3 or 4 presentations with time for audience discussion at the end of all presentations. Authors/artists submit an abstract of no more than 300 words and up to 4 sample images are welcome, but not required as part of the submission.

**Organized Panels** may include 3 or 4 individual presentations of 15-20 minutes each, organized around a theme with a designated chair, who will act as moderator. The session should total 90 minutes, including audience discussion time. Each presentation must have an abstract of no more than 300 words and up to 4 images; the session itself must also have a title and an abstract of no more than 300 words. Organizers submit all session abstracts.

**Roundtable Discussions** may involve 3 or 4 individuals and a moderator who poses questions to which participants respond, but generally do not require prepared presentations. Speakers’ times are flexible, with the participants’ discussion totaling 90 minutes including audience discussion time. Moderators submit one abstract of no more than 300 words.

**Film/Digital Media** may be of any length. Screening time for videos and film will be structured around the proposals that are submitted and accepted, and will include discussion time with the producer or presenter. Producers/presenters submit an abstract of no more than 300 words with a sample clip up to 3 minutes.

**Warp Speed** presentations are image-driven lightning talk sessions. Presentations include 20 slides, with each slide shown for 20 seconds, for a talk lasting exactly 6 minutes, 40 seconds. The Program Committee will organize these presentations into a 60-90-minute session. Speakers must submit one abstract of no more than 300 words and five representative images. Final PowerPoint presentations must be submitted no later than September 1, 2020.

**Members’ Exhibition:** TSA invites you to participate in the Boston 2020 Symposium members’ juried exhibition. Drawing on the theme **Hidden Stories/Human Lives**, works should reflect the Symposium mission of inclusion and diversity. The deadline for on-line submissions is April 1, 2020. The display venue is currently under discussion but will be likely be a location central to the conference site. One roundtable of exhibition participants, selected by the jury, will be formed to discuss the process and works in the exhibition.

**Guidelines & Deadlines**
Please see the online Submission Forms for complete requirements and entry details. All submissions must be made online at https://textilesociety.submittable.com/submit. Emailed, mailed, and faxed submissions will not be considered. All submissions will be juried blind.

All submissions should be based on original research, reflecting material not previously published. In submitting a proposal, the author/artist explicitly authorizes its use on the TSA website and in publications including, but not limited to, the Symposium Program and
Proceedings.

Individuals may complete multiple submissions; however, except in special circumstances, a maximum of one submission will be accepted per person in order to permit the greatest number of participants. Please note that acceptance into the Members’ Exhibition will not preclude the acceptance of a submission in another category.

TSA Membership Requirement

Membership in the Textile Society of America is not required for those submitting an abstract for consideration. Everyone presenting at the 2020 Symposium, however, must be a TSA member in good standing at the time of the Symposium (October 2020). Nonmember applicants may join TSA when their papers are accepted and prior to the 2020 Symposium. Membership fees are not refundable. To join TSA or to check your membership status please visit: www.textilesocietyofamerica.org/membership

Timeline
Submission process opens: May 30, 2019
Abstract Submission Deadline: October 1, 2019
Notification of Acceptance to Presenters: Jan 31, 2020
Submission for Members’ Exhibition process opens: February 1, 2020
Deadline for applications for financial aid: February 15, 2020
Notification of financial aid award March 16, 2020
Deadline for Presenters to Confirm Participation: March 31, 2020
Deadline for Members’ Exhibition entries: April 1, 2020
Registration Opens and Preliminary Program Posted: May 18, 2020 (May 15, 2020)
Deadline for Presenters to Register for the Symposium: June 15, 2020
Updated Program and Exhibition Details Posted by: July 7, 2020
Deadline for Symposium Proceedings: Jan 30, 2020

Program Selection
TSA follows a policy of peer review by specialists in the areas of submission and merit consideration for acceptance into the Symposium program. Initial review of proposals and abstracts by the jury will be done without author identification. Final selections will be made by the Symposium Program Committee, composed of representatives from the Symposium Organizing Committee and the TSA Board, based on jurors’ ranking and comments; originality of research and clarity; relatedness to the Symposium theme; and the interests of Textile Society of America as expressed in our mission and diversity statements. The final program will be organized to ensure a diversity of geographic regions, subject matter, scholarly approaches, and levels of experience. Students and those new to the field are encouraged to submit. TSA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, age, religion, disability, gender identity/expression, or sexual orientation.
Acceptance by TSA implies the presenter’s commitment to register for and attend the 17th TSA Biennial Symposium in Boston, and intent to participate in the capacity proposed. Following acceptance, all speakers, session organizers, and panel presenters must confirm their commitment to present at and attend the Symposium by March 18, 2020. All participants must register for the Symposium by June 15, 2020. All accepted abstracts and presenters’ biographies will be published on the TSA website and in the Symposium Program and Proceedings.

Publication
All accepted papers are eligible for publication in the Biennial Symposium Proceedings published within 10 months of the Symposium. Manuscripts (text and images) for publication in the 2020 Symposium Proceedings must be received no later than January 30, 2021. If no manuscript is submitted, the abstract will be published. Guidelines for preparing manuscripts for publication and where to submit them will be available on the TSA website.

Registration & Financial Aid
All presenters must register for the Symposium and pay the accompanying registration fee. Registration rates will be posted when registration opens and usually range from $375-$450 for presenters. We encourage you to seek financial support from your school or institution. TSA offers a limited number of need- and merit-based scholarships and awards outlined below.

Need-Based Registration Fee Waivers for Presenters and Attendees
A limited amount of financial aid in the form of registration fee waivers is available. Applicants must submit a separate Financial Aid Application, outlining financial need and professional importance of participation. The application will be available on the TSA website and should be submitted by February 15, 2020. Presenter applicants will receive notification on or by March 1, prior to the March 18 acceptance deadline when presenters must send in their notice of commitment. See the website for further information: https://textilesocietyofamerica.org/programs/scholarships/

Five Student and New Professional Scholarship Awards (SNPA) will be given. Each award consists of a registration fee waiver. Individuals who apply for this award are encouraged, but not required, to present papers. This award is based on criteria of excellence. The application will be available on the TSA website and should be submitted by February 15, 2020. Applicants will receive notification on or by March 1, prior to the March 18 acceptance deadline. Please refer to the TSA website for further information and application procedures: https://textilesocietyofamerica.org/programs/scholarships/

Founding Presidents Award
The Founding Presidents Award (FPA) recognizes excellence in the field of textile studies and ensures that the finest new work is represented at the Symposium. There is no
application process for this award, for which all accepted presentation proposals are eligible. The FPA Committee will nominate five proposals for the award; their authors will receive a registration fee waiver and be asked to send finished papers for consideration by July 1, 2020. The FPA Committee will make the final selection from the full papers, and the winning author will be announced at the Symposium and will receive a monetary award. The five nominees are required to present their papers at the Symposium, publish them in the Symposium Proceedings, and fully participate in the program. Read more about the award on the TSA website: https://textilesocietyofamerica.org/programs/awards-scholarships/

About the Textile Society of America
The Textile Society of America is a United States 501(c)3 nonprofit that provides an international forum for the exchange and dissemination of textile knowledge from artistic, cultural, economic, historic, political, social, and technical perspectives. Established in 1987, TSA is governed by a Board of Directors made up of scholars and professionals including museum staff and university faculty located in North America. Our 800 members worldwide include curators and conservators, scholars and educators, artists, designers, makers, collectors, and others interested in textiles.

Our Focus on Diversity: Vision Statement
The Textile Society of America, an international organization, recognizes the profound global reach of textiles. We are committed to developing leadership initiatives, membership, and programming rooted in the plurality of textile histories, producers, and purposes. With an eye toward expanding our voices and audience, we will focus on inclusion of underrepresented groups, and advocacy for robust diversity of our personal and professional viewpoints.

Our aim is to be a truly inclusive organization with those involved in it to be as diverse as the textile communities that are served. This is fundamental to the future success of TSA and our ability to contribute to culture and society in the USA and internationally. The range of perspectives and experience diversity brings is an asset to our organization and we want to create an inclusive, welcoming environment for all those who work with us, attend our events, conferences, and workshops, and those who contribute to our journal and publications. We particularly encourage people from all groups currently under-represented in the cultural sector and in public discourse about textiles, social identities, and the creative process to be part of TSA’s future. While recognizing that forms of English have predominated in our organization, we foster and promote dialogue about textiles enriched by diverse languages and ways of thinking about the world, and seek to create or connect with forums in other local, regional, or global languages.

For questions please contact the TSA national office at: hiddenstories@textilesociety.org
To view this Call for Papers online, go to: http://www.textilesociety.org