36th Southwest Art History Conference (Taos, 7-9 Oct 26)

Mabel Dodge Luhan House, Taos, NM, Oct 7–09, 2026
Deadline: May 15, 2026

Emily Burns

Proposals are now being accepted for papers for the thirty-sixth “annual” Southwest Art History Conference (SWAHC). The conference will be held in Taos, New Mexico, October 7-9, 2026 (Wednesday-Friday). Papers should be 20 minutes in length and generally include visuals. Topics should be relevant to the art and artists of the Southwest or the American West and their place in the broader framework of American art history and visual culture.

This conference embraces a wide variety of themes and methodologies, including the presentation of primary research on individual artists, explorations of the sociological and cultural contexts within which the art of the American Southwest has been created, as well as presentations by artists. Papers have also been included on public art, art patrons, and individual works of art. Past topics have examined themes in architecture, anthropology, folklore, film, and literature, as well as art history. The conference is comprised of four sessions of three to four papers each. A question and answer period led by the session’s moderator follows the presentation of the papers, which share a general theme.

Proposals for individual papers should be submitted to the SWAHC google drive in the form of a pdf file saved LastName__Title.pdf that includes a one-page abstract, a short vita of the presenter, a mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14HIfm25oMEt2SSsnRp2XAT_jbA7gmbTl

Proposals for entire sessions are also welcome, and should be submitted to the SWAHC google drive in the form of a pdf file saved SessionProposal___Title.pdf:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14HIfm25oMEt2SSsnRp2XAT_jbA7gmbTl
The proposal should include: 1). Session title and a one-page description of the issues the session will address; 2). The title of each paper name, and institutional affiliation of each presenter, and a one-page abstract for each paper; and 3). Short vitae, as well as mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses for each participant.

Possible sessions could be: ”New Perspectives on Native American Modernism,” “Painting Native Belongings in Settler Art,” or “Revisiting Artists and their Relationships." A SWAHC board member will moderate each session.

Papers resulting from work in progress are encouraged, as are graduate student presentations. Papers will be selected competitively based on the abstracts. We do not accept papers that have

already been substantially published, though papers in connection with recent publications will be considered.

Questions? Contact Betsy Fahlman (Fahlman@asu.edu), phone: 480-620-8618.

Reference:
CFP: 36th Southwest Art History Conference (Taos, 7-9 Oct 26). In: ArtHist.net, May 6, 2026 (accessed Nov 22, 2026), <https://arthist.net/archive/52355>.