

The Second Annual Northwest Progressive Conference
April 3-5, 2008
Washington State University
Pullman, WA

Raise Your Voice!

Call for Session and Paper Proposals

The goal of the Northwest Progressive Conference is to reach out to the Northwest community in an effort to bring together activists, artists, academics, advocates, and anyone who is interested in social change and social justice to share skills, ideas, and educate one another.

NWPC seeks to include a wide range of events, including academic panel presentations, artistic presentations (including independently-produced short film, art exhibitions, and performance art), and educational workshops, presentations, and skill-shares.

NWPC will provide open forum for discussion among people empowered by personal expression, engaged in social movements, and invested in social change. We hope to include a broad range of issues and topics over the course of 3 days – the NWPC will be shaped as much by the people who attend as the people who are organizing it. As volunteers, as presenters, performers, and workshop leaders, and as conference participants, you will help us create this year's NWPC experience.

We invite you to submit a session proposal for a workshop, panel, skill-share, multimedia presentation, or other conference session. We want to hear your ideas whether you're a student, an activist, an academic, a community organizer, a "citizen" media watchdog, a policy advocate, an alternative-network-builder, a blogger, writer, teacher, artist, deejay... We welcome any progressive individual or group concerned with social change and interested in learning more about how they can be a part of it. We encourage you to be creative not only with your proposed topic and content but in your means of presentation

- we're seeking interactive, provocative, dialogue-rich sessions that might as easily involve multimedia, collaborative projects, skills training or live performance as a panel or standard speaker.

Session Guidelines:

Sessions can be facilitated by one or more people.

Formats for presentations may include:

- multimedia/performance - e.g., video, guerrilla theater, etc.
- lecture (must include significant time for Q&A)
- workshop (hands-on skill-building)
- strategic planning, collaboration or action/organizing meeting
- panel discussion with moderator

- combinations of these formats, or other formats entirely!

Sessions are scheduled in blocks of approximately 1 to 1 1/2 hours. We encourage active hands-on participation and allocation of ample time for questions and discussion.

Potential session topics could include:

- Activist strategies, theories, pedagogies, techniques, and inter-group issues (e.g. recognizing and combating oppression within resistance movements)
- Case-studies and or comparisons of social movements, social institutions, or disempowered segments of society
- Social/Personal issues that involve attention to privilege, oppression, and the intersectionality of identity: *impacts of globalization, media literacy, impacts of media consolidation, domestic policy and voter awareness issues, reproductive and sexual health issues...*
- Skill-shares: share your knowledge about social organizing, alternative living, and other DIY topics! *How to start a non-profit organization or an NGO, coalition building, fundraising, self publishing, blog creation, alternative media projects, media literacy, living off-the-grid, how to minimize participation in consumer culture...etc!*

Last year's topics included:

- Radical Cheerleading
- The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict
- Iraq Vets/Military families against the war
- Keynote presentations by Favianna Rodriguez and Adrienne Maree Brown

What Paper Topics Are Accepted?

Papers that address current issues of power and powerlessness, of race and oppression, of issues concerning identity and struggle relevant to the 21st century.

Potential paper topics could include:

- Cross-cultural resistance movements
- Political and/or cultural hegemony
- Peoples movements against neo-liberal global capitalism
- Issues of intersectionality

How Do I Submit My Session or Paper Proposal?

To submit a session proposal for NWPC 2008:

A one to two page description of your conference session including the goal of the session is needed along with all information detailed below by February 25, 2008.

To submit a paper proposal for NWPC 2008:

A 200-250 word paper abstract (including paper title) is needed along with all information detailed below by February 25, 2008.

If a group wishes to submit a group of papers for a panel, please submit abstracts for all papers as indicated above and include your panel session name. Each individual of the group should submit the information detailed below.

All proposals are due by February 25, 2008 and should be submitted with the following:

- your name, the organization you are representing (if applicable), and full contact information;
- a brief biography of yourself and/or your organization;
- one reference (professional or personal);
- Format of presentation, plus unique needs/features, e.g., equipment or audio-visual requirements.

Please send all session and paper proposals via email to:

submissions@wsuprogressive.com

Be sure to include the word "Proposal" in the subject line.

If electronic submission is not possible, please use the following mailing address:

Progressive Student Union
107 Administration Annex
Pullman, WA 99164-4107

Acceptance of proposals will be done on a rolling basis. You will be notified of the status of your workshop or the acceptance of your paper within 1 week after your submission and no later than February 25th, 2008. Should your proposal be accepted, a confirmation of your availability is needed immediately thereafter, whereupon housing accommodations will be made for you and travel and travel assistance can be requested.

Because the conference will be free and open to the public, we ask presenters to volunteer their time, expertise, and services at the conference. In consideration of your participation as a presenter, we will arrange for accommodations for you. If you need assistance funding travel, you'll be invited to request those funds once your proposal is accepted. While we regret that we cannot guarantee that everyone who needs travel assistance will receive it, we are making every effort to ensure that we can at least partially fund as many requests as possible.