

PRELIMINARY CALL FOR PARTICIPATION 2025 APPALACHIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

“Rural Reimagined: A Grand Challenge for Appalachia”

One-fourth of the counties that comprise Appalachia are classified as rural—neither part of nor adjacent to a metropolitan area. The 48th annual Appalachian Studies Association Conference will explore the theme “Rural Reimagined” by celebrating the creative uses of technology, science, and the arts with the greatest potential to transform life in and proximate to the region’s rural communities.

We understand that the potential models of innovation in Appalachia are as significant and varied as the area’s needs. In the spirit of a grand challenge, we will honor expertise and collaboration to meet those needs. We seek to document the distinctive rural experience in Appalachia and to platform the ideas, projects, and partnerships with the greatest potential to create positive change for the people living in the Appalachian region, with a special focus on country life.

The 2025 Program Committee invites proposals for panels, papers, posters, roundtables, performances, and workshops that address diverse aspects of Appalachian experience. We especially seek contributions from historically marginalized individuals and groups, including LGBTQ and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) presenters. Papers and posters should feature original unpublished work in progress. Scholarships are available.

Please note, applicants may be listed as participants in a maximum of three accepted events.

As a STEM-infused, comprehensive institution, Tennessee Tech delivers enduring education, impactful research, and collaborative service. This will be the university’s first time hosting the Appalachian Studies Association.

For further information contact:

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Colleen Mestayer, local arrangements chair, cmestayer@tntech.edu

Timeline:

September 2, 2024: Call for participation
October 7, 2024: Deadline for proposals
January 15, 2025: Preliminary program



March 20-22, 2025



**Tennessee Tech University,
Cookeville, Tennessee**



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