

VASTA/PAVA 2018 Joint Conference - Seattle
“Soma and Science: Bridging the Gap in interdisciplinary voice training”

Request for Proposals

The Voice & Speech Trainers Association (**VASTA**) and the Pan American Vocology Association (**PAVA**) warmly welcome proposals for our August 2018 Joint Conference: “Soma and Science: Bridging the Gap in Interdisciplinary Voice Training” in one of following forms: a paper presentation, a workshop, panel discussion, and/or poster presentation.

Our combined conference creates a unique interdisciplinary focus this year. ***Strong encouragement and specific consideration are given to proposals that address and incorporate components of two or more disciplines.***

All proposals must be received not later than **MARCH 1st, 2018.**

Proposals should address:

- How does this “Bridge the Gap” between Science and Soma?
- What is the Interdisciplinary component?
- If it doesn’t exist yet, where COULD it?

Artists and Medicine:

- What is our role as researchers, teachers and practitioners in moving these practices forward together?

ARS MEDICINA

“Arts and medicine were always connected: Ars Medicinæ, “The Art of Healing.” Due to the rapid development of technology in the last 100 years, our attention was drawn to the physical realm, and we lost our connection with the deep and powerful mystery of our consciousness. Re-integrating arts and medicine can restore that connection...If ARTS affect emotions, and EMOTIONS affect health then arts affect HEALTH.”

- Iva Fattorini, Chair of the Global Arts and Medicine Institute at the Cleveland Clinic, Chair of the Global Arts and Medicine Institute at Cleveland Clinic, “*Arts & Medicine. Do It.*”, Huffington Post https://www.huffingtonpost.com/iva-fattorini/arts-and-medicine-do-it_b_5526700.html

DEFINITIONS

Soma - *pertaining to the body, independent of the soul, psyche, or mind.*

Science - *the intellectual and practical activity encompassing the systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment.*

Interdisciplinary: - *Of or relating to more than one branch of knowledge.*

EXAMPLES OF INTERDISCIPLINARY WORKSHOPS

1. A workshop using myofascial techniques to improve resonant voice or freer breath combines the body-based discipline of myofascial release, with a focus of vocal production.

2. A presentation combining elements of performance technique plus real life applications that lie outside of the performing arts. (i.e. Alexander Technique used in both Performance and Occupational Therapy)

PODIUM POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS

These will be 13-15 minutes in length and can include research papers, clinical practice review, or innovative application of a method. Powerpoint Podium Presentations with an interdisciplinary focus are strongly encouraged but all are considered. We also encourage basic science proposals and these do not have to have an interdisciplinary component but must be related to voice.

WORKSHOPS

These sessions will be experiential, with a preferred emphasis on the innovative and interdisciplinary. These workshops tend to be more physical in nature and should invite participation from all attendees. The majority of the workshop should be spent in engaged in activity rather than explanation.

To allow for longer experiences within these sessions, there will be limited number of full-length workshops selected. There are several other opportunities to present. We are also calling for proposals for a “*micro-workshop*” option (*see below for description*).

PANELS

Panel discussions will focus on a more in-depth discussion of a topic within the perspective of multiple disciplines, and will be invited based on conference content. If you have specific and relevant ideas for a panel discussion, please contact the conference directors directly (contact information below).

POSTERS

A Research Poster should be general overview of your scientific study. Topics focus on voice/vocology but can be more general if there is not a strong interdisciplinary component.

Photos and graphs should be used to highlight data. Standard size of a research poster must be 36x48 (Standard).

MICRO-WORKSHOP

Like the proposals being requested, we are innovating our standard presentation format. Think of the micro-workshops as the “chef’s tasting menu”. Small, bite-sized presentations of information.

Examples of Micro-workshops:

1. *“3 applications of the flow ball for monitoring breath control in speech and song.”*
2. *“Integrating Fitzmaurice Voicework® into a transgendered population.”*

Presenters will have **10 minutes** to introduce and briefly explore/teach your topic/technique to rotating groups of 6-12 conference attendees. Conference participants will rotate around to numerous workshops of interest. Providing visual, audio, and any other augmentative devices that will enhance the understanding of your technique is strongly encouraged. However, **these should NOT be powerpoint presentations**. Also, the presenter should anticipate small spaces and self-supplied technology.

Please also consider crafting a poster, also, which can include photos and more in depth descriptions. Presenters will provide a handout or written description summarizing your micro-workshop that will be available electronically.

These workshops are perfect for new concepts, burgeoning ideas or techniques. Ideally, a proposal should be a “soma-focused” idea that could potentially be applicable in numerous interdisciplinary settings. Consider the timeframe and logistics of this format when submitting a proposal. For example, you would not likely have access to a piano for these.

PLEASE NOTE

Proposals for both full-length, as well as Micro-Workshops, are encouraged in order to maximize the number of presenters.

First time poster or micro workshop presenter?

Have an idea, but don't know how to “flesh it out”? We are here to help you make your ideas a reality!

Please Contact:

Amy Chaffee achaffee@tulane.edu (Soma-based interests)

Marci Rosenberg Marcied@umich.edu (Research)

CEU Questions?

Please Contact:

Mara Kapsner-Smith mkapsner@uw.edu

General Proposal Submission Questions?

Please Contact:

Adriano Cabral (IT related only) adrianoc@unr.edu

Conference Directors:

Marci Rosenberg marcied@umich.edu (PAVA, Vice President)

Kate Clarke & Rachel Hirshorn-Johnston conference.director@vasta.org (VASTA)