



CALL FOR PAPERS
for the 50th Annual Conference of
The Communal Studies Association
October 5-7, 2023 [corrected]
New Harmony, IN



“Communal Theory, Practice and Impact”
The deadline for submission of proposals is May 26, 2023

In 1974 a group of historic site curators and other scholars met in New Harmony to begin sharing information and best practices from the wide variety of US historic communal groups and the sites preserving their legacy. Over time the CSA grew to include scholars from a variety of disciplines as well as current practitioners of intentional community. As we gather for the 50th annual conference of the CSA, it is time to celebrate the body of work accumulated through research and practice and its impact. Papers presented in this year of celebration might focus on research done by communities, the influence of intentional communities on their locations and other communities, insights into human cooperative behavior, community influences on art and culture, or the economic impact of intentional communities and historic sites.

As always, we are also interested in proposals that concern any other topic about intentional communities. **Please feel free to submit proposal on any aspect of communalism or intentional communities.**

Established in 1814, New Harmony was the site of two attempts at utopia. Led by Father George Rapp, the Harmony Society pursued Christian perfection in preparation of what they believed was the imminent Second Coming of Jesus Christ. When the Harmony Society returned to Pennsylvania in 1824, the town became a haven for international scientists, scholars and educators who sought equality in communal living under the direction of Robert Owen and William Maclure. Since 1985, the University of Southern Indiana has operated Historic New Harmony as a part of Outreach and Engagement, a department that works to complement the University's traditional role in public education. By preserving our utopian legacy, we inspire innovation and progressive thought through our programs & collections. Guided by our mission, we encourage visitors to this cultural town and connect USI and New Harmony as a living laboratory for ideas.

Please submit your proposals for individual papers or whole sessions via the website submission portal (www.communalstudies.org/annual-conference). Please include an abstract of 150 words maximum describing your presentation and/or session. Also, please include your biographical statement of 100 words maximum. For information please contact Program Chair Greg Brown, University of Southern Indiana, gwbrown@usi.edu. **All presenters will be notified of their acceptance by email by July 1, 2023.** A limited amount of financial support is available for graduate student assistance. If applicable, please indicate your interest with your on-line proposal submission. Successful applicants will be notified of financial support by email by August 2023.

The Communal Studies Association is an interdisciplinary organization for people living in intentional communities, historic site personnel and academics representing topics including history, anthropology, religious studies, sociology, political science, and others. The CSA's annual conference is often held at the site of an historic intentional community or other relevant venues. For more information about the organization, see our website www.communalstudies.org.