

SESSION FORMATS

Since the Program Committee is continuing to experiment with the programming for the AASLH Conference, the format of each session is listed below. This will help you decide what type of session you prefer to attend during the conference. The session formats are:

Charette	A charette is a collaborative session in which a group comes together to draft a solution to a particular problem or expand on an idea. This session is designed as a working session that creates an output. The organizer decides the topic, but the participants supply most of the discussion.
Conversation Provocation	Audience members engage in discussion/debate. One facilitator poses a predetermined question and encourages attendees to participate. The facilitator manages the discussion as a guide on the side, not a sage on the stage.
Experiential	Do a program—don't just hear about it. Be immersed in a playful (or dark) experience. Attendees will spend time doing something, not just talking.
Idea Studio	Informed and inspired by a prompt or topic area, attendees will work together interactively to develop new ideas and creative solutions for their sites, in their communities, or in the field at large.
Lightning Round	A moderator selects a particular theme and recruits speakers who can teach something specific to the audience in ten minutes or less.
Nuts and Bolts	This session type focuses on a particular skill that is needed in the history profession. It should be specific enough that attendees leave with a practical skill, but flexible enough that any size museum can adapt it for their needs. It is not designed to be a "show and tell", but a "show and how to."
Roundtable	One chair and up to three panelists examine complex historical or professional issues in discussion before an audience. Ample time will be allowed for audience discussion.
Working Group	This session involves an in-depth discussion on an issue in the field. A small group of people will have prepared ahead of time for a discussion on the topic. Audience members can listen to the conversation or participate if they want. There will be an outcome for the session such as an article or blog post.
Workshops	These long-form, in-depth sessions are designed to teach special skills in a small group setting and may occur on or off-site. Participants in workshop sessions pay fees which contribute to the conference budget. Transportation will be provided for off-site workshops.