

## 2025 Conference of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations

Renaissance Arlington Capital View, Arlington, Virginia, June 26-28, 2025

The Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) invites proposals for its 2025 annual conference. The deadline for proposals is **December 1, 2024**.

SHAFR is dedicated to the study of the history of the United States in the world, broadly conceived. This includes not only foreign relations, diplomacy, statecraft, and strategy, but also, heterogenous approaches to Americans' relations with the wider world, including, but not limited to, global governance, transnational movements, religion, human rights, race, gender, political economy and business, immigration, borderlands, the environment, and empire. SHAFR welcomes those who study any time period from the colonial era to the present. Given that the production, exercise, and understanding of U.S. power takes many forms and touches myriad subjects, the Program Committee welcomes proposals reflecting a broad range of approaches and topics.

### Proposals

SHAFR is committed to the values of equity, access, and representation. The organization invites proposals from all, especially scholars of color; those who identify as women, trans, and non-binary; individuals residing outside of the United States; untenured and contingent faculty; scholars working in other fields and disciplines, and those who work in less commonly studied chronological periods or who engage with unusual methodological approaches. The Program Committee welcomes—but does not require—proposals that include a brief statement detailing how their submission advances SHAFR's commitment to these values. Graduate students, international scholars, and scholars whose participation might expand the organization's breadth are encouraged to apply for **SHAFR grants** to subsidize the cost of attending the conference.

2025 is the **anniversary** of several significant historical events including the 160th anniversary of the end of the US Civil War; the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II, the atomic bombings of Japan, and the division of Germany; the 75th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War and the beginning of operations of UNRWA; the 60th anniversary of the 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act; the 55th year of Earth Day; and the 50th anniversary of the reunification of Vietnam. Special consideration will be given to panels that provide new perspectives on historical events that the year 2025 commemorates.

SHAFR 2025's Program will be structured through a series of **themes**. Each proposal is expected to note one primary and one secondary theme suited to their proposal. The Program Committee might assign a different theme than the one selected at the time of proposal submission in order to bring greater coherence to the Program. The SHAFR 2025 themes include: Belonging/Exclusion, Capitalism, Disease/Health, Environment/Extraction, Genocide, Indigeneity, Labor, Law/Sovereignty, Media/Technology, and Territoriality.

The Program Committee welcomes panels that transcend conventional chronologies, challenge received categories, or otherwise offer innovative approaches and fresh thinking. SHAFR 2025 is particularly open to **co-sponsorship** of panels with professional associations in associated historical fields and subfields.

Panel sessions for the 2025 meeting will run for ninety minutes. A complete panel typically includes three papers plus chair and commentator (with the possibility of one person fulfilling the latter two roles) or a conceptually more expansive roundtable discussion with a chair and three or four participants. Papers should be no longer than twenty minutes and must be shorter in situations where there are more than three paper presentations. The Committee is also open to alternative formats, especially those based on discussion and engagement with the audience, which should be described briefly in the proposal.

Individual paper proposals are also welcome, though complete panels with coherent themes will be favored over single papers. Those seeking to create or fill out a panel should Tweet #SHAFR2025 and/or consult with the SHAFR Conference Coordinator, Kaete O'Connell, at [conference@shafr.org](mailto:conference@shafr.org) to help identify scholars with similar interests.

The Program Committee will develop a pool of potential commentators/chairs for panels constructed from individual proposals. If you are interested in volunteering for this pool, please contact the program co-chairs, Jayita Sarkar and Aileen Teague, at [program-chair@shafr.org](mailto:program-chair@shafr.org).

### Policies

Each conference participant may only serve on the program twice, each time in a different capacity. For example: one may serve once as a chair and once as a commentator; or once as panelist and once as chair or commentator. **No participant may appear on the program more than twice.** Any special scheduling requests (e.g., that a panel not take place on a particular day) must be made at the time of application and included in your proposal.

AV requests, along with a brief explanation of how the equipment is essential to the presentation, must be made at the time of application and included in your proposal. AV access is limited and expensive and will not be available to all panels. As such, please carefully assess your AV needs and realize that such requests can place limits on when and where we schedule accepted panels.

All proposals and funding applications should be submitted via the procedures outlined at <https://shafr.org/shafr2025>. Applicants requiring alternative means to submit the proposal should contact the program co-chairs via email at [program-chair@shafr.org](mailto:program-chair@shafr.org).

Generally, annual membership in SHAFR is required for those participating in the 2025 meeting. The president and Program Committee may (upon request) grant a few exemptions to scholars whose specializations are outside the field. Membership instructions will be included with notification of accepted proposals. Everyone appearing on the program is required to register for the conference.

SHAFR and the media occasionally record conference sessions for use in broadcast and electronic media. Presenters who do not wish for their session to be recorded may opt out when submitting a proposal to the Program Committee. An audience member who wishes to record audio or video of a panel must obtain written permission from panelists. SHAFR is not responsible for unauthorized recording. SHAFR reserves the right to revoke the registration of anyone who records sessions without appropriate permissions.

### **Divine Graduate Student Travel Grants**

SHAFR will award several Robert A. and Barbara Divine Graduate Student Travel Grants to assist graduate students presenting papers at the 2025 conference. The following stipulations apply: 1) no award will exceed \$500; 2) priority will be given to graduate students who receive no or limited funds from their home institutions; and 3) expenses will be reimbursed by the SHAFR Business Office upon submission of receipts. The Program Committee will make decisions regarding awards. A graduate student requesting travel funds must make a request when submitting the paper/panel proposal. Applications should include: a 1-page letter from the applicant; reference letter from the graduate advisor that also confirms the unavailability of departmental travel funds. The two items should be submitted via the on-line interface at the time the panel/paper proposal is submitted. Funding requests will have no bearing on the committee's decisions on panels/papers, but funds will not be awarded unless the applicant's submission is accepted by the Program Committee in a separate decision. Application deadline: January 3, 2025.

### **SHAFR Global Scholars and Diversity Grants**

SHAFR also awards Global Scholars and Diversity Grants to help defray travel and lodging expenses for the 2025 conference. These grants are aimed at scholars whose participation in the annual meeting helps to diversify the organization. Preference will be given to those who have not previously presented at annual meetings. The awards are intended for scholars who represent groups historically under-represented at SHAFR, scholars who offer diverse and complementary intellectual approaches, and scholars from outside the United States. "Scholars" includes faculty, graduate students, and independent researchers. To further integrate grant winners into SHAFR, awards include one-year membership that includes subscriptions to *Diplomatic History* and *Passport*. Applicants should submit a copy of their individual paper proposal along with a short cv (2-page maximum) and a 2-3 paragraph essay addressing the fellowship criteria (including data on previous SHAFR meetings attended and funding received). Please submit your application via the on-line interface. Funding requests will have no bearing on the committee's decisions on panels/papers, but funds will not be awarded unless the

applicant's submission is accepted by the Program Committee in a separate decision. Application deadline: January 3, 2025.