



The 26th Annual
Brian Bertoti Innovative Perspectives in History
Conference
March 31 - April 1, 2023

Proposals due: January 20, 2023

The History Graduate Student Association at Virginia Tech invites proposals for papers and panels to be presented at the 26th Annual Brian Bertoti Innovative Perspectives in History Graduate Conference. This conference will be in-person March 31 - April 1, 2023.

This conference is an opportunity for graduate and advanced undergraduate students to share research projects in a supportive, professional environment and to network with future colleagues. Our conference values interdisciplinary approaches to the past, and we invite proposals from historians and students in related disciplines whose work represents “innovative perspectives in history.” Presentations on any aspect of history, time period, or geographic region are welcome.

For paper proposals, please submit a one-page abstract and a curriculum vitae. For panel proposals, please provide a paragraph describing the theme of the panel, an abstract for each paper that will be presented on the panel, and a curriculum vitae for each presenter. Paper and panel proposals are due by January 20, 2023. Please send them to our Panels Committee at hgsa.vt@gmail.com.

Brian Bertoti Award

Each year, HGSA acknowledges the best paper presented at the conference with the Brian Bertoti Award for Outstanding Historical Scholarship. To be considered for this award, participants must also submit their paper at presentation length (3,000 words maximum, excluding bibliography and notes) to the Panels Committee by March 1, 2023. The paper selected for the best paper prize will represent exemplary scholarship, innovative methods, and unique perspectives in the historical discipline. Only graduate students are eligible for this award.

Publication in the *Virginia Tech Undergraduate Historical Review*

Outstanding undergraduate papers will also be considered for publication in the *Virginia Tech Undergraduate Historical Review (VTUHR)*, which is annually published each spring. All submissions are reviewed by the undergraduate editorial board. Our editors utilize an anonymous peer-review process and employ a standard rubric to evaluate submissions. If you would like your submission to be considered for publication, please send the paper to the Panels Committee by March 1, 2023.

For more information on *VTUHR*, please visit the website: <https://vtuhr.org>.

Conference Speakers

Dr. Leni Sorenson will deliver the keynote address on Friday, March 31. She earned her B.A. in History at Mary Baldwin College; she earned her M.A. and her Ph.D. in American Studies at the College of William and Mary. She is a food historian and the owner of the Indigo House in Crozet, Virginia. She owns a farmstead devoted to teaching the public about culinary history, historical meals, and effective home provisioning techniques. As a food historian, she researches a wide variety of topics varying from the lives of Black cooks, with a particular emphasis on the American Colonial period and the early nineteenth century, contemporary culinary practices, gardening, and animal processing. Dr. Sorenson contributed as a featured historian on the Netflix series “High on the Hog: How African American Cuisine Transformed America,” a highly rated documentary series, which showcased African-American contributions to the American culinary scene.

Dr. Kelley Fanto Deetz will deliver our luncheon address on Saturday, April 1. She earned her B.A. in Black Studies and History at College of William & Mary, and her M.A. in African American Studies and Ph.D. in African Diaspora Studies both from the University of California at Berkeley. She is currently the Vice President of Collections and Public Engagement at Stratford Hall in Westmoreland County, Virginia. She is a visiting scholar at the University of California, Berkeley where she specializes in African American and African Diaspora Studies. Her 2017 book *Bound to the Fire: How Virginia’s Enslaved Cooks Helped Invent American Cuisine* used archaeological evidence, cookbooks, plantation records, and folklore to focus on the lives of enslaved plantation cooks from colonial times through emancipation and beyond.

For more information about the conference, speakers, or schedule please visit the conference website at: <https://myvthistoryma.com/bertoti-conference/>.