



SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY  
**2021 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE:**  
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DECAMERON

2021 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology

6-9 January 2021 **VIRTUAL**

**Call for Papers Opens:** 10 June 2020

**Final Abstract Submission Deadline:** 10 August 2020

**Registration Deadline for Presenters:** 1 November 2020

**\*\*Presentation Recording Submission Deadline:** 1 December 2020\*\*

**An Archaeological Decameron:**

**Research, Interpretation, and Engagement in the Time of Pandemic**

In the middle of the 14th century, as Europe was in the grip of bubonic plague, the Italian author Giovanni Boccaccio (1313–1375) wrote his masterpiece, *The Decameron*. The book is framed as a collection of stories told by a group of 10 young people who had fled Florence to escape the Black Death. Socially distanced in a villa outside the city, they told each other tales to pass the time and to provide a distraction from the pandemic. In 2020, as a different pandemic circled the globe, the Board of the Society for Historical Archaeology, with the health and safety of its members, staff, and the archaeological community in mind, made the difficult

decision to alter the form of the 2021 annual conference. Rather than cancel altogether, an untenable and agonizing thought, the Board decided to take the SHA conference virtual.

This is, of course, a new direction for the SHA. The program will be organized to best accommodate a variety of papers, posters, and fora to discuss research, theory, methods, and interpretation, as usual, but also to provide opportunities for discussing our archaeological response to these strange times. Archaeologists are known for our ability to improvise, adapt, and overcome, whether broken field equipment, suddenly lost funding, or a global pandemic. We will socially distance together in January and create our own “Archaeological Decameron” to disseminate, discuss, and distract. The bar may not be quite as fun, but we have much to share.

### **HOW THIS VIRTUAL CONFERENCE WILL WORK**

The SHA will be using the OpenWater platform ([www.getopenwater.com/virtual-conference-software/](http://www.getopenwater.com/virtual-conference-software/)) for its 2021 Conference. **All accepted paper and poster presentations must be pre-recorded and uploaded to the OpenWater platform by 1 December 2020**. Pre-recorded presentations will be made available to conference registrants for viewing at their convenience *prior to* the January conference via the OpenWater SHA Conference portal. *Presenters and discussants in each paper and poster session are expected to be available at their scheduled session time during the January conference to answer questions from registrants about their presentation.* Fora/panels will be scheduled as “live” events during the January conference. The forum/panel moderator will take questions from the virtual audience and relay them to the panelists for discussion.

OpenWater and the SHA will provide presenters with guides and assistance for preparing their pre-recorded paper/poster presentations and with instructions for uploading them to OpenWater after abstracts are accepted. Presenters will need access to a computer with internet connection, camera, and microphone to record their presentations in advance of the conference and to participate in sessions during the January conference.

The SHA 2021 Conference will also feature additional scheduled events at which registrants can meet virtually with their colleagues for learning and networking opportunities.

### **CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

Conference Chair: Della Scott-Ireton (Florida Public Archaeology Network, University of West Florida)

Program Co-Chairs: Amanda Evans (Gray & Pape, Inc.) & Christopher Horrell (Submerged Archaeological Conservancy International)

Terrestrial Program Chair: Mary Furlong Minkoff (James Madison's Montpelier)

Underwater Program Chair: Melanie Damour (Submerged Archaeological Conservancy International)

Popular Program Coordinators: Sara Ayers-Rigsby (Florida Public Archaeology Network, Florida Atlantic University) & Kevin Gidusko (PaleoWest)

Social Media Liaisons: Sarah Miller (Florida Public Archaeology Network, Flagler College) & Emily Jane Murray (Florida Public Archaeology Network, Flagler College)

Accessibility & Inclusion Coordinator: Liz Quinlan (University of York)

ConfTool Liaison: Christopher Horrell (Submerged Archaeological Conservancy International)

Awards: Paul Mullins (Indiana University-Purdue University)

## **SESSION FORMATS**

By submitting an abstract in response to this Call for Papers, the author(s) consents to having his/her/their abstract, name(s), and affiliation(s) posted on the SHA website or listed in other published formats.

**IMPORTANT:** Due to the virtual format for 2021, **ALL PAPER AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS MUST BE PRE-RECORDED AND SUBMITTED TO OPENWATER BY 1 DECEMBER 2020. THIS IS A HARD DEADLINE AND NO EXCEPTIONS CAN BE MADE. IF YOUR PRESENTATION IS NOT SUBMITTED ON TIME, IT WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE CONFERENCE PROGRAM.**

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### Using ConfTool to Submit Your Abstract

Abstract submissions should be done through the online system at [www.conftool.com/sha2021](http://www.conftool.com/sha2021). Each individual submitting an abstract must first create a user profile in the online system, which includes their name, professional affiliation, address, contact information, program division (whether terrestrial or underwater), and agreement with the SHA Code of Ethics. User profiles from previous conferences are not carried over from conference to conference, so you must create a new profile for the 2021 Conference before you can pay for and submit your abstract.

Once you have created your profile, you will be required to pay the USD\$25.00 non-refundable abstract submission fee. When this is done, you will then be allowed to submit your abstract.

\*There is a 150-word limit for all abstract submissions. NO EXCEPTIONS.

\*The abstract submission deadline is 10 August. This is a hard deadline. Extensions on this deadline were granted by SHA in the past. However, **no extensions are possible this year**, due to the necessities of the virtual platform.

The SHA 2021 Conference Committee intends to take advantage of the virtual format to encourage flexibility in the types of sessions offered. Sessions can take the form of formal symposia organized around a topic or theme, individual research papers grouped in general sessions, panel discussions, or poster presentations. Sessions may contain any combination of papers and discussants; a formal discussant is encouraged, but not required. All papers in a session and posters will be pre-recorded for viewing before the conference by conference registrants, and a Discussion/Q&A period will be scheduled during the January conference so the virtual audience can engage with presenters on their research. Panels will be live during the conference, in a “chat room” format to facilitate audience participation. All paper and poster presentations will be limited to 15 minutes. We encourage participants to submit their abstracts and pre-recorded presentations as early as possible.

During the scheduled conference dates, participants will be allowed to serve as:

Primary Symposium Organizer - one time during the conference.

Primary Author of a Paper (symposium or general session) **or** Poster - one time during the conference.

Discussant - one time during the conference.

Participant in a Panel/Forum - one time during the conference.

Panel/Forum Moderator - one time during the conference.

Secondary Author or Secondary Organizer - as many times as desired. *No guarantee can be offered regarding “double booking,” although every effort will be made to avoid conflicts.*

Each symposium organizer, panel/forum organizer, and individual presenter (paper or poster) at the SHA 2021 Conference must submit their abstract(s) by the 10 August 2020 deadline and pay a non-refundable \$25 per abstract fee. In addition, **all presenters, organizers, and discussants must register for the 2021 Conference by 1 November 2020, at the full conference rate.**

**NOTE IMPORTANT POLICY: All presenters and session organizers at the SHA 2021 Conference will be required to register for the conference at the full conference rate by 1 November 2020. Those who fail to register by 1 November 2020, will not be allowed to present their paper/poster or have their paper/poster presented for them. This policy will be strictly enforced. For papers or posters with multiple authors, only one of the paper’s/poster’s authors must register for the conference. All panelists and discussants must also register at the full conference registration rate in order to participate in a session. Session organizers should advise potential participants in their session of this requirement when soliciting their involvement.**

## **TYPES OF SUBMISSIONS AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

**\*The live portions of the SHA Conference will take place in Central Time. Symposium and Panel organizers should ensure participants in their sessions can, and are willing to, attend during conference hours. Individual paper and poster presenters should be willing to attend during conference hours.\***

**Individual Papers** are presentations including theoretical, methodological, or data information that synthesize broad regional or topical subjects based upon completed research; focus on research currently in progress; or discuss the findings of completed small-scale studies. All individual papers will be limited to 15 minutes. Using the information and keywords provided, the Conference Program Co-Chairs will assign individual papers to sessions organized by topic, region, or time period, and will assign a chair to each session. Please note: If you are presenting a paper as part of an organized symposium, your submission is not considered an Individual Paper. You should submit as a Symposium Presenter.

**Formal Symposia** consist of four or more papers organized around a central theme, region, or project. All formal symposium papers will be limited to 15 minutes. We encourage symposium organizers to include papers that reflect both terrestrial and underwater aspects of their chosen topics.

Symposium organizers must pay the \$25 abstract submission fee\*\* and submit the symposium abstract online before individuals participating in their symposium can submit their own abstracts to that symposium. Symposium organizer(s) will be required to list the speakers in their symposium -- in the correct speaking order -- during the abstract submission process and provide three keywords for their symposium.

Symposium organizers should communicate the formal title of the symposium to all participants in their session before the latter submit their individual abstracts, so that all submissions are linked to the correct symposium. Symposium organizers are responsible for ensuring that all presenters in their sessions have submitted their completed abstracts prior to the close of the Call for Papers (10 August 2020) and are aware of the 1 November 2020 deadline for presenters to register for the 2021 Conference.

Symposium organizers will be the primary point of contact for their session participants on such issues as changes to titles and/or abstracts, order of presentation, and cancellations. Organizers must direct any changes in authors, presenters, or affiliations to the Program Chairs at **sha2021program@gmail.com**.

\*\* Once the overall symposium abstract is approved by the Program Chairs, the symposium organizer will be permitted to submit a second abstract for their paper in *their* symposium at no additional cost. The second abstract must be for a paper in the organizer's symposium, not for a different session.

**Forum/Panel Discussions** are less-structured sessions, typically between one-and-a-half and two hours in length, organized around a discussion topic to be addressed by an invited panel

and seeking to engage the audience. Forum proposals must identify the moderator and all panelists, the number of which should be appropriate to the time allotted (typically up to six participants for a one-and-a-half-hour panel discussion). The moderator must submit an abstract for the discussion topic and identify all panel participants when submitting the abstract. Moderators should advise each panel/forum participant that they must register for the 2021 Conference at the full conference registration rate by 1 November 2020. One-day registrations for forum panelists are not permitted.

**Three-Minute Forums** are informal--but still academic--discussion groups consisting of a number of rapid, 3-minute presentations followed by discussion. Typically, these sessions last for at least 1 hour and consist of blocks of 4 or 5 presentations that are only 3 minutes in length, followed by 10-15 minutes of question-and-answer discussion on the papers. This format permits rapid presentation and discussion. Three-minute forum proposals must identify the overall moderator and all forum presenters. Please use the words 'Three-Minute Forum' in the title for your session.

**Posters** are exhibits with text, graphics, etc. that illustrate ongoing or completed research projects. Poster presenters will be directed to an online system to upload their poster information, including a high-resolution .pdf of their entire poster, poster description, and a 15-minute video discussing the poster and research. Additional guidance will be provided early in the fall.

**Student Presenters** The student subcommittee of the Academic and Professional Training Committee will compile information to help students navigate the conference. Further information will be posted on the conference website.

Student presenters (either individual presenters or those presenting in an organized symposium) are encouraged to submit their papers for the annual **Jamie Chad Brandon Student Paper Prize Competition**. Entrants must be student members of SHA prior to submission of their papers. All of the authors must be students and members of SHA; no more than three authors on the paper. Questions regarding the Jamie Chad Brandon Student Paper Prize Competition should be directed to Alicia Caporaso at [jcbstudentpaperprize@gmail.com](mailto:jcbstudentpaperprize@gmail.com).

## **HOW TO SUBMIT**

The regular abstract submission period is from 10 June to 10 August 2020. If you are unable to use the SHA online abstract submission system (ConfTool) and need to submit a paper or session by mail, please correspond with the Program Chairs at [sha2021program@gmail.com](mailto:sha2021program@gmail.com).

## **TIPS AND GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING AN ABSTRACT**

ALL USERS:

1. Go to [www.conftool.com/sha2021](http://www.conftool.com/sha2021) and click on the link for “Register New” under the green Account Log In bar. User accounts are not carried over from one conference to the next, so you must create a new user account for the 2021 Conference.

2. Pay the \$25 nonrefundable per-abstract submission fee by clicking on “Submission Fee Purchase and Payment.” You will not be able submit your abstract or view the list of submitted symposiums without paying the \$25 fee.

3. Submit your abstract by clicking “Your Submissions.” Abstracts may be no more than 150 words.

Please be sure to check the spelling, capitalization, and grammar in your abstract. Your abstract will appear in all printed materials exactly as it was entered. If you have coauthors on your paper or are submitting an abstract for a symposium or forum, check with each individual first to be sure you are entering their name as they wish it to appear (Joseph B. Smith vs. Joe Smith vs. J. B. Smith) and the email they will be using (work email vs. personal email).

NOTE: ConfTool uses email addresses to check for each individual’s roles within the conference. It is very important that only one email address be used for each individual in ConfTool, so that the conflict checker can work properly.

TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT FOR AN ORGANIZED SYMPOSIUM:

1. Follow steps 1, 2, and 3 above. Pay only the \$25 nonrefundable abstract submission fee and submit only the Symposium Proposal abstract.

List the presenters in your symposium in the order you want them to present. Be sure to check with each individual first to ensure you are entering their name as they wish it to appear (Joseph B. Smith vs. Joe Smith vs. J. B. Smith) and the email they will be using (work email vs. personal email).

2. Once you have submitted the symposium abstract, the Program Chair will then accept your abstract in ConfTool (allow 24 to 48 hours for this to occur) and mark your record “allowed to submit,” enabling you to submit a paper or introduction abstract to your own symposium at no additional cost. You will receive an auto-generated email from ConfTool notifying you that your symposium abstract was accepted and you may then submit your paper abstract.

3. After your symposium abstract is accepted, contact your symposium participants and instruct them to submit their abstracts into your symposium. Be sure to tell them the full name of the symposium so they can find it in the drop-down list in ConfTool.

TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT TO AN ORGANIZED SYMPOSIUM:

1. Follow steps 1, 2, and 3 under “All Users.”

2. Select the correct symposium from the drop-down list. If you do not see the symposium listed, contact the symposium organizer to ensure that the symposium has been entered into ConfTool and accepted and that you have the correct title for the symposium.

NOTE: Submitting your abstract to a general session and sending an email to the Program Chair indicating that your paper should be added to a particular symposium is not the correct way to submit to an organized symposium and does not guarantee proper placement of your abstract.

### **DEADLINE**

The deadline for online abstract submission to ConfTool is 10 August 2020. Mailed submissions must be postmarked on or before 10 August 2020. No abstracts will be accepted after 10 August 2020.

### **ACUA INFORMATION**

#### Underwater Archaeology Proceedings 2021

Individuals presenting underwater archaeology papers are eligible to submit written versions of their papers to be considered for publication in the ACUA *Underwater Archaeology Proceedings 2021*. To be considered for inclusion in the *Proceedings*, presenters must register through the link on the ACUA website ([www.acuaonline.org](http://www.acuaonline.org)) by 10 February 2021. Author manuscript deadline is 1 March 2021, and author final edits deadline is 15 April 2021. Submitters are required to carefully follow the formatting and submission guidelines for the *Proceedings* posted on the ACUA website.

#### ACUA Archaeological Photo Festival Competition

The ACUA invites all SHA members and conference attendees to participate in the ACUA 2021 Archaeological Photo Festival Competition. Photos relating to either underwater or terrestrial archaeology may be submitted. Deadline for entry is 1 December 2020. Images will be displayed virtually at the SHA conference, and winning entries will be posted to the ACUA website and may be part of future ACUA/SHA calendars. Please consult the ACUA website for further information and to download details of entry, digital uploads, and payment ([www.acuaonline.org](http://www.acuaonline.org)).

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Membership in the Society for Historical Archaeology is not required to give a presentation at the 2021 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology. It is necessary, however, for all presenters to register at the full conference registration rate by 1 November 2020, and for their presentations to conform to the ethical standards upheld by the Society. Participants submitting abstracts must acknowledge their agreement with the SHA Ethics Statement, provided here.

All SHA Conference attendees must abide by the SHA Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Policy: <https://sha.org/about-us/sha-sexual-harassment-discrimination-policy/>

All SHA Conference attendees must follow the SHA Conference Code of Conduct: <https://sha.org/conferences/>

## **SHA ETHICS STATEMENT AND PRINCIPLES**

Historical archaeologists study, interpret, and preserve archaeological sites, artifacts, and documents from or related to literate societies over the past 600 years for the benefit of present and future peoples. In conducting archaeology, individuals incur certain obligations to the archaeological record, colleagues, employers, and the public. These obligations are integral to professionalism. This document presents ethical principles for the practice of historical archaeology. All members of the Society for Historical Archaeology, and others who actively participate in Society-sponsored activities, shall support and follow the ethical principles of the Society. All historical archaeologists and those in allied fields are encouraged to adhere to these principles. The SHA is a sponsoring organization of the Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA). SHA members are encouraged to join the RPA and the SHA will use the RPA grievance process for ethics grievances.

### **Principle 1**

Historical archaeologists have a duty to adhere to professional standards of ethics and practices in their research, teaching, reporting, and interactions with the public.

### **Principle 2**

Historical archaeologists have a duty to encourage and support the long-term preservation and effective management of archaeological sites and collections, from both terrestrial and underwater contexts, for the benefit of humanity.

### **Principle 3**

Historical archaeologists have a duty to disseminate research results to scholars in an accessible, honest, and timely manner.

### **Principle 4**

Historical archaeologists have a duty to collect data accurately during investigations so that reliable data sets and site documentation are produced, and to see that these materials are appropriately curated for future generations.

### **Principle 5**

Historical archaeologists have a duty to respect the individual and collective rights of others and to not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, place of birth, and/or physical disabilities. Structural and institutional racism, male privilege and gender bias, white

privilege, and inequitable treatment of others are prevalent and persistent issues in modern culture. Historical archaeologists have an obligation to treat everyone with dignity and respect and to adhere to zero tolerance against all forms of discrimination and harassment.

**Principle 6**

Historical archaeologists shall not sell, buy, trade, or barter items from archaeological contexts. Historical archaeologists shall avoid assigning commercial value to historic artifacts except in circumstances where valuation is required for the purposes of appraisal and insurance or when valuation is used to discourage site vandalism.

**Principle 7**

Historical archaeologists have a duty to encourage education about archaeology, strive to engage citizens in the research process, and publicly disseminate the major findings of their research, to the extent compatible with resource protection and legal obligations.