

2026 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology Detroit, Michigan, USA



7–10 January 2026
Call for Papers Opens: 1 May 2025
Final Submission Deadline: 30 June 2025

Mobility

The SHA 2026 Conference Committee invites you to the 59th Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology in Detroit, Michigan, USA, from 7 to 10 January 2026. The 2026 SHA conference will be held at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, located on the riverfront in downtown Detroit, just across the Detroit River from Windsor, Canada. The conference hotel's prime location provides direct access to public transportation and world-class restaurants, museums, architecture, cultural institutions, and archaeology that speak to the city's vibrant history of innovation, industry, and creativity.

Our conference theme of "Mobility" is inspired by Detroit's coastal location, industrial heritage, diverse cultural communities, and history as a city of movement(s). Central to the Great Lakes region, Detroit's history has been shaped by Anishinaabeg, Wendat/Wyandot, and French Canadians who traversed the Detroit River in canoes; by African Americans who self-emancipated via the Underground Railroad; by laborers migrating from elsewhere in Michigan, the Southern United States, Europe, and the Middle East who made Detroit the "Arsenal of Democracy" building tanks and planes during World War Two; by generations of local activists who led national civil rights and labor movements; and now by automotive companies developing self-driving/electric cars in an increasingly revitalized city. Detroit's livelihood has long depended upon its successes (and failures) in moving people, ideas, and goods from one place to another across the Great Lakes and the world.

The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Declaration of Independence, as well as the 325th anniversary of the French settlement of Detroit by Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac. The year will not only be a monumental time for the city as it reflects upon its storied past, but an opportunity for historical archaeology to speak to the public and intersect with commemorative celebrations.

Michigan is home to a long-standing, vibrant, and collegial tradition of collaborative and community-engaged historical archaeologists who have made important contributions to the development of the field over the past 60 years. Michigan archaeologists were at the forefront of organizing SHA in 1967 and the society has deep roots in Detroit. Arnold R. Pilling of Wayne State University, who conducted urban historical archaeology in downtown Detroit during the 1960s, was one of the founders of SHA, serving as its first secretary/treasurer. Equally well represented in the first generation of SHA were

individual members whose scholarship established the field's theoretical and methodological practices (e.g., David Brose, Ira Butterfield, Charles Cleland, James Fitting, George L. Miller, Vergil Noble, Lyle Stone). Educational institutions across the state, especially Western Michigan University, Wayne State University, Michigan State University, and Michigan Technological University, have been at the forefront of public, urban, contact-period, and industrial archaeological scholarship since the 1960s (producing at least three Harrington Medal recipients in the process).

Michigan boasts more than 20,000 archaeological sites. Among the most prominent is Fort Michilimackinac, an 18th-century fortified trading village at the northern tip of Michigan's Lower Peninsula that is home to the longest continuously operating historical archaeological excavation project in the United States. Fort Michilimackinac, Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, River Raisin National Battlefield Park, and other heritage sites operate exemplary archaeological research and interpretive programs. Archaeologists working in Detroit and across the metropolitan region continue to be at the forefront of cutting-edge archaeological scholarship with their current focus on sites associated with the Civil Rights Movement, the Underground Railroad, Native American boarding schools, music heritage, and postindustrial urban transformations.

The organizing committee is proud to host the first SHA conference to be held in the Upper Midwest of the United States since 1973 and we look forward to showcasing the phenomenal archaeology and cultural heritage of the city of Detroit, the state of Michigan, and the Great Lakes region.

THE VENUE: Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center

All conference sessions will be held at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center at 400 Renaissance Drive. The riverfront hotel welcomes you with a contemporary design, a newly renovated modern lobby, and the Fuell restaurant. The 73-story conference hotel offers rooms with spectacular views of the city, Detroit River, and Canada. SHA has reserved a limited number of rooms for the conference at a rate of US\$180 per night (plus state and local taxes – 15%) for single or double occupancy. Subject to the availability of rooms in the SHA block, this rate will be available from Monday, 5 January through Sunday, 11 January 2026, and will expire if not booked before 15 December 2025. Please note that any changes in departure date made after check-in may result in an early departure fee.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Conference Co-Chairs: Krysta Ryzewski (Wayne State University) and John M. Chenoweth (University of Michigan - Dearborn)

Program Chair: Lynn Evans (Mackinac State Historic Parks)

Underwater Chair: Wayne Lusardi (Michigan Department of Natural Resources, State of Michigan)

Terrestrial Chair: Rebecca Graff (Lake Forest College)

Local Arrangements Chair: Amy Krull (Michigan State Historic Preservation Office)

Public Archaeology Day Coordinators: Stacy Tchorzynski (Michigan Department of Natural Resources) and Megan McCullen (Wayne State University)

Workshops and Roundtable Lunch Coordinator: Jade Luiz (Metropolitan State University of Denver)

SESSION FORMATS

Please read this section carefully to see changes from preceding years. By submitting an abstract in response to this Call for Papers, the author(s) consents to having their abstract, name(s), and affiliation(s) posted on the SHA website or listed in other published formats.

General Information

Abstracts should be submitted through the online system at <https://www.conftool.com/sha2026>. 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, the SHA Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Policy, and the SHA Conference Code of Conduct. User profiles from previous conferences are not carried over, so you must create a new profile for the 2026 conference before you can pay for and submit your abstract.

Once you have created your profile, you will be required to pay the US\$25 abstract submission fee. When this is done, you will be allowed to submit your abstract. There is a 150-word limit for all abstract submissions. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Please check the title and abstract for your submission carefully. The 2026 Program Committee is not responsible for correcting misspellings and grammatical errors.

The SHA 2026 Conference Committee hopes to encourage flexibility in the types of sessions offered. Sessions can take the form of formal symposia, panel discussions, or three-minute forums, and each session organizer may organize the time within each session as they wish. Sessions may contain any combination of papers, discussants, and/or group discussion. More than one discussion segment is permitted within a symposium and a formal discussant is encouraged but not required. All papers and discussion segments will be 15 minutes long. We encourage participants to submit their abstracts as early as possible. During the conference period, participants will be allowed to serve as

Primary Symposium Organizer—one time during the conference.

Primary Author of 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 session organizer and individual presenter at the SHA 2026 conference must submit their abstract(s) by the 30 June deadline and pay a nonrefundable US\$25 per abstract fee. In addition, all presenters, organizers, panelists, and discussants must register for the 2026 conference by 1 November 2025 at the full conference rate. If the author of a single-authored paper is not able to attend the conference and has designated another individual to deliver their paper, the author of the single-authored paper must still register for the conference at the full conference rate by 1 November 2025. For papers or posters with multiple authors, only one of the paper’s/poster’s authors must register for the conference by 1 November 2025 for the paper/poster to remain on the program.

PLEASE NOTE THIS IMPORTANT POLICY: All presenters and session organizers at the SHA 2026 conference will be required to register for the conference at the full conference rate by 1 November 2025 to remain on the conference program. Those who fail to register by 1 November 2025 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 by 1 November 2025 to remain on the program. All panelists and discussants must also register at the full conference registration rate by 1 November 2025 in order to participate in a session. Session organizers should advise potential participants in their session of this requirement when soliciting their involvement.

Advance conference registration for SHA members will be US\$200, for nonmembers US\$300, for SHA student members US\$50, and for student nonmembers US\$140.

TYPES OF SUBMISSIONS AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Individual Papers and Posters

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 15 minutes long. Using the information and keywords provided, the program chair will assign individual papers and posters to sessions organized by topic, region, or time period and will assign a chair to each session. The assigned session chair is responsible for providing a computer for use by presenters in their general session.

Please note: If you are presenting a paper as part of a symposium, your submission is not considered an individual contribution. You should submit your abstract as a symposium presenter.

Posters are freestanding, mounted exhibits with text and graphics, etc. that illustrate ongoing or completed research projects. Bulletin boards will be provided. Authors are expected to set up their own displays and be present at their displays during their designated poster session. Authors are encouraged to include contact information on their posters and leave business cards next to their posters so viewers can contact them with questions at a later date.

Formal Symposia

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

Symposium organizers shall pay the US\$25 abstract submission fee and submit the session abstract online before individuals participating in their symposium submit their own abstracts. The organizers will be required to list the speakers in their symposium—in the correct speaking order—during the abstract submission process and provide three keywords. Symposium organizers are encouraged to use the “Structure Information” section of the symposium abstract submittal page to give more details about their session, (e.g., number of breaks, order of discussants if more than one will be used).

Symposium organizers shall 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 session. 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—30 June 2025—and are aware of the 1 November 2025 deadline for presenters to register for the 2026 conference.

Symposium organizers will be the primary point of contact for session participants on such issues as changes to titles and/or abstracts, audiovisual requirements for a session, order of presentation, and cancellations. Organizers must direct any changes in authors, presenters, or affiliations to the program chair at shaDetroit2026@hotmail.com.

Please Note: Once the overall symposium abstract is approved by the program chair, the symposium organizer will be permitted to submit a second abstract for a 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.

Open and Closed Symposia

In keeping with the successful 2025 format, symposium organizers can now choose whether their symposium is closed or open to other submissions. If a session is designated as ‘open’ by the symposium organizer, then other authors can submit individual papers to that session once approval has been given by the symposium organizer; the 2026 Program Committee may also direct appropriate papers to the session. Additional papers will be subject to approval by the symposium organizer. Organizers of a formal symposium must still start with a minimum of four papers.

The SHA website will feature a regularly updated list of the open symposia at <https://sha.org/conferences/>, along with a contact email address for the appropriate symposium organizer. Organizers who wish to hold an open session are encouraged to submit their symposium as early as possible, so that other conference attendees looking to submit a paper to a relevant session can identify appropriate open symposia.

Forums/Panel Discussions

These are less-structured gatherings, typically between one-and-a-half and three 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 whom should be appropriate to the time allotted (typically up to 6 participants for a 1.5-hour panel discussion). The moderator must submit an abstract for the discussion topic and identify all panel participants when submitting the abstract. Moderators shall advise each panel/forum participant that they must register for the 2026 conference at the full conference registration rate by 1 November 2025. One-day and guest registrations for forum panelists are not permitted.

Three-Minute Forums

These are informal—but still academic—discussion groups consisting of a number of rapid, three-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. Moderators shall notify each panel/forum participant that they must register for the 2026 conference at the full conference registration rate by 1 November 2025. One-day and guest registrations for forum panelists are not permitted.

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE OPTION

SHA will once again offer a virtual presentation option for those individuals who wish to submit a paper or session for the SHA 2026 conference but will not be able to attend the conference in person. Prerecorded papers and sessions will be scheduled for presentation during the conference in a “Virtual Session” and will be included in the conference program. All virtual presentation papers and sessions must be prerecorded and sent to SHA Headquarters by 1 December 2025. Guidelines and assistance in preparing prerecorded presentations will be provided to anyone who needs them after abstracts are accepted. Presenters will need access to a computer with an internet connection, camera, and microphone to record their presentations in advance of the conference.

Anyone submitting a prerecorded paper or session for the SHA 2026 conference must register at the full conference rate by 1 November 2025.

Individuals who choose to prerecord their paper/session and submit it for the Virtual Session cannot present the same paper/session in-person in Detroit.

For questions on the Virtual Conference option, please contact SHA Headquarters at hq@sha.org.

STUDENT PRESENTERS

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 for consideration. There can be no more than three authors on the paper; furthermore, all of the authors must be students and members of SHA. Submissions are due Monday, 1 December 2025; there will be no extensions. Please consult the SHA website (<https://sha.org/about-us/awards-and-prizes/>) for submission guidelines.

HOW TO SUBMIT

The regular abstract submission period is from 1 May to 30 June 2025.

If you are unable to use the SHA online abstract submission system (ConfTool) and need to submit a paper or session by mail, please contact SHA Headquarters at hq@sha.org.

DEADLINE

The deadline for online abstract submission is 30 June 2025. Mailed submissions must be postmarked on or before 30 June 2025. No abstracts will be accepted after 30 June 2025.

AUDIOVISUAL EQUIPMENT AND INTERNET ACCESS

A digital (LCD) projector for PowerPoint presentations, a microphone, and a lectern will be provided in each meeting room. The session organizer is responsible for coordinating among the presenters in their session to ensure that one laptop computer is available to all presenters during the session. SHA will not provide laptop computers for presenters. If you are chairing a session in which PowerPoint presentations will be used, you must make arrangements for someone in your session to provide the necessary laptop computer. We strongly recommend that session chairs bring a USB flash drive with sufficient memory to store all the PowerPoint presentations for their session.

All PowerPoint presentations should be loaded onto the designated laptop or USB flash drive by the session organizer prior to the beginning of the session for a seamless transition between papers. Presenters are discouraged from using a computer other than the one designated by the session organizer in order to prevent delays arising from disconnecting and reconnecting the digital projector. Presenters may not use online presentation software, such as Prezi online, as the quality of the Wi-Fi connections cannot be guaranteed. Carousel slide projectors and overhead acetate-sheet projectors will not be provided at the conference venue. Questions regarding audiovisual equipment should be sent to SHA Headquarters at hq@sha.org well in advance of the conference.

Please Note: Please be aware that SHA does not endorse presenters' participating in the conference via Skype or other electronic means. Under very narrow circumstances, such participation may be permitted by the program chair. However, any presenter participating via Skype or other electronic means will be required to pay any additional costs associated with enabling such participation and must register at the full conference rate by 1 November 2025. Arrangements must be coordinated with the program chair well in advance of the conference.

STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS AND PRIZES

SHA offers a number of awards to students presenting at the SHA conference. These include the Ed and Judy Jelks Student Travel Awards, the SHA Québec City Award/Bourse de Québec, the Harriet Tubman Student Travel Award, the Robert L. Schuyler Student Travel Awards, and the Jamie Chad Brandon Student Paper Prize. In addition, the ACUA offers the George Fischer Student Travel Award and the ACUA and Recon Offshore Student Travel Award.

For information on these awards, application procedures, and deadlines, please visit <https://sha.org/about-us/awards-and-prizes/> and <https://acuaonline.org/acua-awards/>.

ACUA INFORMATION

Underwater Archaeology Proceedings 2026

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 2026*. To be considered for inclusion in the proceedings, presenters must register to submit through the link on the ACUA website (www.acuaonline.org) by 10 February 2026. Author manuscript deadline is 1 March 2026 and author final edits deadline is 15 April 2026. Submitters are required to carefully follow the formatting and submission guidelines for the proceedings posted on the ACUA website. Contact Underwater Program Chair Wayne Lusardi (LusardiW@michigan.gov) with questions.

ACUA Archaeological Photo Festival Competition

The ACUA invites all SHA members and conference attendees to participate in the ACUA 2026 Archaeological Photo Festival and People's Choice Competition. Photos relating to either underwater or terrestrial archaeology may be submitted. Deadline for entry is 1 December 2025. Images will be displayed on the ACUA website and winning entries announced during the SHA conference. Please consult the ACUA website for further information and to download details of entry, digital uploads, and payment (www.acuaonline.org).

ELIGIBILITY

Membership in the Society for Historical Archaeology is not required to give a presentation at the SHA 2026 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology. It is necessary, however, for all presenters to register at the full conference registration rate by 1 November 2025 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 Principles, provided here.

SHA ETHICS 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. SHA is a sponsoring organization of the Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA). SHA members are encouraged to join the RPA and 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.

ROUNDTABLE LUNCHEONS

If you have a suggestion for a roundtable luncheon topic or wish to lead a luncheon, please contact Roundtable Luncheon Coordinator Jade Luiz at jluiz@msudenver.edu with a short description of your proposed roundtable by 15 August 2025.

WORKSHOPS

Workshops provide more in-depth, hands-on learning opportunities. If you would like to present a full-day (eight-hour) or half-day (four-hour) workshop, please contact Workshop Coordinator Jade Luiz at jluiz@msudenver.edu with a description of your proposed workshop by 30 June 2025.

GETTING TO AND AROUND DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Airport

Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW): DTW is located 21 miles from the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center and features both the McNamara Terminal (a hub for Delta and allied Sky Team flights) and the Evans Terminal. An airport shuttle bus connects DTW to downtown Detroit. Rideshare and taxi services are also readily available. (Details below.)

Ground Transportation (from DTW)

Public Transportation: Detroit Air Xpress (DAX), www.dax-bus.com/, connects downtown Detroit and DTW. DAX operates from 3:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. every day, including holidays. Amenities of the service include room for luggage storage, comfortable seating, charging ports, and Wi-Fi. The DAX bus services the Evans Terminal at the Ground Transportation Center and the McNamara Terminal on the Departures Level. Tickets are available for US\$8 at the door or US\$6 in advance.

SMART, www.smartbus.org, provides service to and from DTW. SMART currently serves the Evans Terminal with Route 125 (Fort Street-Eureka Road) and Route 280 (Middle Belt South) and the McNamara Terminal with Route 125. SMART also offers a high-frequency service called FAST, which has limited stops and connects downtown Detroit with the suburbs quickly. FAST Route 261 (Michigan Avenue) makes stops at both DTW terminals. [Check the SMART schedule for times.](#) At the Evans Terminal, SMART picks up and drops off in the Ground Transportation Center. At the McNamara Terminal, SMART picks up and drops off on the north end of the Departures Level (Ticketing Level) near Door #1.

In both terminals, please follow signs for Municipal Transportation/Regular Scheduled Bus Service.

Rideshare (Uber/Lyft/etc.): Use Rideshare service apps to book a ride to and from Detroit Metro Airport. Passengers can only meet their driver within the designated Rideshare area that is located inside the Big Blue Deck for the Evans Terminal on Level 1 or McNamara Parking Garage, Level 4.

Evans Terminal: Once across the Skybridge, continue through the sliding glass doors. Take the elevator or escalator on the right down to Level 1 to locate the Rideshare staging area.

McNamara Terminal: Once across the Skybridge, continue to the bank of elevators located on Level 6 of the Ground Transportation Center. Take the elevator down to Level 4 to locate the Rideshare staging area.

Taxis and Luxury Sedans: Convenient, on-demand transportation is minutes away with Metro Cars and Metro Cab. Request transportation from the airport to other points in the region, day or night. Wheelchair-accessible vehicles are available upon request. To make a reservation, contact Metro Cars or Metro Cab or visit the Metro Cars/Metro Cab kiosks located in

the Ground Transportation Centers at each terminal.

- Metro Cars: [800.456.1701](tel:800.456.1701)
- Metro Cab: [734.997.6500](tel:734.997.6500)

Evans Terminal: Taxi and luxury sedan services dispatch from the upper level of the Ground Transportation Center. Upon arrival in Detroit, and once all baggage has been claimed, follow signs to Ground Transportation on Level 4 to catch a ride.

McNamara Terminal: Taxi and luxury sedan services dispatch in the middle of the Ground Transportation Center, located on Level 4. Upon arrival in Detroit, and once all baggage has been claimed, follow signs to Ground Transportation to catch a ride.

Car Rental: Detroit Metro Airport provides access to most major rental car agencies, offering a wide selection of vehicles. Once you have claimed your baggage, follow signs to the Ground Transportation Center and take a courtesy shuttle to the rental car campus, located at the northeast corner of the airport along Lucas Drive. Rental car shuttle bus stops can be found in the Ground Transportation Centers of both the McNamara Terminal Parking Garage and the Big Blue Deck of the Evans Terminal.

Note: If you are renting from an off-airport rental car agency, shuttle pickup may be at a separate location. Please follow signs for Off-Airport Rental Car Shuttles.

Windsor International Airport (YOG): YOG is located in Windsor, Ontario, Canada, 12 miles from the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center and it may be a more affordable option for Canadian attendees who wish to avoid international air travel fees. Multiple flights to and from Toronto service YOG daily. Taxis and rideshare services (Uber, Lyft) are available, as well as Avis, Budget, and National Car Rental. Transit Windsor offers bus service on weekdays via Route Walkerville 8, www.citywindsor.ca/residents/transit-windsor.

Bus and rideshare services operate across the international border between Windsor and downtown Detroit (see below).

Train

Detroit Train Station (DET) is served by Amtrak. The train station is located at 11 West Baltimore Street, five miles from the conference hotel. Note this is NOT the recently beautifully renovated Michigan Central Station. Rideshare and the QLine streetcar operate from the Amtrak station.

Windsor Train Station in Windsor, Ontario, Canada, is served by VIA Rail Canada, with regional service to Toronto. The train station is located four miles from the conference hotel. Bus and rideshare services operate across the international border between Windsor and downtown Detroit (see below).

Bus

Detroit is served by Greyhound. The bus station is located at 1001 Howard Street, two miles from the conference hotel. The Greyhound bus also stops at the Detroit Train Station.

Ground Transportation (Around the City)

Public Transportation:

Detroit People Mover: The Detroit People Mover connects riders to restaurants and entertainment and provides unmatched views of the city and the Riverfront. It winds through downtown 7 days a week. Some of the top destinations along the loop include Huntington Place, GM Renaissance Center, Hollywood Casino & Hotel, Greektown, YMCA, Detroit Opera, Detroit Athletic Club, Music Hall, Gem Theatre, Ford Field, Comerica Park, The Fillmore, Fox Theatre, Little Caesars Arena, and too many bars and restaurants to list here.

Schedule: 7:00 a.m.–10:30 p.m. weekdays, with an extension to 12 a.m. on Friday; 10 a.m.–12 a.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m.–8 p.m. Sunday.

Cost: Currently free!

QLINE Detroit: The QLINE is a versatile free way to get up and down Woodward Avenue without a car. The comfortable glass stations will keep you out of the weather and stops are located near lower Woodward's best attractions like Hart Plaza, Spirit Plaza, Campus Martius, Grand Circus Park, District Detroit, Midtown, Wayne State University, College for Creative Studies, Cultural Center Museums, New Center, Amtrak, and the Fisher Building. There are over 100 places to dine and shop along the Q and it connects to several crosstown bus routes. Extend your trip up Woodward on DDOT or FAST Woodward.

Schedule: Mon–Sat (8 a.m.–12 a.m.) Sun (8 a.m.–9 p.m.)

Cost: Free!

Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT): You can ride DDOT's buses to just about anywhere in the city! Wherever you are downtown, you are not far from a DDOT stop. Use the [TransitApp](#) to plan your trip, locate the nearest stop, and track your bus.

Schedule: DDOT has 12 24-hr routes and 30 regular routes.

Cost: A 4-hour pass costs US\$2 and a 24-hr pass costs US\$5 (pay with cash or use the Token Transit App).

Reduced fares are available for kids (6–18), seniors, and persons with disabilities. Kids 5 and under ride FREE.

Rideshare: Uber and Lyft are operational in Detroit.

Taxicabs: Taxicabs are usually plentiful and can be hailed by the hotel staff.

WINDSOR, ONTARIO, CANADA is located directly across the river from downtown Detroit. It is a quick border crossing by either the Ambassador Bridge or Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. The Gordie Howe International Bridge is scheduled to open in 2025.

Windsor Transit operates the Tunnel Bus on an hourly schedule between the Windsor International Transit Terminal and Mariner's Church. Fare is \$10, US or Canadian, each way, cash only. See www.citywindsor.ca/residents/transit-windsor/service-to-detroit/tunnel-bus-service for more information.

FLiXBUS operates three trips a day between Detroit and Windsor. See [Bus from Detroit, MI to Windsor, ON - Affordable bus tickets](#) for more information.

If you are a U.S. citizen, you will need one of the following identification documents to return to the United States by car: U.S. Passport Book, U.S. Passport Card, Enhanced Driver's License, Trusted Traveler Program Cards NEX-US, SENTRI, or FAST. Check with the U.S. Department of State and Canada Border Services Agency for the most up-to-date information.

EXCURSIONS AND EVENTS

The SHA 2026 Conference Committee is working hard to bring you exciting excursions and special events. There will be bus and walking tour options, with themes including music heritage, conflict and resistance, transportation, and an exciting Saturday evening option!

The Thursday evening reception will be held at the Detroit History Museum's signature "Streets of Old Detroit" exhibit. Attendees will step into Detroit's past and experience the city's dramatic transformation from rural frontier town to industrial giant in three time periods: the 1840s, 1870s, and 1900s.

There are many other fun activities to experience throughout the Metro Detroit area:

- The world-class Detroit Institute of Arts has classical, medieval, Renaissance, and modern art, including Picasso and Diego Rivera exhibits.
- Historical sites such as the Piquette Factory (where the assembly line was pioneered), Motown Museum, Henry Ford Estate, and Charles H. Wright Museum of African American are all easily accessible from the conference hotel.
- Other interesting museums include the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (MOCAD), Dossin Great Lakes Maritime Museum, and Arab American National Museum.

- Enjoy winter sporting events, including Detroit Red Wings ice hockey, Detroit Pistons basketball, and if we are lucky, Detroit Lions playoff football!

The downtown area of Detroit is safe, walkable, and offers many standard and unique food, arts, music, and cultural experiences. Recent years have seen a resurgence of Detroit in many ways and this includes fine dining restaurants. On the other end of the spectrum, famous rivals American Coney Island and Lafayette Coney Island headline a list of inexpensive diners (called “Coney Islands” in the area), originally serving hordes of workers having only short breaks from the assembly lines. Specialist coffee roasters and cafes and bakeries provide lighter morning fare. Detroit is also a city of immigrants, and major Polish, Middle Eastern, Greek, and Latin American communities create opportunities for regional cuisines to be sampled. But perhaps Detroit’s greatest culinary successes in recent years have come through breweries, which have given the area an international reputation for brew pubs and creative brews. Downtown, Midtown, and Corktown offerings include At-water Brewing, Brew Detroit, Batch Brewing, Eastern Market Brewing, Motor City Brewing Works, and others. Two James Spirits offers tasting and cocktails as well as tours.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND UPDATES

The call for papers will be posted at <https://sha.org/conferences/>. This website will provide regularly updated information, including links to hotel reservations, travel tips, travel award applications, volunteer forms, and other pertinent information. The online abstract submission system can be accessed at <https://www.conftool.com/sha2026>.

Be sure to follow the 2026 conference on Facebook and other SHA social media using the hashtag [#SHA2026](#) to find useful apps and links.

Any questions about SHA 2026 Detroit can be sent to the Conference Co-Chairs, Krysta Ryzewski and John Chenoweth, at the general program email address: shaDetroit2026@hotmail.com.

See you in the Motor City!



Fort Michilimackinac. (Photo courtesy of Lynn Evans.)

