

# Navigating the Intersections of Geopolitical Realities in Education

## AAHHE Conference 2026

### Art as Activism/Artivista Approaches Proposal Rubric

**Art as Activism/Artivista Approaches** are intended to challenge the “normative” style of conference presentation by instead bringing artistic forms of knowledge production to the forefront. This includes sessions that engage the conference theme, strand/s, and participants through a performance and/or creative expression space by individual/s in formats including but not limited to spoken word/poetry, art creation, and/or theater and dance workshops. Performance and creative expression sessions provide opportunities for the audience to connect with the land, their bodies, healing practices, ways of knowing, and each other in transformative ways.

This session can also include original works of art/graphic design of art as activism. Activist art is a “term used to describe art that is grounded in the act of ‘doing’ and addresses political or social issues” ([Bruguera](#), n.d., para. 1). As Martha Gonzalez offers, artivista approaches are those who use art “not just for their own sole expression, but they utilize their skill sets to pull other people into an actual process” (Guzman-Lopez, 2022, para. 6). If submitting artwork, it should include language to support the imagery (e.g., QR video explanation or written description).

If you are submitting in this session type, in 750–1,000 words, the proposal should describe as many of the following as are applicable, preferably in this order:

- Significance and objectives and their alignment with *Navigating the Intersections of Geopolitical Realities in Education*, and/or the conference strands;
- Description of how this work is in alignment with artistic approaches;
- Connection to relevant literature, storytelling, ancestral knowledge, and/or collective experiences;
- Chosen approach and description of why this was chosen;
- Articulation of what audience members are intended to take from the work.

*Art as activism/Artivista Approaches proposals will be assessed based on the following criteria as:*

- **Exceeds Expectations** = Information is very clear and readily comprehensible to 3 or more audiences (e.g., students, faculty, administrators, community members, etc.). Content advances new understandings and/or innovation for Latinx/a/o communities. Attendees will achieve all stated learning outcomes/objectives. Proposal is in direct alignment with the conference theme.

- **Meets Expectations** = Information is clear and comprehensible to at least 2 audiences (e.g., students, faculty, etc.). Content aligns with current understandings and practices for working with Latinx/a/o communities. Attendees will achieve most stated learning outcomes/objectives based on information provided. Proposal is aligned to the conference theme.
- **Needs Improvement** = Information needs to be clarified and is only understood by 1 audience. Content needs to be explained in greater detail in order to understand connection to higher education. It is unclear if/how attendees will achieve the stated learning outcomes/objectives. Proposal is only loosely aligned or is not in alignment with the conference theme.
- **Does Not Meet Expectations** = Information is unclear and incomprehensible. Content does not align with higher education. Attendees will not achieve stated learning outcomes/objectives. Proposal does not align with the conference theme.

<b>Art as Activism/Artivista Approaches Presentation</b>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	<b>Needs Improvement</b>	<b>Does Not Meet Expectations</b>
<i>Significance of the approach: Its contribution (e.g., critical questioning of social issues, innovate perspectives to social movements, and/or decolonial approaches to healing) to activism</i>				
<i>Alignment with the conference theme and/or strand</i>				
<i>Connection to relevant literature, storytelling, ancestral knowledge, and/or collective experiences</i>				
<i>Chosen approach and its contribution (e.g., purpose, critical approach)</i>				

<i>Articulation of what audience members are intended to take from the work</i>				
<i>Overall clarity of the proposal (e.g., quality of presentation, organization of ideas, clarity of assumptions, logic of arguments, etc.)</i>				
<b>Recommendation:</b>	Accept, Consider, Reject			