



## CALL FOR WORKSHOP PROPOSALS: FACING RACE 2012

The Applied Research Center (ARC) is inviting submissions for workshop proposals for the 2012 Facing Race conference, a leading multi-racial national gathering on racial justice. This year's conference will be held November 15-17, 2012 Hilton Baltimore in Maryland.

We are expecting this conference to be our largest ever, with audience members topping over 1,000. The Facing Race conference has become a major hub for leading racial justice activists, thinkers, writers and artists to meet, learn together, explore innovative strategies and celebrate successes. Highlights of the conference include a keynote speaker, provocative plenary discussions, a variety of interactive workshops, the Race Flicks Film Festival, and a menu of social and cultural activities.

Approximately 40 workshops will be selected and featured at Facing Race 2012. Due to the limited number of workshops and growing interest and attendance, we expect the workshop selection process to be very competitive. We encourage early submission of workshop proposals to give us ample time to review them.

### **WORKSHOP PROPOSAL GUIDELINES**

**Themes:** There are four thematic tracks focused on addressing racial equity:

1. Model campaigns
2. Media and communications
3. Organizing and advocacy, and
4. Arts and culture

Note: All workshops topics may not fit these themes; other proposed topics are welcome.

**Content:** Workshops emphasize the following five priorities:

- 1) Challenging structural racism and reframing dominant cultural ideas and patterns
- 2) Popularizing racial justice – consciously promoting equitable impacts and inclusion
- 3) Showcasing solutions, model policies, innovative practices and successful strategies
- 4) Developing strategic connections across constituencies and issues, and
- 5) Developing leaders, especially young leaders of color and anti-racist whites

**Format:** Workshops should foster learning, interaction, connections and strategic action. Lively and participatory formats are encouraged, while long lectures and panel presentations are discouraged. To facilitate more interaction amongst participants and presenters, we ask that at least half of the workshop time be devoted to discussion. Workshops last 90 minutes and generally include the following components:

1. Awareness: A brief overview of the context, highlighting key race-related developments and debates relevant to the topic, including information on significant trends, innovative ideas, promising practices, and lessons.
2. Analysis: An interactive component allowing participants to ask questions, reflect on the content presented, and share their experiences and ideas.
3. Action: A strategic component to identify options, opportunities and strategies for advancing racial justice, (with an emphasis on concrete follow-up steps and cross-constituency collaboration)

Unlike conventional academic conferences, we're not looking for presentations of papers or research projects. And, unlike "diversity" or "cultural competency" trainings that primarily focus on interpersonal skills, this conference emphasizes equity and institutional change. Workshop topics or presenters that do not have a close connection to an active social change organization or effort are less likely to be selected. Workshop topics that are framed so narrowly that they have limited appeal across a variety of constituencies and issue interest may also receive less favorable consideration.

**Facilitators/Presenters:** *Workshops should involve no more than two facilitators/presenters, and each presenter should be from a different organization.* Any additional presenter will be responsible for their own travel and lodging expenses. Though we encourage a highly diverse mix of presenters based on race, age, gender and geographic area, some priority will be given to workshops lead by young people (18-35) and people of color. Multi-racial and multi-generational facilitation teams are encouraged. One of the two presenters should be designated as the "workshop leader" who will be responsible for planning and facilitating, starting and ending on time, sticking to an agenda, asking provocative discussion questions and encouraging audience participation.

*Note: Selected workshop presenters agree to help with conference publicity--especially the promotion of your particular workshop--by notifying your organizational and personal networks on at least two occasions well in advance of the conference, using social media, email, newsletter announcements, personal contacts or other effective communications.* ARC will provide you with sample announcements for various media (such as Facebook and Twitter posts) that you can tailor for your use.

### **Proposal Process and Working Timeline**

- Use the attached workshop proposal form for submitting your proposal.
- Proposals must be submitted by **December 1, 2011**.
- Final workshop selections will be made by the ARC staff, board and conference advisors, based on how well the proposals meet the content and format priorities and other considerations such as race, gender, age, issue and geographic representation.
- Workshop proposals may be accepted as is, declined, or accepted with conditions (for example, we may suggest a different title, workshop description, agenda, or co-presenter). Deadline to respond to conditions/requested revisions: December 10, 2011.
- First round of workshop selection begins on January 6.
- All workshop leaders/facilitators must be registered for the conference by June 15, 2012.

Workshop proposals should be submitted to [facingrace@arc.org](mailto:facingrace@arc.org). For additional information, contact Gina Acebo at (510) 653-3415 x4919.

**Logistics Benefits:**

- Up to two workshop facilitators/presenters are provided free registration to the conference.
- If you and your organization/institution are able to cover your own travel and lodging expenses, we will gladly include you or your organization/institution on our conference sponsorship list. Your help with expenses – which allows us to provide more scholarship assistance to low-income and young participants – is encouraged and appreciated.
- If needed and requested, ARC can only offer travel and lodging assistance for up to two workshop facilitators/presenters who are not from the same organization and who live away from the Baltimore area where the conference is being held.