Living Future 2021
Call for Proposals:
“Inclusion + Unity”
April 20-23, 2021
Oregon Convention Center
Portland, Oregon

The International Living Future Institute is excited to announce the call for proposals for our 15th annual Living Future 2021 in Portland, Oregon at the Oregon Convention Center. In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, if circumstances dictate that we are unable to gather in-person, this event will be held virtually. Presenters must be flexible with delivery being in-person, digital, or a hybrid format.

Living Future brings together a community of leading deep-green thought leaders and practitioners to share their insights around building socially just, culturally rich, and ecologically restorative buildings, communities and products. More than 1,500 attendees from around the world will collectively build the vision of a Living Future and collaboratively seek solutions to the most daunting global issues of our time. Join us by submitting your session concept to our LF21 Call for Proposals!

Submit Your Proposal by Wednesday, July 15th.

For more information, please go to:
https://www.tfaforms.com/4832161
Emailed, faxed or mailed proposals will not be accepted.

Presenter Timeline*

June 15, 2020 (Mon)
July 15th, 2020 (Wed)
July 17-August 17, 2020
August 31, 2020
October 7, 2020
November 16, 2020
April 20-23, 2021
Call for Proposals is released
Deadline for proposals - by 11:59 pm (PST)
Review Period
Proposal notifications sent
Registration opens
Speaker Registration Deadline** (conference registration required)
Living Future 2021 (Portland, OR)

*Note that a more detailed timeline with additional requirements will be issued at the time of speaker acceptance.

**In appreciation for your contribution to the success of Living Future 2021, accepted speakers are eligible to register at the discounted speaker rate. This Conference Pass is required for all accepted speakers and discount codes will be provided.
Theme: “Inclusion + Unity”

The built environment echoes and perpetuates the structural inequities of our broader society. Climate justice and social justice are inextricably linked. We cannot begin to resolve the current climate crisis if we do not address the underlying inequities that are pervasive throughout our housing, cities, and communities.

Inclusion is involvement and empowerment. It is ensuring all voices are not only heard, but listened to. True sustainability requires meaningful inclusion and engagement with communities and elevation of underrepresented voices.

Only when we recognize the inherent dignity of all can we come together as one, a unified force in pursuit of justice for our people and our environment.

Share your voice. Join us in the pursuit of a Living Future.

Selection Criteria

All session proposals will be reviewed using the following criteria:

- Demonstrates qualified and engaging presenters with topic-relevant experience, as depicted through presenter bios, speaking experience, and videos of speakers presenting, whenever available.
- Depicts session facilitation that is informative, innovative and transformative.
- Offers a deep understanding of timely and significant content.
- Demonstrates how to solve problems and avoid pitfalls.
- Includes clear, relevant learning objectives that are engaging and thought-provoking for a deep-green audience.
- Provides a deep dive into technical information.
- Presents replicable and scalable ideas and provides clear takeaways that attendees can implement after Living Future 2021.

Our events offer exposure to the leading minds and practitioners in the regenerative built environment while fostering peer-to-peer learning, collaboration and innovation. You are encouraged to submit interactive, creative, and/or experiential session formats that address problems and foster dialogue between yourself and attendees. Attendees are practitioners in the green building movement, past presenters, project team members, and emerging trailblazers. We feel that the strength of our conferences lies in the sharing of knowledge and experience—not just by you, but also by attendees.

Submittal Requirements

TOPIC AREA

All proposals must integrate some aspect of the theme “Inclusion + Unity.” Proposals are strongly encouraged to bring forward new voices and perspectives to the topic and audience. This may include youth, elders, community members, artists, activists, project owners, facilities personnel, and more. Proposals are also strongly encouraged to incorporate aspects of cultural richness - creating buildings, communities, and products that respect, embrace and showcase history, art, music, poetry, food, dance, story, costume, language, etc.

Although your topic may cross many disciplines or themes, please choose the below topic that best fits your proposal. This list does not necessarily correlate to the educational tracks, as the Institute will make the final decision on tracks and placement.

BEST PRACTICES: Celebrating success and learning from failures. Sharing case studies with a focus on stories of the lessons learned and impacts of living buildings, communities and products.

BIOMIMICRY + BIOPHILIA: Biomimicry and Biophilia are powerful strategies transforming how we design products, buildings and communities. Explore how innovative practitioners are using these
tools to reshape industries in order to align with natural systems.

**COLLABORATION + SCALING:** Discuss how best to support moving more rapidly toward a living future. How do we scale? How do we leverage innovation to other industries? How do we transform the ways we work to affect broad change?

**EQUITY + ACCESS:** Transform developments and organizations to foster a true, inclusive sense of community that is just and equitable for all, regardless of an individual's background, ability, race, gender, socioeconomic, or sexual orientation. Create a built environment that provides equitable access to housing, food, jobs, and nature, fostering a resilient community.

**HEALTH + VITALITY:** Create environments that optimize physical and psychological health and well-being. Create a materials economy that is non-toxic, ecologically regenerative, transparent, and socially equitable. Share latest innovations, best practices, and how-to advice to help others on this journey to transform manufacturing.

**EMBODIED CARBON:** Consider not only operational carbon impacts around energy use and efficiency, but the carbon intensity of the materials required to construct the building. Explore carbon reduction and offsetting strategies, including material reuse and carbon sequestration.

**RELEVANT ILFI PROGRAM**
Please choose one of the below options to indicate which ILFI program your proposal aligns with most closely. Note, it is not required that your session align with a specific ILFI program. The program choices are:

- LIVING BUILDING CHALLENGE
- LIVING COMMUNITY CHALLENGE
- LIVING PRODUCT CHALLENGE
- LIVING FOOD CHALLENGE
- CORE GREEN BUILDING CERTIFICATION
- DECLARE
- JUST
- REVEAL
- ZERO ENERGY CERTIFICATION
- ZERO CARBON CERTIFICATION

**RELEVANT PETAL**
Please choose one of the below options to indicate which Petal your proposal aligns with most closely. The Petal choices are:

- PLACE
- WATER
- ENERGY
- HEALTH + HAPPINESS
- MATERIALS
- EQUITY
- BEAUTY

**FORMAT + TIMING**
Think outside the box and submit a proposal that taps into all learning styles. In some cases we will ask you to refine or expand your session based on space and time configurations. All session panels should include no more than four speakers (presenters + moderators combine).

- **LISTEN + LEARN SESSION: (1-1.5 hours)** Focused on presenting/sharing information with attendees in lecture or panel style with time for Q + A.
- **INTERACTIVE PANEL SESSION: (1-1.5 hours)** Mix of presenting/sharing information with attendees and providing opportunities for attendees to interact with each other. At minimum, it must be 1/3 interactive.
- **THOUGHT LEADERSHIP PANEL SESSION: (1-1.5 hours)** Presenter must be an exceptional presenter with video documentation of presentations at industry events and be a leader in their field. Links to
videos of the presenter are required at time of response to CFP. Interactive content and a Q&A portion of the session is strongly encouraged.

- **unCONFERENCE IDEAS: (1-1.5 hours)** Focused on attendee interaction and unique engagement formats. We encourage you to explore how attendees can come together in a physical or virtual space to embody the principles of regenerative design. Examples may include walking tour, collaborative installation, hands-on/materials building, collaborative art making, or idea labs. If additional time is desired, please let us know how long you are requesting, how you would use the additional time beyond the allotted 1.5 hours, and what additional value having this extra time would bring to the participants.

**TITLE**

**(15 words or 150 character maximum)**

This is the first point of contact with an attendee, and often the basis of their presence in the session. Be sure to create a title that accurately describes your session content and builds excitement.

**ABSTRACT**

**(100 words maximum)**

Session abstracts should discuss the goal of the session, the target audience, and any prerequisite knowledge. This abstract appears in the conference program.

**SESSION DESCRIPTION**

**(500-700 words)**

Expand upon the abstract by addressing each of the following:

- The content of the session in more detail
- How the session connects to the chosen topic area, ILFI program, and Petal (see above) as well as the Living Future theme: “Sustaining Hope within Crisis”
- The format of your session, including presentation style, audience engagement and activity facilitation strategies if applicable, and the contribution and role of each presenter
- The benefit of this session to attendees
- For interactive sessions, include description of strategies that you will employ to make this session informative and/or interactive. Digital handouts and/or slides that provide employable solutions for practitioners are strongly encouraged.

How and when will you moderate or lecture and how will participants engage with others in the room. Please note that a brief introductory element (read “lecture”) may be necessary, but if your session is interactive, it could just include a simple explanation followed by a guided exercise.

**SESSION AGENDA**

**(500-700 words)**

Provide a session agenda with times, a brief description, and goals for each section of the session and an indication of which presenter is leading/involved in that portion of the overall session.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES + CEU TOPIC AREA**

Write four (4) learning objectives using the following guidelines. Sessions whose learning objectives do not satisfy these formatting requirements may be eliminated from consideration.

Learning objectives are the intended accomplishments/goals that learners should realize upon completion of a learning activity. Attendees should leave with new tools and perspectives that will provide them with a clear understanding of how to apply what they have learned and how it will improve their current and future work. Properly written learning objectives are necessary for the education provider to seek credit for continuing education units (CEUs).

Effective learning objectives use action verbs to describe what learners should be able to do by the end of the session. Finish this sentence: ‘Upon completion, participants will be able to….’ using an action verb to begin the learning objective. See section below for action verbs appropriate for each learning level.

When writing learning objectives, consider that all education presented at Living Future will be evaluated for LFA CE credits. Living Future Accreditation (LFA) distinguishes leaders in the regenerative design
community and acknowledges their work towards making our communities socially just, culturally rich, and ecologically restorative.

Most LF21 programming also directly covers Health, Safety, and Welfare content and should receive AIA LU|HSW credit as well. This designation supports practitioners who specialize in work that catalyzes the transformation towards a living future for all.

Endeavor to craft your session’s learning objectives to also satisfy the LU|HSW criteria outlined by AIA and indicate which CEU topic area your session most closely matches:

- **Practice management**: This category focuses on areas related to the management of architectural practice and the details of running a business.
- **Project management**: This category focuses on areas related to the management of architectural projects through execution.
- **Programming and analysis**: This category focuses on areas related to the evaluation of project requirements, constraints, and opportunities.
- **Project planning and design**: This category focuses on areas related to the preliminary design of sites and buildings.
- **Project development and documentation**: This category focuses on areas related to the integration and documentation of building systems, material selection, and material assemblies into a project.
- **Construction and evaluation**: This category focuses on areas related to construction contract administration and post-occupancy evaluation of projects.

**LEARNING LEVEL**

Accurate selection of the learning level of each session is critical. Please provide a brief explanation (25 to 50 words) of why this level has been selected for the session. Mislabeled sessions may be eliminated from consideration. Due to the experience and expertise of our audience, as well as the availability of basic educational materials, all proposals should be at a 200 level or above.

200 – Understanding/Comprehension: It is assumed that learners have at least a cursory understanding of the topic and may possess some direct experience. Offers more in-depth material or explanation by the instructor and the opportunity for the participant to interact with the material and be engaged in using the information in practice applications. Objectives may be to analyze, assess, select, or compare new information, using words such as associate; classify; cite; contrast; describe; differentiate; discuss; distinguish; estimate; explain; generalize; give examples; interpret; paraphrase; restate; summarize.

300 – Application/Implementation: It is assumed that learners have an understanding of the topic and may possess some direct experience. Requires the learner to be able to complete a definitive action following the course. Allows for opportunity to gain new knowledge and practice its application on their own. Objectives may be to implement, design, produce, or create a tangible product or action, using words such as apply; articulate; assess; calculate; change; chart; classify; compute; construct; control; demonstrate; determine; develop; establish; illustrate; instruct; interview; operationalize; participate; prepare; project; provide; report; select; show; solve; teach; transfer; use; utilize.

400 – Mastery: It is assumed that learners have extensive prior knowledge of the topic and have direct experience (where applicable). Includes training on specific technical topics. Objectives may be to appraise, construct, calculate, develop or validate, using words such as analyze; assess; break down; categorize; classify; compare; conclude; connect; contrast; correlate; decide; design; diagram; differentiate; discriminate; distinguish; evaluate; explain; focus; judge; justify; illustrate; infer; integrate; limit; measure; modify; outline; plan; point out; predict; prioritize; produce; rank; rate; rearrange; research; rewrite; select; separate; subdivide; substitute.

**INTENDED AUDIENCE** (50 words)
Briefly describe the intended audience (discipline, background) and any prior experience or knowledge they may need to effectively learn from this session.

PRESENTERS

- Role (i.e., presenter, moderator or facilitator).
- First and last name, job title, company/orrganization, contact information (including city, state, email address, and phone number), self-identifying information;
- Biography (100 words max, appears on conference program);
- Head shot; (high quality, appears on conference program);
- Minimum of two recent speaking experiences and/or past presentation links for each individual.
  Include the name of event/conference, title of session, role in session, location and date of session, number of attendees, length of session, and if possible, link to anything about the session online;
- List of previous Living Future presentations including the title of session and year;
- If available, link to videos of the presenters speaking (Note: this is required for Master Speaker session submissions).
- Confirmation that each speaker agrees to the program policies.

Program Policies

All proposals must be complete, comprehensive, and deemed timely to the audience. The Institute may alter a presentation, increase and/or reduce the number of presenters, select alternate presenters from among those proposed, and/or combine the submitted presentation with other proposed presentations, at its sole discretion. All participants will be contacted independently to confirm their participation.

*During the electronic submittal process, all presenter/moderators/facilitators will be asked to affirm that they understand and will abide by the below policies. Submittals that do not follow the below policies will not be considered.*

- **Priority is given to panels that represent diverse ethnic/racial and gender representation. To facilitate this, our goal is to have at least 51% female representation and 40% people of color among our presenters. These goals reflect the current percentage found in the 2010 US Census.**
- Submissions must include speakers who have agreed to and accepted the requirements stated in the Call for Submissions. Speakers must acknowledge their availability to present at the conference over all dates and times between April 20-23, 2021 prior to the submission of their proposal. Speakers who are not available over all conference dates and times will not be considered.
- **Speakers must agree to present in person or digitally, as dictated by the Institute. If presented digitally, speakers must agree to be recorded.**
- Speakers who subsequently are unable to attend the conference must notify the Institute’s staff in writing as soon as possible to LF@living-future.org. Replacements must be approved by the Institute which reserves the right to modify or cancel any session based on a change in presenters/moderators/facilitators.
- If a presenter’s/moderator’s/facilitator’s professional affiliation changes, the Institute’s staff must be notified immediately in writing to LF@living-future.org. The Institute reserves the right to change or remove presenters/moderators/facilitators based on change of professional affiliation.
- In order to hear from the broadest array of voices at the conference, an individual may only participate in one educational session at Living Future.
- A firm/institution/organization may participate as a moderator/presenter/facilitator in no more than two sessions at Living Future. Presenters are encouraged to represent their topic from a diverse perspective – for example, from different companies and/or project roles.
- In an effort to promote new and diverse groups of presenters, the reviewers will give preference to presenters who did not present at the previous year’s Living Future.
- The Institute may modify any submitted session by adding or removing speakers or requesting content changes or additions or time changes.
- **No sessions based upon an advertisement or product will be accepted into the program.**
- In an effort to be a paperless conference, the distribution of handouts during the session is discouraged, but practical, work-enhancing digital handouts are strongly encouraged.
- In appreciation for their contribution to the success of the conference, accepted speakers will be eligible to register for a Conference Pass. Registration is required for all speakers, and discount codes will be provided upon acceptance and signature of a Memorandum of Understanding.
- Exceptions to these policies may be made at the sole discretion of the Institute. Please contact us at LF@living-future.org. with questions around policies and format.
How to Submit

The proposal must be completed in one sitting (you cannot save and return to your online form), so please be prepared with all answers prior to starting. Proposals must be prepared in accordance with the submittal requirements, and once submitted a proposal cannot be retroactively edited.

Submit Your Proposal by Wednesday, July 15th.

Submit at the following URL:
https://www.tfaforms.com/4832161

Emailed, faxed or mailed proposals will not be accepted.

QUESTIONS? Contact us at LF@living-future.org

The International Living Future Institute is an inspiring hub for visionary programs. Our mission is to lead and support the transformation toward communities that are socially just, culturally rich and ecologically restorative. Composed of leading green building experts and thought-leaders, the Institute is premised on the belief that providing a compelling vision for the future is a fundamental requirement for reconciling humanity’s relationship with the natural world. The Institute runs the Living Building Challenge, Living Community Challenge, Living Product Challenge, Zero Energy Certification, Zero Carbon Certification, Core Green Building Certification, the Cascadia Green Building Coalition, Ecotone Publishing, Declare, JUST and other leading-edge programs. A global network of hundreds of volunteers across 70 countries drive the local adoption of restorative principles in their communities.