

Call for Presentations Ephemera 44: Conflict/Resolution

The taking of opposing positions and advancing them, often to a resolution, is integral to our history. Our March 2024 conference will look at the ephemera of conflict and where possible, resolution. While war, national and international, may first come to mind, our topic will also include significant social or political movements where ephemera has been produced to advance an argument or as evidence of what transpired.

The many sides of conflict can include non-aggressive or fervently anti-aggressive positions such as pacifism or diplomacy. Using satire and even humor in the cause of a serious argument can result in ephemera with a "bite." For example, the Guerilla Girls art movement has sought to expose bias and corruption in the arts using stealthy and satirical forms of "attack." Ephemera has also been a crucial component in propaganda and disinformation campaigns in a variety of conflicts.

Ephemera 44, the Ephemera Society of America (ESA) annual conference, will take place at the Hyatt Regency in Greenwich, Connecticut, on March 15, 2024. Each speaker will address a topic related to conflict and/or resolution, relying heavily on tangible ephemera.

Examples could include recruitment, public notice and protest posters, broadsides, letters, postcards, Civil War covers, handbills, propaganda and all forms of "disinformation," material relating to the draft, maps, orders, stamps, commands, battle plan drawings, scrapbooks, flag and uniform trade catalogs, ephemera relating to restoration programs, monuments and war cemeteries, proclamations, satirical prints, editorial cartoons, underground publications, etc. Examples may include ephemera intentionally created to support a position, documentation that supports the prosecution of the conflict, or symbols developed to promote a cause or identity, such as the raised fist, the peace sign or Rosie the Riveter. Your presentation may focus on any aspect of this topic.

We invite you to submit proposals for presentations. Each presentation will be 30 minutes in length, followed by a brief Q&A. Please submit the following:

- Presentation title and a written abstract, focusing on the way ephemera tells the story of your chosen topic. Please describe the specific types of ephemera you will use to illustrate your topic. Each presentation needs to feature at least three different types of ephemera. Proposals should not exceed 150 words.
- 5 to 6 representative ephemera images
- A one-paragraph biography, including any affiliations
- A jpg photograph of yourself for publicity purposes
- Mailing address, phone number and e-mail address

Following a review of all proposals, finalists may be asked to submit 20 to 25 images of the types of ephemera that will be used to illustrate your talk.

Proposals must be **submitted by September 15, 2023** to Barbara Loe, Ephemera 44 Conference Chair, by e-mail at bjloe@earthlink.net or by post to Barbara Loe, Ephemera Society of America, Inc., P.O. Box 95, Cazenovia, NY 13035-0095.

Decisions and notification about proposals will be made by October 31, 2023. Presenters will be requested to sign a release at the time of acceptance allowing their presentation to be filmed for use by the ESA.

If selected, a draft PowerPoint presentation must be submitted by February 28, 2024. The final presentation must be submitted by March 7, 2024. Presentations must include 25 or more ephemera images. At this time, funding is not available from ESA to support travel or presentation costs.

The Ephemera Society is eager to expand the use of ephemera in the classroom, and we encourage presentations on all subjects addressing the use of ephemera in teaching and academic research. We encourage undergraduate and graduate students to submit proposals for the Young Scholars Panel to be held on Thursday afternoon, March 14th. For more information, please see "Young Scholar Projects" under the "Conference" tab on our website: www.ephemerasociety.org