This fall, Philanthropy Ohio will convene its first in-person conference in three years, bringing together colleagues from around the state in Cleveland to connect with one another, build skills as leaders and strengthen this network of funder peers. Philanthropy Forward ’22 will be our first collective space to address the changes, fractures and healing of the last three years, with the content curated and designed with this in mind. As we craft this year’s program slate, we are prioritizing learning that will capitalize on an in-person format and bring key trends and conversations in philanthropy into the work happening in your communities.

We invite our members to help shape this year’s conference by submitting a proposal for Philanthropy Forward ’22. We encourage you to submit proposals designed for the new landscape of learning and enriched by in-person delivery. Opportunities that are designed for interaction, feature creative use of space and time and are timely and action-oriented are appreciated. In service to creating a space that is inclusive and inviting to all our members, Philanthropy Ohio expects to adhere to any local, state, federal or venue regulations with respect to COVID-19-related safety protocols. We strongly encourage our presenters and attendees to be vaccinated and we anticipate further guidance on this to come later in the year as the landscape continues to evolve.

The Conference Planning Committee will review sessions and recommend the program slate that best reflects our shared desire to embody the conference name – Philanthropy Forward – in all that we offer at this year’s conference. We strive to use this time together to examine the shifts in our world and sector over the last two years and understand the implications on how we show up as leaders.

We encourage you to consider the following questions as you prepare your submission:

- What has changed in your work? What does that look like on a daily or monthly basis?
- Can I provide tangible takeaways or action steps, so attendees keep momentum?
- How can I use the wisdom in the room to deepen attendees’ shared learning?
- Whose voices are not represented in this session and in what way could I address that?

Areas of priority for the conference include, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- Foundational skill development and core competency learning in philanthropy;
- Leadership, self-care and personal development practices;
- Managing through conflict and change as leaders and organizations;
- Advocacy and strengthening the tenets of a healthy democracy;
- The future of work and its impacts on a multigenerational workplace;
- Corporate philanthropy changes, including volunteerism and leadership transitions;
- Trust-based philanthropy framework and nonprofit capacity building;
- Storytelling, narrative change and lifting community voice;
- Racial justice, belonging and equity and the implications of this work in Ohio; and
- Governance topics that address trustee needs and engagement.
Session Types: Sessions should be designed to meet one of the following formats or be explicit and clear on the time and technical requirements for success if selecting ‘other’ as the option:

- **Keep the Change Sessions (45 min)** – One to two presenters focused on positive elements of recent change and how leaders can continue to incorporate them into long-term strategies.
- **In Conversation (45 min)** – Two speakers engaged in conversation on a critical and timely topic of relevance to the field. We welcome the opportunity to introduce new concepts to the field or to offer opposing viewpoints and modeling coming together for productive dialogue.
- **Roundtable (60 min)** – Session host / presenter sets context for discussion using a short presentation of no more than 15 minutes, followed by organized small group dialogue among attendees facilitated by the session host or co-presenters.
- **Panel Discussion (60 min)** – 60-minute sessions to illustrate a best practice or innovation in philanthropy. Sessions may have a single presenter or a curated panel of no more than three speakers plus a moderator and should include dedicated time for Q&A with attendees.
- **Training (60 min)** – Sessions that engage participants in active learning and work with limited passive speaker content delivery. These sessions should provide ample time for attendees to learn by doing and/or engage with peers to amplify learning.
- **Site Visit (Approx. 1.5 – 2 hours)** – Immersive off-site learning tours in the Cleveland metro area that illustrate the transformational nature of philanthropy and examine the model or elements that contributed to success. Once accepted, details on transportation and logistics are coordinated in partnership with Philanthropy Ohio staff.
- **Other** – We welcome proposals that offer creative and unexpected formats, or which require unique space or time needs, such as virtual site visits, dialogues about relevant book or video content or other unique and memorable learning opportunities. Please describe requirements for success of this experience to allow the Committee to provide it full consideration.

Who is eligible?
Submission of a session proposal for Philanthropy Forward ’22 is a benefit of membership in Philanthropy Ohio (see Membership Eligibility). Members submitting a proposal are considered Session Organizers. Session Organizers must be a staff or board member of a funder or Professional Partner member organization, but we encourage organizers to invite the participation of consultants, practitioners or voices within and outside of the field of philanthropy.

What does a Session Organizer do?
- Work with Philanthropy Ohio to refine session details as needed after committee review.
- Adhere to deadlines for marketing and session presentations and materials. These final dates and detailed guidelines will be communicated through session confirmation documents if selected.
- Confirm session format, AV and room set-up needs with Philanthropy Ohio staff.
- Confirm speakers and facilitate profile updates on the Philanthropy Ohio website by May 31, 2022.
- Provide for any associated costs related to conference speakers, including but not limited to travel, honoraria or other expenses. Philanthropy Ohio is not responsible for speaker expenses.
- Ensure participation in speaker prep call with Philanthropy Ohio staff in summer 2022.
- Facilitate the conference registration process for speakers according to the following guidelines:
  - Philanthropy Ohio members and eligible funder non-members:
    - Speakers participating in the full or partial conference are expected to register and pay for the conference at the applicable rate for members and non-members, respectively.
    - Speakers attending only their session are invited to the meal closest to their session and should confirm attendance and dietary needs with Philanthropy Ohio.
  - Speakers not eligible for membership (e.g., nonprofit organizations, government agencies, for-profit companies, academic institutions) and member speakers attending only their session will be invited to attend the meal closest to their session, if applicable.
Speaker Responsibilities:
We are looking for speakers who share a passion for distilling complex issues into meaningful, action-oriented takeaways and who reflect diversity of thought, identity, experience and sector. We are seeking sessions which reflect the current state of the world and incorporate thoughtful design elements that facilitate learning between and among presenters and attendees. All speakers are expected to participate in a prep call with Philanthropy Ohio staff.

Key Dates:
- **March 4**: Call for Sessions opens for Philanthropy Forward ’22.
- **April 1**: Proposals due to Philanthropy Ohio by 5 p.m. via ONLINE submission.
- **April**: Conference Planning Committee reviews and recommends proposals.
- **May 20**: Session Organizers are notified of their application status.
- **June 3**: All presenters and revised session descriptions are confirmed with Philanthropy Ohio.
- **Summer**: Call with Philanthropy Ohio staff to review logistics and session details.
- **Oct 10**: Slides and supplemental session materials due to Philanthropy Ohio. Details on submission process will follow mid-summer.

Selection Criteria:
Please keep in mind the following priorities for Philanthropy Ohio, that sessions be:
- Interactive, participant-focused sessions that maximize adult learning and engagement;
- Timely in their content and with attention to the intersections of equity with the topic(s);
- Skill-building opportunities that offer clear lessons and applicability for funders;
- Inclusive of speakers with diversity in thought, identity, geography and background; and
- Reflective of the needs of various audiences and issue areas, as outlined below:

Job Functions:
- CEO
- Program Officer
- Trustee
- Finance & Investments
- Resource Development
- Grants Management
- Communications

Constituency:
- Community foundations
- Public charity grantmakers
- Private/family foundations
- Corporate funders
- United Ways
- Individual donors
- Federated funds

Core Competency:
- Public Policy
- Finance and Investments
- Governance
- Grantmaking
- Management
- Communications
- Resource Development
- Corporate Citizenship
- Personal/Professional
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

How to Submit:
Submit your proposal online via [https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/stages/4001/submitter](https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/stages/4001/submitter).

You'll need to create a login for Oxford Abstracts, which will allow you to complete your application in stages. Detailed instructions on navigating the Oxford Abstracts platform may be found here: [https://help.oxfordabstracts.com/knowledge/making-a-submission](https://help.oxfordabstracts.com/knowledge/making-a-submission).

Deadline for submission is **Friday, April 1, 2022, at 5 p.m. EST**. Submissions received after this deadline will be considered only on a space-permitting basis. All individuals will be notified of the status of their submission by **Friday, May 20, 2022**. If you encounter difficulties in your submission, please contact Martha Wood at mwood@philanthropyohio.org for assistance.
Application Guide:

Please use the following pages to guide your conference session proposal preparation. Proposals must be submitted online via the Oxford Abstracts website for Philanthropy Forward ’22:


**Page 1: Details and Instructions**

Provides an overview of the content and format priorities for the conference.

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**Page 2: Session Title and Session Organizer Contact Information**

- Session Title (50 characters max)
- Session Organizer Contact Information
  - Name
  - Title
  - Organization
  - Phone Number
  - Email address
  - Role in Session

**Page 3: Target Audience(s)**

Select one primary and up to two secondary tracks / topics that best align with your session:

- Public Policy
- Governance
- Grantmaking
- Management
- Resource Development
- Corporate Philanthropy
- Finance & Investments
- Communications
- Community Leadership
- Evaluation & Institutional Learning
- Personal & Professional Development
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Indicate which **constituencies** are served by your session:

- Community Foundations
- Private / Family Foundations
- Corporate Funders
- Public Charity Grantmakers
- United Ways
- Federated Funds
- Individual Donors
- Other

Indicate which **job functions** will benefit from your session:

- CEO / Senior Leadership
- Program Officer
- Trustee / Board Member
- Finance & Investments
- Resource Development
- Grants Management
- Communications
- Other

**Page 4: Session Information**

- Session Description (150 – 300 characters, including spaces)
- Three Session Takeaways
- Session Details
  - How does this content relate to or advance the field of philanthropy?
  - What details on the format or flow of the session design would you like to share?
  - How will you ensure active engagement and actionable learning?
  - What else do you want to share about this session if anything?
- Session Format
Page 5: Room and AV Needs

- **Table Set-Up**
  - Classroom
  - U-Shape
  - Rounds
  - Other
- **Room Set-Up Needs**
  - Podium
  - Panelist Chairs
  - Other
- **AV Needs**
  - Speakers
  - Laptop
  - Microphone
  - Flip chart / markers
- **Session Recording Permission**

Page 6: Presenter Details

*We strongly encourage including a diverse set of speakers and perspectives in your proposal that reflect variations in identity, experience, geography and organization type.*

**Speaker Information (Please add the following for each proposed or confirmed speaker)**

- First Name
- Last Name
- Email Address
- Checkbox if speaker is confirmed (if not, presumed to be proposed only)
- Speaker photo (Suggested but not required.)
- Brief bio or hyperlink (Suggested but not required.)
- Title
- Organization

Applicants will receive an email confirmation upon submission of their conference proposal. For questions about Philanthropy Forward ’22 or the proposal process, please contact Martha Wood, Membership Associate, Philanthropy Ohio ([mwood@philanthropyohio.org](mailto:mwood@philanthropyohio.org)) for assistance.