

The 61st Annual Conference of the International Council for Arts Deans
with Institute of American Indian Arts
Santa Fe, New Mexico

October 15 – 16, 2025

Additional programs requiring separate registrations: October 13, 14 and 17

All conference registrants will receive postcards featuring historic photos of La Fonda on the Plaza when making reservations at the conference hotel.

All conference registrants will receive when they check in at the conference hotel:

- *In Every Room – a story of the art by La Fonda*, highlighting LaFonda on the Plaza
- *New Mexico Culture Pass*, providing admission to each of 15 state museums and monuments over a 12-month period

Monday, Tuesday and Friday programs are optional, with a separate registration fee.

Monday, October 13, 2025 / Indigenous Peoples' Day

1:00 – 4:30pm

An afternoon at the **Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA)**. IAIA exemplifies creative excellence and what may be accomplished through an Indigenous approach to academics, community involvement, and museum practices. By promoting and expanding access to contemporary Indigenous arts through educational programming, research and exhibitions, IAIA is empowering Native creators and introducing non-Native audiences to Indigenous peoples' vitality, resilience, and contemporaneity. IAIA is a 1994 Land-Grant institution providing training and outreach rooted in Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) that promote tribal sovereignty and self-determination.

Note: Students will not be on campus this day, but all studios will be open for tours and conversation. Please plan on participating in a cultural art project – perhaps painting on rawhide discs.

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Discover the Art & Life of Georgia O'Keeffe
a private tour before the museum opens to the public

8:30 – 9:30am

\$35 / person

Dedicated to her artistic legacy, the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum is the largest repository of O'Keeffe's artwork, personal effects and related archives, including important correspondence, ephemera, and photographs. The Museum collections provide rich context for understanding the artist's art, life, and zeitgeist.

Rethinking the Fundraising Cycle, From Identification to Solicitation

A day-long workshop for deans and their advancement officers

10:00am – 4:00pm

\$495 / registration before September 1

\$595 / registration September 1 and after

\$299 / dean who is also registering for the conference

Considering rapidly changing philanthropic realities, Jim Langley, President of Langley Innovations, will revisit the traditional fundraising cycle, showing what is and is not working and what new approaches need to be adopted to achieve both significant and sustainable fundraising results in the years ahead. In this day-long workshop, each phase of the traditional cycle will be reviewed, including prospect identification, engagement, cultivation, pre-solicitation, solicitation and stewardship, with the participants determining how much time is spent on each phase.

Santa Fe Walking Tour (also offered Friday morning)

4:15 – 6:00pm

\$ 50 / person

Enjoy a guided walking tour in Santa Fe and discover the city's compelling history, treasured art, and architecture. An experienced guide will lead a group of no more than 15 through the 400-year-old Plaza district, and passing landmarks including the Loretto Chapel, Palace of the Governors, and Barrio de Analco, plus places off the beaten path that most visitors miss.

Art & History Tours of La Fonda on the Plaza (will also be offered Friday morning)

Each group size will be limited to 15 people. Three tours are available Tuesday and another on Friday morning. There is no fee for the Art & History Tours but advance registration is required.

- 11:30am – 1:00pm or
- 1:00 – 2:30pm or
- 2:30 – 4:00pm

La Fonda's has a 95-year history that will transport you back in time. Join us for a complimentary docent-led art & history tour of the hotel which is filled with stories about Fred Harvey and the Harvey girls, the architecture and the beautiful art collection that graces the lobby, hallways and rooms in the hotel.

Welcome Reception at La Terraza Ballroom and Outdoor Terrace

6:00 – 7:00pm

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Breakfast and (optional) Mini Presentations

8:00 – 8:45am

At the same time, in a different room, a special program for first-time conference attendees:

Breakfast and How to Make the Most of Your Conference Experience

Pre-registration required, please.

Land Acknowledgement

9:00 – 9:05am

The Ancient Art of Smudging

9:05 – 9:15am

The history of smudging dates to ancient times, when Native American tribes used it as a way to connect to the spiritual world, seek guidance and offer prayers. The practice has been passed down from generation to generation and is still performed today.

Welcoming Remarks

9:20 – 9:30am

Debra Garcia Greigo, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs

Opening Keynote

9:30 – 10:00am

The Role of the Arts in the 21st Century

Robert K. Meya is the fourth general director of the Santa Fe Opera and has been invited to open ICfAD's 61st Annual Conference. His remarks will draw from his leadership of a company highly regarded for presenting ensemble performances of superlative quality and in a unique setting. Discussion topics might include how do the arts build community in a time of division? How does the burgeoning growth of AI impact the role of the arts? What are predictions for the arts of the future? Has the role of the arts changed over time? What is the role of the arts in our global 21st century society? What role do arts administrators and educators have in fostering the artists of the future?

The Santa Fe Opera has been selected by ICfAD's board of directors as being one of two recipients of this year's Award for Arts Achievement & Excellence. ICfAD President James Frazier and Secretary Eileen Stempel will present this award at the end of his presentation.

Reflection Break

10:00 – 10:15am

The Common Characteristics of the Most Successful Fundraising Dean

10:15 – 11:00am

Drawing from his broad experience in working with scores of deans over several decades, Jim Langley will share a surprising list of attributes that set apart the most successful, delineating between those that are innate and those that are "teachable."

Reflection Break

11:00 – 11:15am

ICfAD's Leadership Development Committee presents . . .

Facilitated Discussions focused on Transferrable Decanal Skillset Acquisitions

Leadership Development Committee Roundtable Discussions, round 1

11:20 - 11:45am

Leadership Development Committee Roundtable Discussions, round 2

11:50am – 12:15pm

Leadership Development Committee Roundtable Discussions, round 3

12:20 – 12:45pm

- Creating Cultural Buy-In: Strategic Planning
- Building Coalitions Across Campus
- Strategies for Leading and Building a Team

Lunch and Networking, including a report-out of Roundtable Discussions

1:00 – 2:00pm

Travel to Santa Fe Opera

Load motorcoach at 2:30pm for a 2:40 p.m. departure

Much of our time at Santa Fe Opera will be in unheated and outside areas. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a sweater or jacket as needed. (Traditionally, Santa Fe has had its first frost of the season by this time!)

While there, our schedule will include:

- 3:15 – 4:00pm in the outdoor theatre
- 4:00 – 5:00pm in small group (30 – 40) tours of the design and production shop areas
- 5:15 – 6:15pm **Celebrate the Arts Reception** in Dapples Pavillion

Return to La Fonda on the Plaza

Motorcoaches will depart Santa Fe Opera at 6:30pm, for an approximate 6:45pm return to the conference hotel.

Thursday, October 16, 2025

Breakfast and Networking

8:00 – 8:30am

History and Place in the Native American Art Field of the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA)

8:30 – 8:50 am

IAIA exemplifies creative excellence and what may be accomplished through an Indigenous approach to academics, community involvement, and museum practices. By promoting and expanding access to contemporary Indigenous arts through educational programming, research and exhibitions, IAIA is empowering Native creators and introducing non-Native audiences to Indigenous peoples' vitality, resilience, and contemporaneity. IAIA is a 1994 Land-Grant institution providing training and outreach rooted in Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) that promote tribal sovereignty and self-determination.

The Institute of American Indian Arts has been selected by ICfAD's board of directors as being one of two recipients of this year's Award for Arts Achievement & Excellence. ICfAD President James Frazier and Immediate Past President Nancy Uscher will present this award at the end of this presentation.

Visit the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) Museum of Contemporary Native American Arts

9:00 – 9:45am

Return to La Fonda on the Plaza and refill your coffee during this **Reflection Break**

9:45 – 10:00am

Native American Hoop Dance

10:00 – 10:15am

Like other native dances, hoop dance is not acrobatic but restrained. The dancer usually takes small steps when performing the dance. Hoop dance, an individual dance, is a "show dance" in some tribes. They will move either clockwise or counterclockwise as determined by their cosmology and worldview. Native American Hoop dance usually focuses on very rapid moves but sometimes speed and creativity balance the scoring between Hoop dancers who use only four hoops but dance to extremely fast songs, versus dancers with 20 or more hoops who dance to a slower drumbeat. Every dance is as individual as the person who choreographs it.

ICfAD's DEIB Committee presents . . .

Considering Gender Expansion and Expression in Arts Education

10:15 – 11:15am

Arts faculty are often challenged to provide adequate support for their trans and gender-expansive students, who are actively seeking a safe and welcoming space to authentically express their gender identity. This panel will seek to examine best practices for inclusive teaching, challenging the traditional paradigms of voice type, gendered casting, traditional stagecraft, etc.

Reflection Break and Transfer to Roundtable Discussions

11:15 – 11:30am

Through the years, ICfAD's Roundtable Discussions have served as catalysts for great conversations, potential partnerships, and future endeavors. Roundtable Discussions serve as a forum to explore special topics, timely issues, and fresh ideas of interest to ICfAD's diverse and growing membership.

Roundtable Discussions – rounds 1 and 2

11:30 – 11:55 am and Noon – 12:25pm

Lunch, Continued Discussion and Conversation Prompts from the Leadership Development Committee Annual Meeting for the International Council for Arts Deans

12:30 – 1:30pm

Please board motorcoach transportation for a 2:15 departure to one of three destinations:

- **Museum Hill:** The hill itself is a public sculpture garden. Within the beautiful setting are Wheelright Museum of the American Indian; Museum of International Folk Art; Museum of Indian Arts & Culture; Museum of Spanish Colonial Art; Botanical Gardens.
- **Canyon Road:** Canyon Road is a magical half mile in the Historic District of Santa Fe. You are invited to stroll this picturesque trail to experience fine art and more housed in gracious adobe architecture.
- **The School for Advanced Research and The Indian Arts Research Center**
Participation is limited to 30 people. Advance registration required.

The **Indian Arts Research Center (IARC)** is a division of the School for Advanced Research (SAR). The goal of IARC is to bridge the divide between creativity and scholarship by supporting initiatives and projects in Native American studies, art history, and creative expression that illuminate the intersections of the social sciences, humanities, and arts. This is accomplished by providing fellowship opportunities for artists to engage in uninterrupted creativity; fostering dialogue among artists, researchers, scholars, and community members through seminars and symposia; nurturing future arts and museums professionals through experiential training; and promoting study and exploration of the IARC collection of Native American arts.

Founded as a center for archaeological research in the Americas in 1907, SAR was revitalized in the early 1970s when it relocated to its present sixteen-acre campus on Santa Fe's historic east side. SAR's advanced seminars and resident scholar program in anthropology and related social sciences achieved worldwide recognition, as did the quality of the Southwest Native American art collection housed in SAR's Indian Arts Research Center. Beginning around 2010, SAR began to reinvent itself yet again. While maintaining its commitment to innovative social science, SAR has pioneered a radically participatory approach to the stewardship of its Native American art collection. It is also expanding and enhancing its educational mission in Santa Fe by offering lectures and salon discussions focused on issues of broad public concern, thus repositioning SAR as a center for creative thought in a region actively exploring new avenues of social and economic development.

Motorcoach transportation from each of the three drop-off points will return to La Fonda at the Plaza

5:15 pm

Closing Reception at The New Mexico History Museum

6:00 – 7:00pm

Friday, October 17, 2025

Breakfast on your own.

Friday activities are optional. Separate registration is required for each program. There is no additional charge for the art tour at the hotel.

- Taos is a mecca for artists and visionaries. Join colleagues travelling to where golden mesa meets endless blue sky as we visit the [Taos Pueblo](#); explore premier galleries; and gain an understanding of autonomous living at [Earthship Biotecture](#). This cultural immersion experience will depart the conference hotel Friday morning after breakfast (on your own) and return Saturday afternoon.
- **Santa Fe Walking Tour** (was also offered Tuesday afternoon) – 9 – 11am
- **Tour of the art collection** at La Fonda on the Plaza for those who did not do so Tuesday. 9 – 10:30am and 10 – 11:30am