"Community Gardening on the Cutting Edge"
33rd Annual American Community Gardening Conference
Thursday, August 9 - Sunday, August 12, 2012
Hilton Financial District, 750 Kearny Street
San Francisco, CA

Community Gardening on the Cutting Edge!

Call for Presentations

Thursday, August 9 – Sunday, August 12, 2012

The American Community Gardening Association (ACGA) is a non-profit organization of professionals and volunteers who seek to build community by increasing and enhancing community gardening and greening across the United States and Canada.

The ACGA annual conference brings together hundreds of individuals from across the United States, Canada, and abroad, who are engaged in all aspects of gardening and greening. The conference includes hands on workshops, keynote speakers, a film festival, and visits to community gardens, parks, schools, and other green space in San Francisco.

We want to hear about your work. We are seeking a diverse group of presenters to share a wide range of information about community gardening and greening, including:

- Public Employees
- Parks and Planning Staff
- Artists and Filmmakers
- Nutritionists
- Teachers and other educators
- Community Food Security Advocates
- Landscape Designers and Architects
- Organizers and Leaders
- Open Space Advocates
- Community Gardeners
- Horticultural Therapists
- Researchers
- Master Gardeners
- Horticulturists
- Arborists and Foresters

Panels and Workshops
Session length is 50 minutes long.

Highest priority is given to engaging, hands-on, interactive, experiential, panel and team presentations, and participant-inclusive discussions. **We discourage the use of "PowerPoint" except to show pictures.** A conference registration discount of $100.00 (divided among presenters) per session will be applied to the registration of the presenters. Please specify how you want the $100.00 discount split.

You may also opt to donate your discount to the ACGA as a tax-deductible donation to ACGA.

Evaluation of Proposals
The ACGA program committee evaluates proposals on five criteria: overall quality, relevance to community gardening, clarity of focus, degree of potential audience engagement, and practical applicability. Incomplete applications or applications not adhering to word count limitations may be rejected.

Workshop Themes

Researchers and practitioners are encouraged to use the following themes or related topics:

Good Bones. Sustainable Construction in the Garden and Open Spaces: forward-thinking city planning, energy and resource conservation, solar and wind energy, density reduction, climate change mitigation, gardens as wildlife corridors, utilizing native plants, perm culture, edible front yards.

Critical Elements. Effective Water and Soil Practices for 21st Century Gardens: responsible water management, water catchment, mineral balancing for optimal soil health, use of cover crops, erosion control, soil toxicity and testing, maintaining healthy soils, composting, habitat creation and conservation, season extension, organic growing methods, edible landscapes, bio-intensive gardening, perm culture.

Let it Grow. Saving Seeds, Protecting Heritage Crops, and Starting Seed Banks: Biodiversity and seed banks, seed saving and swapping, organic farming practices

Think Locally, Link Globally. Cutting-edge food policies can revitalize people, neighborhoods and the planet: Federal, State and local legislation and garden policies, advocacy process, local initiatives to preserve gardens, land trusts and other garden preservation models, urban agriculture.

Gardens that Make Green, Green Collar Jobs. Garden micro-enterprises, workforce development, economic impacts of gardens and open space, community gardens and farmer's markets, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA's) marketing, canning and preserving for added value products.

Let's Get it Started. Best practices in Community Organizing and Neighborhood Greening Social Cohesion and Organizing: staff development, community garden management, coalition building, organizing, fundraising, in-kind resources, media, networking, volunteer programs, event and recreational programming, utilizing social networking and new technologies.

Needles in the Haystack. Finding and using land creatively to expand green space: Nontraditional spaces, vertical farming, rooftop gardens, mobile/movable gardens, container and patio gardens, and mini-gardens for urban apartment dwellers.

Bunnies and Bees. The Case for Small Animal Production in the City Livestock: small scale animal husbandry in your garden: beekeeping, chickens, goats, aguaculture.

Let's Play. Gardening for Recreation and Health: obesity and diet-related disease prevention (especially in children), nutrition education, cooking from the garden, school food, rehabilitative and therapeutic gardening, school gardens and partnerships, teacher training, curricula, youth-led presentations, environmental education and action, job training, and gardening for recreation and exercise.

The 100-Mile Run. Models of Locavore Living and Eating in the SF Bay Region. chef/restaurant & garden/farm collaborations, community food security, food preservation, local food systems, locally based self reliant food, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA's), Farmer's Markets, food/wine pairing, Foodies, Localvores.

****

Application

Please complete the following information:
Primary contact
Name_____
Title_____
Organization_____
_____
Mailing
address_____
_____
Daytime phone_____ Evening phone_____
Email_____

Indicate $100.00 conference discount split _____ Donate conference discount to ACGA____
Co-presenter(s), title(s), organization(s), email(s)
Name_____
Title_____
Organization name_____
Email_____
Name_____
Title_____
Organization name_____
Email_____
Audio Visual Needs: LCD (PowerPoint) projector_____, Slide projector_____, Overhead_____, Flip
charts_____, TV/VCR_____, TV/DVD_____, Other (describe)
_____

Please check all that apply
Session Proposal:
1. **Workshop**
Theme_____
_____
2. **Session Title**
_____
_____

3. **Proposal Description** for Conference Brochure: **Maximum 50 words**

4. **Proposal Narrative: Maximum 300 words**. Include:
• Main points and goals of your session
• What participants will learn • Interactive elements of your session

5. **Biographical sketch** for each presenter: **Maximum 75 words each presenter**
Please attach all information (use additional sheets if needed) to this application.

PLEASE NOTE:
The description, summary, and biographical sketch may be edited for inclusion in conference materials.

All presenters are expected to register for the conference.
ACGA will compensate conference workshop presenters. Compensation will not be available for films or poster displays. The compensation will be a registration discount of $100.00 (divided among presenters) per session. It will be applied to the registration of the presenters. Please specify how you want the $100.00 discount split.
You may also opt to donate your discount to the ACGA as a tax-deductible donation to ACGA.

Proposals must be postmarked by November 1, 2011 (Email is preferred)
American Community Gardening Association
c/o Department of Public Works
2323 Cesar Chavez Street
San Francisco, CA 94124
Tel. (415)695-2114
Fax (415)695-2001
acgasf2012@gmail.com

ACGA will notify applicants by email if their presentations are accepted or not.