

# Costume Society of America's Midwest Regional Symposium Schedule

*Unless otherwise noted activities will take place in the  
Bata Shoe Museum, 327 Bloor Street West  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada, **Footprints Meeting Room***

Thursday, November 6, 2025	
8:30 am - 9:00 am	Symposium Registration ( <i>Bata Shoe Museum Lobby</i> )
9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Coffee, Water and Snacks Provided
9:00 am - 9:15 am	Welcome to Toronto, Eve Townsend, Toronto Metropolitan Museum
9:30 am - 10:30 am	Keynote Speaker, Justine Woods, Curator of Indigenous Collections, Bata Shoe Museum
10:30 am - 11:00 am	Coffee Break
11:00 am - 12:00 am	Session 1 Research Presentations
	Valerie St.Pierre Smith, Designer, Artist, Scholar, Owner of Beauty is Medicine, <i>Gather in Beauty: Starting in a Good Way</i>
	Shawkey Ottmann, Cornell University, <i>Indigenous Land-Based Fashion as Healing</i>
	Echo Lorraine Malleo, Kent Historical Society, <i>The Use of Clothing in Museum Displays on Native American Boarding Schools and Forced Assimilation</i>
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch Provided
12:30 pm - 1:00 pm	Film Showing: Sandra Tullio Pow, Toronto Metropolitan University, <i>Quillworking And Memories with Agnes Mitchell</i>
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Session 1 Research Presentations
	Alexis Walker, McCord Stewart Museum Montreal, <i>"The Coat of the Age": The Kul-e-Tuk Parka, Inuit Cultural Appropriation and the Commercialization of Settler Canadian Identity</i>
	Jenise Sileo, Librarian and Independent Researcher, <i>Plateau Beaded Bags: Cultural Noise for Yakama Artist and Museum Collections</i>
	Valerie St.Pierre Smith, Designer, Artist, Scholar, Owner of Beauty is Medicine, <i>Animating Language, Animating Dress:</i>

	<i>Reworking English Language Influences on Our Understanding of Dress</i>
2:00 pm - 2:15 pm	Break
2:15 pm - 4:15 pm	Bata Shoe Museum Tour
	Dinner On Your Own
<b>Friday, November 7, 2025</b>	
10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Royal Ontario Museum Archives Tour (100 Queen's Park, Toronto, Meet in lobby)
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch On Your Own
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Coffee, Water and Snacks Provided
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Session 3 Research Presentations
	Charlene Lau, Independent Scholar, <i>Yahoo/Yeehaw: Cowboy Culture in the Asian Diaspora</i>
	Sara Wilcox, University of Minnesota, <i>Teaching Global, Learning Local: A Field Trip to an International Market</i>
	Taiwo Bamidele, University of Nebraska, <i>Dress and the Construction of Place Identity Among Enslaved Individuals: A Historical and Cultural Analysis</i>
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Coffee Break and Regional Chair Announcements, Andrea Melvin, Grand Rapids Public Museum Michigan
3:30 pm - 4:45 pm	Session 4 Research Presentations
	Ci Phillips, Mahogany at 50, <i>Dressed for Agency: A Black Woman's Journey from a Chicago Housing Project to New York's Runways</i>
	Jessica Pushor, Chicago History Museum, <i>Sex in the Windy City: Burlesque star Sally Rand, her feather fans, and the Chicago History Museum</i>
	Leigh Southward, University of Arkansas, <i>Best Dressed Man on the Football Field</i>
	Patrick Taylor, ArQuives, <i>Keeping Our Stories Alive: The Collection and Care of Dress in the ArQuives</i>
4:45 pm - 5:00 pm	Symposium conclusion and thank you from CSA

**Please note that all times and sessions are tentative and subject to change.**