

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS **Deadline: 1 November 2027**

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHIES FORUM

2027 Conference

FRIENDS



Dates: 1-3 April 2027

Location: Jacksonville, FL, USA

Marriott Jacksonville Downtown

Sponsored by Emory University

The American Philosophies Forum invites abstracts for its 2027 Conference on “Friends.”

Submissions are invited on any aspect of this topic, and authors should make clear what dimension(s) of this topic they propose to address. In this context, submissions may focus on any of the following *non-exhaustive* list of topics:

- The nature, aims, and kinds of friendship
- The role of friendship in flourishing lives
- Friendship, imaginary friends, online friends, and AI companions
- Interspecies friendships and non-human friends
- Friendship, civic bonds, the public, and social relations foundational for democracy
- Forms of friendships as social norms and modes of social control
- Friendship, solidarity, and community
- Friendships, partnerships, and collaborations
- Platonic friendships and romantic relations
- Friendship, intimacy, and privacy
- Friendship and self-love
- Friends, inclusion, exclusion, and foes
- Friendship, self-reliance, and independence
- Toxic friendships and friends of the devil
- Friendship’s role in education
- Friendship and religion
- Friendship and family
- Voluntary personal bonds and kinship-based ones
- Time and friendship: long-term and short-term friends
- Friendship and affect
- Friendship, mutual care, reciprocity, and loyalty
- Advantageous and harmful friendships
- Friendship branding and friendship marketing
- Friendship, shared lives, and shared meanings
- Friendship and virtue, friendship and betrayal
- Friendship, loneliness, and isolation
- The death of friendships and the deaths of friends
- Friends, epistemic norms, and epistemic partiality, and the epistemic demands of friendship
- Duties of friendship
- Friendship as a way of knowing
- Friendship and personal change over time
- The metaphysics of friendship
- Friendship as a quality of being together and being with others
- Cross-cultural friendships
- Ontological oneness and wholes, ontological relations and parts

All submissions selected for presentation at the conference will reflect the broad mission of the American Philosophies Forum: “to contribute to the critical development, imaginative growth, and shared understanding of American philosophical traditions; and, to bring the resources of these multiple philosophies to bear on the reconstruction of contemporary culture and the amelioration of its problems.” Submissions and presentations may take, or include, any medium and media. Submissions which are primarily textual explications or exclusively historical in focus will not be accepted. Authors are very strongly encouraged to speak in their own voices.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS

Deadline:

The deadline for receipt of all submissions is **1 November 2026**. Submissions received after midnight USA Eastern Daylight Savings Time on this date will not be considered.

Electronic Submission and Formatting:

All submissions must be received in electronic form as a .DOCX or .RTF attachment (no other format) to an e-mail message sent to: americanphilosophiesforum@gmail.com. All submissions must be double-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font with 1" top, bottom, and side margins. Do not include any other special formatting.

Eligibility:

Persons who submit an abstract must be APF Associates. To become an Associate—there is no cost--, simply e-mail name, address, institutional affiliation (if any), and preferred e-address to: americanphilosophiesforum@gmail.com (Note: The APF is not an academic "society." There are no membership dues, registration fees, business meetings, or similar bureaucratic structures.)

Single Submission:

Only one submission per person is allowed. All multiple submissions will be rejected.

Anonymous Review:

Author information must be provided in the e-mail message to which the submission is attached. The submission itself must be ready for anonymous review: References, proper names, specific content, endnotes, or anything else that makes possible author identification are not allowed and will disqualify a submission. All submissions will be anonymously reviewed: persons who submit and persons who review will not know each other's identity.

Submissions:

Submissions length: 350-650 words. Shorter or longer submissions may be disqualified. **Authors of accepted abstracts must submit final essay drafts of no more than 15 pages (including any notes, images, or other content, all formatted as above) by 1 March 2027. Conference papers are expected to be polished drafts that profitably may be revised in light of conference discussions.** All papers will be made available electronically to participants a month in advance. At the conference, authors will be provided 10-12 minutes (only) to summarize, emphasize, or develop further the contents of the full essay--allowing significant time for questions, discussion, and genuine exchange.

Technology Needs:

Please indicate any AV/technology needs in the e-mail to which the abstract submission is attached.

Confirmations:

All who submit an abstract will receive confirmation of receipt--sent as a reply to the e-mail message to which the submission is attached. Confirmations will be sent by **8 November 2026**. Anyone who has not received confirmation by this date should e-mail a follow-up inquiry.

Decision Date:

Final selections will be made by **21 November 2026**. Anyone who has submitted an abstract but has not received notice of a final decision by this date should send a follow-up inquiry by e-mail.

For additional information about The American Philosophies Forum, see:
<https://philosophy.emory.edu/people/stuhr/american-philosophies.html>

