PEAK ONLINE 2022

March 21-25   #PEAK2022online

Call for Proposals

Extended Deadline: November 24, 2021

If you aspire to create a more equitable, effective philanthropic sector and know what it takes to achieve that vision, join us in co-creating PEAK2022 Online. In what will be the signature event of PEAK Grantmaking's programming year, we will bring our community together for a weeklong virtual program centering on what it looks like to "live your PEAK." Together, we'll imagine how grantmaking can truly embody what PEAK stands for: Principles, Equity, Advocacy, and Knowledge. Taking inspiration from three keynotes, interactive peer dialogues, skill-building breakouts,

and networking opportunities, the PEAK2022 experience will leave attendees empowered to lead change in their organizations and the sector at large.

We invite you to submit your proposal for a session that centers on one of four learning pathways: Principles, Equity, Advocacy, or Knowledge. We need your energy and insight to make this another can't-miss experience for the PEAK community and the best conference any of us will attend next year.

Eligibility

PEAK Grantmaking seeks proposals from practitioners working across the spectrum of the philanthropic and nonprofit sector, including staff or board members at funding and nonprofit organizations. We also welcome proposals from anyone who considers themselves part of the PEAK community.

Vendors and consultants are welcome to submit proposals that align with our content focus and lift up member voices. This year, we will also have multiple sponsorship opportunities to support the conference and our community, so please watch your inboxes for additional information.

Audience

Our audience is expanding each year. Currently, it consists of philanthropy professionals in a wide range of roles, including grants management, information technology, programs, operations, evaluation and learning, and strategic leadership roles. Experience levels span from entry-level professionals to executive staff and board members. Speaking generally, these professionals have multidisciplinary backgrounds and play a part in stewarding the grantmaking process within funding institutions. They seek conference content focused on practical knowledge application, inspirational case studies, **competency development**, and practices that align with our **Principles for Peak Grantmaking**.

Content Focus

The content of your proposed session should be centered on equity, advance participants' thinking on critical issues, feature diverse perspectives, introduce new ideas (or fresh takes on existing ones), build participants' skills and knowledge, and provide insights and resources that attendees can apply to their work. All sessions will be conducted via our virtual conference platform. You will have access to features like polls, breakouts, whiteboards, and a chat box. We encourage you to design sessions that are as interactive as possible and recommend avoiding designs that rely solely on a single "talking head" plus slides. Our members appreciate creative session design and welcome smart virtual facilitation.

Conference sessions should inform or inspire toward a principled, equitable, advocacy-oriented, and knowledgeable philanthropic sector. This can be done through sharing effective practices, case studies, and exemplar shifts in the field, skills-building and knowledge sharing for change agents in the field or through envisioning, ideating, cocreating, and inspiring visions of what the sector could and should look like if PEAK practices were widely adopted.

Learning Pathways

PEAK2022 Online will map the trajectory we must follow to achieve an equitable and efficient philanthropic sector. Conference sessions should highlight what it looks like to "live your PEAK" by imagining grantmaking that is rooted in our **Principles for Peak Grantmaking**, equity, advocacy, and knowledge.

Principles for Peak Grantmaking
- **Tie Practices to Values**
- **Narrow the Power Gap**
- **Drive Equity**
- **Steward Responsively**
- **Learn, Share, Evolve**

Here are a few examples of session ideas:
- *Best practices for streamlining applications to reduce grantee burden*
- *Case studies on participatory grantmaking*
- *Eliminating reporting requirements*

Equity
Equity lies behind all that we do and all that we are trying to advance.

Here are a few examples of session ideas:
- *Envisioning foundation boards with a majority of directors who are people of color*
- *Reducing bias in your grantmaking process*
- *Collecting demographic data to support equity in grantmaking*

Advocacy
PEAK advocates for nonprofit organizations, grants professionals, grants management, and the sector.

Here are a few examples of session ideas:
- *Ways to advocate for small, grassroots-led, nonprofit organizations*
- *Uplifting grants management professionals as change agents*
- *Advocating for multi-year general operating support grants*

Knowledge
Knowledge affirms our dedication to learning and sharing through programs, resources, and insights that support our members in building the skills for both their roles and careers.

Here are a few examples of session ideas:
- *Grant management system tools for efficiency in grantmaking*
- *Cohort models of learning and sharing collectively*
- *Roundtable discussion on best professional development opportunities*

Proposal Types

Breakout Sessions: 75 minutes
These sessions are meant to provide conference attendees with practical tools and approaches to grantmaking. These sessions can be structured as a presentation with a single presenter, co-presenters, or a panel. Sessions should be designed with some interaction in mind, such as breakout discussions, polling questions, activities, or live Q&A.

Short Talks: 20 minutes
These talks cover a specific idea, recommendation, or case study. The short format is a great way to share your insights with conference attendees who don't have a full hour to spare. These sessions can be prerecorded.

Roundtable Discussions: 60 minutes
Roundtable discussion sessions offer participants the opportunity to share their own ideas and insights. You should come with guiding discussion questions, session objectives, and a plan for facilitation.

Application Process

This year, we are using the Submittable speaker management platform to collect, share, and review speaker and session information.

Please be sure to provide all required information, including names and contact information for the primary presenter and (if applicable) co-presenter(s), a session title and description, a description of how your proposed session incorporates diverse perspectives, and a suggested learning pathway for your session.

SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL HERE ▶

Proposal Selection Process

Conference Committee and Co-Chairs
Our conference committee is composed of PEAK member volunteers with significant dedication to implementing effective, equitable grantmaking practices and building a community of change agents within philanthropy.

Our PEAK2022 co-chairs are Chindaly Chounlamountry Griffith, Streamlife Consulting; Amy Hall, Georgia Power Company; and Richerd Winton, The Kresge Foundation.

The selection process will involve a rigorous online review of every proposal submitted. Missing or incorrect information could make the proposal ineligible for consideration. The conference committee and PEAK staff will meet virtually to make recommendations for selections.

Review Process Timeline
- **November 18:** Call for Proposals closes
- **January 10:** Applicant notification
- **January 24:** Speaker agreements due

Selection Criteria
Your proposed session must clearly apply to the target audience, fit into one of the themed learning pathways, and be delivered by a speaker with substantial topic knowledge and experience facilitating learning experiences or speaking to large groups.

PEAK seeks a balanced slate of speakers with diverse backgrounds, viewpoints, and organizational affiliations.

Each individual or organization may submit up to two proposals. If you are with a large organization, please submit your very best proposals and coordinate with your colleagues to avoid duplicated efforts.

Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- **Equity:** Does the proposed session center equity in its approach and content?
- **Compelling and relevant:** To what extent does this proposal advance our thinking on a critical and timely issue in philanthropy? How well does the proposal connect to the conference theme or educational track?
- **Diverse perspectives:** To what extent does the proposal present traditionally underrepresented or marginalized perspectives? Does the proposal feature speakers from a diverse range of backgrounds and communities? Does it feature an intersectional approach? Does the proposal introduce new voices, new concepts, a new format, or offer a fresh take on an issue?
- **Action-oriented:** Is the proposed session likely to engage participants in a way that inspires a real-world outcome?
- **Optimized for a virtual format:** Is this session likely to work well in a virtual setting?

Please note: If the PEAK2022 Conference Committee recommends your proposal for the upcoming conference, PEAK Grantmaking staff and PEAK2022 Conference Committee members may work with you to develop the session. While we honor your original intentions, we will ultimately determine how to best showcase your ideas within the conference agenda and given our available time slots.

Unfortunately, there is a limited number of time slots, so we will not be able to accept every submission.

Conference Policies

Your Commitment to Speak

It is an honor and a privilege to be invited to speak at a PEAK conference. By sharing your expertise, you make a valuable contribution to the profession's field of knowledge and to the individual learning of each participant. If you are selected, please view this opportunity as a commitment like any other: Ensure that you can deliver the session by securing the support of your organization and managing your workload to keep this time open.

All speakers will be asked to sign a speaker agreement. We understand that things do happen and appreciate your advance notice in the event of extreme circumstances that prevent your attendance. (Solo presenters will need to have a backup plan in the event that they are no longer able to honor their agreement.)

Registration and Travel Expenses

PEAK Grantmaking is a nonprofit, educational association with a responsibility to its members to carefully manage its resources.

For this year's conference, we will be offering speakers free conference registration. Speaker stipends will be considered upon request.

Speaker Policies

PEAK2022 programs are learning experiences for members of PEAK Grantmaking first and foremost, and as such, speakers must abide by the following policies:

- Eliminate any form of direct promotion of a product or service and any content that directly serves their monetary self-interests.
- Refrain from overt statements, harsh language, or pointed humor that disparages the rightful dignity and social equity of any individual or group.
- Attend the speaker orientation session where we will cover responsibilities, accountabilities, and more information about our **Principles for Peak Grantmaking** and our values as an organization.
- Follow our **Community Agreements for Meeting**.

Application Form Questions

Primary Speaker Information
- Name
- Title
- Pronouns
- Phone
- Email
- Mailing Address
- Member of PEAK?
- Type of Organization
- Race and Ethnicity
- Gender/ Sexual Identifiers (select multiple options)

Session Information
- Session Title
- Session Description (100-word limit)
- Tell us about the diverse perspectives that your chosen speakers or content will bring to the conference (250-word limit) *Also, share anything else about your organization (lean funder, international funder, place-based, etc.) of interest.*
- Session Type: *Roundtable, Short Talk, or Breakout*
- Learning Pathway: *Principles, Equity, Advaocay, or Knowledge*
- Which Principle(s) does your session support? *Tie Practices to Values; Narrow the Power Gap; Drive Equity; Steward Responsively; Learn, Share, Evolve*
- Will you need any special accommodations in order to participate in the conference as a speaker?
- Will there be any co-presenters?

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