IAMAS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MATERNAL ACTION & SCHOLARSHIP

CfP for IAMAS' 2027 Conference
The Politics of Motherhood: Maternal Action, Activism, and Agency

Location: Montreal (Canada) *and* online
Dates: June 6-9, 2027
Abstract due date: Nov. 20, 2026

The 2027 International Association of Maternal Action + Scholarship (IAMAS) conference will be hosted at Concordia University in Montreal. We invite scholars, writers, artists, and activists to join our examination of politics, activism, mothering, and motherhood.

Mothers are creators of action, activism, and agency, even and especially in a world where agency has frequently been denied to them. This conference theme asks us to consider the politics that inform motherhood; the politics that motherhood action and scholarship help engender; the politics of agency that are promulgated and perpetuated by the work of mothering. Politics have rarely felt more personal than they do in this geopolitical moment. While our circumstances and realities are different based upon our location, we recognize that this moment is primed for the input of motherscholars, and we look forward to sharing space with you at our next conference.

We invite considerations of the politics of motherhood, broadly considered, as a way of thinking-being-doing-imagining maternal action, activism, and agency with and through various times, places, races, genders, sexualities, classes, subjectivities, religions, ableisms, media, literature, politics, education, and more. Our ethos asks us to name our inheritances, honor our present responsibilities, and orient ourselves towards better worlds. Any research, analysis, art, and/or thought leadership that centers maternal research, matricentric feminism, or motherhood will be considered, and we encourage participants to examine practices and theory that connect to race-based oppression, racial solidarity and allyship, and potential avenues for innovative growth and sustainable community building.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- Reproduction and the nation-state / mother's roles in reproducing raced and gendered national subjects (literally and figuratively),
- Visible and invisible carework as political,
- Personal is political and political is personal in and through mothering,
- Reproduction and care-work as/and agency,
- Reproductive and productive labor,
- Maternal activism in global transits of politics,
- Utopian and activist visions of mothering,
- Reclaiming, (un-)learning, and critiquing motherhood in a patriarchal society,
- Intersectional, international, and transgenerational perspectives on motherhood and mothering,

- Media and literary analysis of mothering and motherhood,
- Economics and policies of motherhood: waged work, universal basic income, neoliberalism, poverty, etc.,
- Historical and psychological research on mothering, parenting, and carework,
- Matricentric feminism, motherhood studies, and mothering in the Academy,
- Queering motherhood and mothering,
- Creativity of mothering,
- Representations of mothering politics, maternal action, activism, and agency in visual and performance art.

IAMAS is devoted to furthering scholarship, activism, and practices of mothering and mothering *across and between all disciplines*. We invite submissions from scholars, activists, and practitioners whose work centers motherhood in multifaceted and interdisciplinary ways. We welcome workshops, art, poetry/fiction, interviews, roundtable discussions, as well as traditional academic talks. While all presentations should be substantive and thoughtful, we believe that knowledge production should not be limited to and by academics. We encourage creativity, engagement, and community building.

A few notes to consider before submitting an abstract:

- Individual papers are welcome; however, we encourage applicants to propose a group panel and/or roundtable discussion in order to promote more focused and productive group conversation. Sessions are 75-minutes long.
- We aim to make rich, bold conversation a key component of our time together. We encourage you to consider HOW you will present your information as well as what you will present. We encourage creativity and showcasing new/successful methods of (online) teaching.

Cost: 4-day conference costs are based on a **sliding scale.** Pricing for in-person and virtual attendance is the same. We encourage you to seek funding from your institution or via grants when possible. **Limited scholarships are available. More information is online and here:** **https://forms.gle/zs99Ggo9u8D9s5i96**

Abstracts are due Nov. 20, 2026.

Annual family income	IAMAS Member Pricing*	Pricing for non-members*
$40,000 or less USD	$225 USD	$295 USD
$40,000 - $85,000 USD	$325 USD	$395 USD
$85,000 - $165,000 USD	$425 USD	$495 USD
$165,000+ USD	$525 USD	$595 USD

In addition to the variety of panel talks and workshops the conference will include:

- an in-person reception that includes heavy appetizers and drinks,
- attendance to our 7th annual MOMA award presentation,
- extensive opportunities to network and take part in meaningful mentoring,
- self-paid dinner meet and greets that center specific disciplines and career stages,
- a stellar keynote address.

*Full price for membership is $50/year USD, with a student rate of $25/year USD. IAMAS membership permits access to two writing retreats (usually one in August and one in January), weekly writing accountability sessions, our reading groups, and much more.

We encourage you to choose the package that keeps equity at the forefront. If you are underemployed but have access to funding that permits a higher-priced ticket, know that you can help keep IAMAS' scholarship program healthy by contributing more. Similarly, if choosing a ticket that matches your income level negatively impacts you, we encourage you to make a choice that aligns better. Our goal is for everyone who is interested in attending our conferences to be able to do so, but we need *everyone* to support this model fully for it to work.

In order to remain accessible to all, we will offer 30 full-scholarships that will be awarded on a rolling basis. More information will be available after abstracts are accepted. Please remember that conference fees are necessary for the tech-support and space rental. IAMAS runs entirely via the help of a fully volunteer board.

IAMAS welcomes people of all disciplines, as well as activists, lawyers, writers, artists, and maternal advocates. Our conferences offer the intellectual rigor expected from academic conferences, while recognizing that knowledge can be accrued and practiced in different ways. We welcome all who are engaged with maternal scholarship, thought leadership, and activism to join regardless of career, motherhood status, sex/gender identification, or sexual orientation. More information is on our website at https://iamas.com.

If you have questions about conference pricing, abstract submission, programing, or other related issues, please contact Katie B. Garner at kbgarner@iamas.com.