

Call for papers

Unfinished Stories: Folklife and Folk Narrative at the Gateway to the Future The 17th Congress of the International Society for Folk Narrative Research

October 19–22, 2016
Hyatt Regency Miami
Miami, Florida.

The 17th Congress of the [International Society for Folk Narrative Research](http://www.isfnr.org) will be a joint meeting with the [American Folklore Society](http://www.afsnet.org) and will bring together more than 800 US and international specialists in folklore and folklife, folk narrative, popular literature, and related fields to exchange work and ideas and to create and strengthen friendships and working relationships. The theme for the meeting, on which presentations are encouraged but not required, is

Unfinished Stories: Folklife and Folk Narrative at the Gateway to the Future

Throughout its history, Florida has served as a sustained point of cultural convergence and exchange. Its tropical climate, burgeoning economy, and geographic proximity to the Caribbean and Latin America have influenced its cultural identity. South Florida was shaped by early migration from the United States and Caribbean Islands, as well as influxes of political refugees during the second half of the 20th century. Miami, known as the “Gateway of the Americas,” is now perceived as one of the largest and most significant Latin American and Caribbean cities. As Miami continues to evolve through cultural synthesis, it serves as a leader in terms of its transnational identity and experiences.

In addition to being termed a “Gateway,” Miami has also been described as a “City of the Future.” As such, it offers inspiration for multiple perspectives on the future development of folk narrative and folklife, both within the region and in larger contexts. Relevant topics include transnational communities, cultural synthesis and creolization, the impact of the digital revolution on folk culture, narratives about land and place, traditional responses to climate change, and much more. Conference participants may reflect on these unfinished stories as they appeared in the past and also consider the future of our fields, including emergent theories, methodologies, and ethics.

The organizing committee invites our colleagues to interpret and explore this wide-ranging topic in the form of papers, panels, forums, films, diamond and new types of presentations. This meeting is a joint meeting between the American Folklore Society and the International Society for Folk Narrative Research and participants are particularly encouraged to explore the narrative dimensions of their field.

Presentation proposals will be accepted from February 1 to March 31. You can find more information about the meeting, including instructions for submitting proposals, beginning February 1, 2016, at <http://www.afsnet.org/?2016AM>. Before registering, ISFNR members should verify their membership status. In case of doubt, please contact the ISFNR treasurer Pihla Siim (pihla.siim@ut.ee). While most matters of organization will be taken care of by the AFS, the president, Ulrich Marzolph (umarzol@gwdg.de), and the secretary of the ISFNR, Johanna Ella, will be happy to respond to any questions you might have.

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