

NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

3108 Columbia Pike, Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22204-4370
Phone 703-525-0050 or 800-473-0060
Fax 703-525-0052
www.ngs.genealogy.org

Press Release

Contact: Courtney Holmes
Phone: 703-525-0050 x221
cholmes@ngsgenealogy.org
For Release: 29 March 2017

Deadline for Call for Proposals for NGS 2018 Family History Conference 1 April 2017

ARLINGTON, VA, 29 MARCH— Time is running out for speakers—as well as organizations interested in sponsoring lectures—to submit lecture proposals for the National Genealogical Society (NGS) 2018 Family History Conference, Paths to Your Past, to be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2–5 May 2018. All proposals must be submitted electronically at http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/call_for_proposals by 11:59 p.m. EDT on 1 April 2017.

Typically, an NGS conference attracts between 1,800 and 2,000 family historians and genealogists, as well as more than 80 exhibitors and sponsors. NGS promotes its conferences nationally and in regional markets as well as through online social media. Grand Rapids, Michigan, is an ideal site for the 2018 conference and promises to be especially popular. The Great Lakes were strategic waterways that aided Americans moving west, and immigrants coming from overseas through Canada, to settle and develop the Midwest in the nineteenth century. The growth of industries in the twentieth century brought wave after wave of migrants from the South and immigrants from abroad. Later, as manufacturing slowed down, many left Michigan and moved to the west and southwest.

Among the topics being considered by NGS are presentations on migration paths to the Midwest, including waterways, trails, and railroads; records and repositories for Michigan, the surrounding states, and Canada; records generated by France, Great Britain, and later by the newly established United States as they fought for control of the Old Northwest Territory; land grants, deeds, and maps; and laws and court records.

Conference tracks under consideration include ethnic and religious groups, migration into and out of the Midwest, military records, occupations and trades, and other organizations including masons, abolitionists, prohibitionists, and unions. NGS encourages the submission of proposals for broader genealogical categories, including methodology, problem solving, Internet websites, apps, and other technology tools. Proposals may also include presentations about DNA and how to use DNA to solve genealogical roadblocks.

Speakers who wish to submit lecture proposals, and organizations interested in sponsoring tracks or individual lectures, should follow the published guidelines at the NGS website page: http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/call_for_proposals.

All proposals must be submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. EDT on 1 April 2017.

Speakers may submit up to eight proposals electronically by completing all the requested information at <https://goo.gl/forms/5DHilumuOuTMA712>.

Organizations wishing to sponsor a lecture may submit proposals at <https://goo.gl/forms/Wpr1gyZ2U00V2WhX2>.

Founded in 1903, the [National Genealogical Society](#) is dedicated to genealogical education, exemplary standards of research, and the preservation of genealogical records. The Arlington, Virginia-based nonprofit is the premier national society for everyone, from the beginner to the most advanced family historian seeking excellence in publications, educational offerings, and guidance in research. It also offers many opportunities to interact with other genealogists.

#