Call for Papers

The Minnesota Symposium on Applied Disability Studies (Friday-Saturday, June 10, 2016)

Conference central theme: Aging and Disability.

The University of Minnesota Interdisciplinary Graduate Group in Disability Studies invites presentation proposals for its fifth annual Minnesota Symposium on Applied Disability Studies, June 10, 2016. We may add an additional session Saturday morning, June 11, if the number of submissions mandates it.

Abstract deadline: April 10, 2016

The conference will include one extended keynote session by Jeanie Brindley-Barnett, Co-Founder, Senior Teaching Artist, MacPhail Music for Life™. and 4 60-minute plenary presentations, each consisting of 3 15-minute presentations and q & a. Meals will be provided with time for ample informal lunch discussions among participants. By virtue of a generous grant for interdisciplinary graduate initiatives from the University of Minnesota Graduate School and additional support from the University of Minnesota Disability Resource Center, there will be no charge for the conference.

Proposals must fulfill the following criteria: 1) Presentations are welcome from faculty, students and community (including collaborations of students with faculty or other professional mentors). 2) Topics must be in “applied disability studies” broadly construed, with a clear and direct relationship to practical outcomes intended to improve the situation of the disability community. 3) Submissions are welcome from a broad range of fields, including those not typically represented in disability studies. 4) We especially encourage presentations that concern aging and disability, but final selection will reflect a diversity of topics.

Each presentation will be in person, 15 minutes of a 60 minute plenary session, with 15 minutes for questions and discussion. It is our policy to post presentation materials online in advance for perusal by attendees, if possible, to maximize opportunities for discussion.

Proposals should include an abstract of no more than 175 words and bios of presenters (including academic or professional affiliations), 100 words maximum. Send abstract proposals via email to Kirk Allison, alli0001@umn.edu, by April 10, 2016, with subject line DISABILITY SYMPOSIUM ABSTRACT.

Keynote session: Friday, 9-Noon: Jeanie Brindley-Barnett, Co-Founder, Senior Teaching Artist, MacPhail Music for Life™. Minneapolis, MN. Jeanie Brindley-Barnett received her bachelor’s degree in music education and masters in vocal performance from Florida State University. She received a Rotary International Fellowship for postgraduate studies at the London Opera Centre. She is a pioneer in developing work concerning art in later life including for people with impairments from Alzheimer’s. A performance will be part of the keynote session.
The symposium is cosponsored by the Program in Human Rights and Health (www.phrh.umn.edu, see Events) and the University of Minnesota Disability Resource Center.