

Guidelines for Submission of Presentations for the CBDNA Athletic Band Symposium - 2026

The CBDNA Athletic Bands Committee extends a call for both Juried and Non-Juried Presentations and Posters for our 2026 CBDNA Athletic Bands Symposium, hosted by colleagues Dr. Polly K. Middleton, Director of Athletic Bands, and Mr. Chad R. Reep, Assistant Director of Athletic Bands, at Virginia Tech to be held Tuesday, May 26 – Friday, May 29. As a reminder the Symposium's programming will officially conclude on Friday evening, May 29, with our traditional banquet; therefore, we encourage you to plan your travel accordingly.

We will continue to work to build out the Graduate Student and New Director tracks that have been highly successful in recent years as well as seek to increase accessibility and foster equitable representation across conferences and institutional types.

The Athletic Band Symposium is comprised of presentations covering a wide range of topics related to athletic bands which fall into two categories: 1) Presentations (non-juried) reviewed and selected by the ABS host site and 2) Juried and adjudicated presentations as reviewed and selected by the CBDNA Athletic Band Committee (or those designated as a panel by the committee).

Presentations fall into two categories – Juried and Non-Juried.

From our perspective a juried presentation is one that represents a higher level of creative thinking and/or scholarship and represents material of original work or creation. A limited number of “juried” proposals will be chosen by the CBDNA Athletic Bands Committee for a 50-minute presentation at our Athletic Bands Symposium. Submissions not selected in the “juried” category will be placed in the “non-juried” category and examined further for inclusion at our Athletic Bands Symposium.

Types of Juried Presentations Include

1. **Systematic Study:** Quantitative or qualitative study of problems related to athletic bands.
2. **Historical Study:** Original historical research. This research should be on topics related to athletic bands and of a broad nature of national interest.
3. **Systematic Approach to a Practical Problem:**
 - a. Innovative teaching strategy supported by written, video, audio or other appropriate documentation.
 - b. Innovative management strategies, including but not limited to, recruitment, leadership, or performance practice. Proposals should include evidence of successful implementation.
4. **Non-traditional Presentation:** Any submission that, in the judgment of the Athletic Bands Committee, has scholarly merit equal to that of academic studies in other fields.

Proposals for presentations must be submitted via one of the Google Forms links below by **Friday, February 27, 2026**.

[Juried Presentation Application](#)

[Non-Juried Presentation Application](#)

Any supporting materials may be forwarded to the CBDNA Athletic Bands Committee at cbdna.abc@gmail.com.

If accepted, please note that all presenters are completely responsible for their own travel arrangements and accommodations to the 2026 CBDNA Athletic Bands Symposium. Additional information about the conference is shared on the CBDNA website.

We look forward to reviewing your proposals and working together to build an informative and impactful event for all involved.