

SSSP 2022-2023 Philadelphia, PA
Local Arrangement Committee (LAC) Report
Adriana Leela Bohm, Chair
Final Report Submitted July 6, 2023

The members of the SSSP 2022-2023 LAC are:

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I worked directly with Michele Koontz and President Shirley Jackson as Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee. Both provided invaluable guidance and recommendations as I navigated this process. As such, I would like to thank both for their help and support.

There were a number of tasks that the committee was charged with completing. Some of the duties we worked on individually and others were worked on as a collective. Here is a breakdown of the tasks and how they were completed.

Adriana Leela Bohm wrote the **Welcome to the City of Philadelphia** essay which included information on cultural venues, art, museums, theatres, neighborhoods, historical sites, where to eat, places to shop, hang out spots, free things to do, and special events. Overview submitted 2/27/2023.

Adriana Leela Bohm wrote an extensive **Meals Overview** which highlighted the different neighborhoods in Philadelphia. Report submitted on 9/13/2022.

Adriana Leela Bohm contacted **Beyond the Bells Walking Tours**, and Bob Skiba, the tour guide who provided tours to SSSP the last time we were in Philadelphia (2018). The first tour company responded quickly, the second did not. As such, we worked with Beyond the Bells Walking Tours, and they were able to accommodate our needs, so we chose them to provide tours for SSSP in 2023. Beyond the Bell Tours is committed to putting the people back in people's history and they have created inclusive

historical tours of Philadelphia highlighting marginalized communities, peoples, and histories, with a strong emphasis on intersectionality. Their tour guides tell stories of people in the community they have loved and admired, and people who have shaped Philadelphia through movements, activism, and resistance. Their emphasis is on social justice content so we thought they would be a great fit for SSSP. Report submitted 10/20/2022.

Marilyn Baffoe-Bonnie wrote the **Graduate Student Welcome to the City** overview and submitted it to Adriana Leela Bohm on 2/6/2023. Adriana submitted it to SSSP 2/27/2023.

The LAC submitted names and contact information for the **Local Colleges and Universities Directory**, and Adriana compiled the information for approximately 30 colleges and universities in the tristate area (PA, DE, NJ). Report submitted on 10/20/2022.

Meredith Bergey submitted two names of organizations for the **Indigenous People's Social Justice Award** Recipient. Adriana perused both websites and reached out to both organizations multiple times via phone and email. She eventually made contact with Cornelia Dimalanta, Executive Director of the [Native American House Alliance \(NAHA\)](#), and the committee recommended that NAHA receive the Indigenous People's Social Justice Award on 3/19/2023. On 3/31/2023, Adriana wrote a letter to NAHA informing them they were the recipient of the award. Michele Koontz followed up with NAHA on April 4, 2023, and Elroi Windsor send a congratulatory note to them on April 12, 2023. No members of the LAC are affiliated with this organization.

Adriana Leela Bohm sent Michele Koontz a list of **Restaurants for the Fall Site Visit** on 10/18/2022.

Adriana Leela Bohm wrote the **Press Release** and will submit it to SSSP by July 14, 2023.

Future Recommendations

Due to social media advances, I am not convinced that a *Meals Overview* is necessary. Perhaps on the SSSP Survey conducted at the end of the conference we could ask participants if they found the *Meals Overview* helpful or not. A second suggestion I have is that instead of the LAC receiving two payments (a \$1500 stipend and \$500 budget for expenses) the chair should receive one stipend for \$2000.00.

Thank you for taking the time to read my report. I am excited about our upcoming conference!

In solidarity,
Adriana Leela Bohm, LAC Chair