



Requests for Presentations

2024 Great Lakes Outdoor Summit

Presented by the Duluth Area Outdoor Alliance

October 24-26, 2024 | Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC)

The Great Lakes Outdoor Summit, curated by the Duluth Area Outdoor Alliance (DAOA), is a gathering of outdoor recreation advocates, enthusiasts, businesses, and adventurers. The Summit exists to bring non-profits, land managers, as well as the companies and individuals that support their work, together to interact and learn from each other in a fun, friendly, and inclusive environment. Since 2010, **the Duluth Area Outdoor Alliance (DAOA) has inspired collaboration within the outdoor recreation community** to help connect more people to the incredible outdoor experiences Duluth and the surrounding area has to offer.

The 2024 Great Lakes Outdoor Summit will include 12 educational sessions presented on Friday, October 25, 2024, hosted at the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center located in Duluth, Minnesota. The educational sessions are centered around six organizational topics related to outdoor recreation, listed below; each topic will have two one-hour sessions devoted to exploring the subject matter.

Request for Presentations

The Great Lakes Outdoor Summit Planning Committee is requesting presentation proposals from outdoor recreation community leaders. All sessions will be 60 minutes and can be formatted as 45-minute presentations with 15 minute Q+A, or as panel presentations in which multiple people present and/or participate in a facilitated discussion.

We are seeking proposals that address the following:

- **Environmental Stewardship** | In the face of many environmental challenges, the urgency for sustainable practices and responsible resource management has never been more apparent. How do we continue to adapt to a changing climate while stewarding the places we love? What are innovative solutions to creating a more sustainable

outdoor recreation future?

- **Community Engagement** | Fostering a deeper connection between people and the outdoors is central to community well-being. These sessions will highlight successful community-driven projects and initiatives that have positively impacted outdoor recreation while sharing stories on how the wider community was involved or utilized in the planning, advocacy, implementation, and promotion of this work. From trail maintenance and park restoration, to the development of recreational programs that address local needs, these stories will be an inspiration for communities far and wide.
- **Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI)** | The pursuit of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion (JEDI) is an ongoing journey that requires commitment, dialogue, and transformative actions. These sessions invite attendees and changemakers to engage in an exploration of JEDI principles and projects aimed at inspiring a collective commitment to dismantling systemic barriers and fostering inclusion in the outdoor recreation industry. Some topic examples include cultural competency and sensitivity conversations, community-led outdoor recreation advocacy, and examples of inclusive leadership at work.
- **Non-Profit Capacity Building** | In the dynamic landscape of outdoor nonprofit organizations, the pursuit of impactful missions requires continuous growth and resilience. These sessions aim to empower nonprofits with the knowledge, tools, and connections needed to enhance their capacity and effectiveness. Explore innovative strategies, share best practices, and forge collaborations that will elevate the outdoor recreation sector as a whole.
- **Outdoor Recreation Economy** | Outdoor recreation plays a pivotal role in economic development and sustainability. These sessions aim to explore and navigate the dynamic economic landscape of outdoor recreation and the intersection of private, non-profit, and public sectors. Examples could include economic impact assessments, sustainable and equitable tourism strategies, community development through recreation, and partnerships.
- **Government + Policy** | These sessions dive into the critical intersection of government and policy and its impact on shaping the future of our outdoor spaces. How can nonprofits partner with various government agencies to create policy that promotes and supports our work around outdoor recreation?

Review and Selection

All proposals will be peer-reviewed and selected based on relevance and appropriateness for this conference. Because of the limited number of program times available, not all proposals are guaranteed a place on the schedule. All participants submitting a proposal will be notified of their acceptance by August 2024.

Presenter Expenses

Presenters will be given one complimentary event ticket for Friday, October 25, which includes lunch on the day of the Summit. All other conference expenses are the responsibility of the presenter including but not limited to transportation, lodging, and meals.

We recognize that financial constraints may pose challenges for some presenters. To address this, discounted lodging and financial assistance may be available; please inquire at DuluthAOA@gmail.com for more information.

Submittal Procedures

Please electronically submit your session proposals to this portal by May 15, 2025: tinyurl.com/2024-GLOS-Proposal

Conference presentations proposals should include:

- Main presenter's name, title, email, phone number and mailing address.
- Name, title and affiliation of additional presenters or authors, if applicable.
- Presentations Title (not to exceed 60 characters with spaces)
- Presentation format (concurrent session, panel/round-table)
- Special equipment needs or requests
- Description/abstract of presentation (200 word maximum)
- Learning objectives (3-5 specific objectives)
- Speaker and other presenter biographies (200 work maximum)
- Headshots of all speakers (jpg, tiff, maximum file size 1 MB)
- Organizational/Business logo (if applicable)

Questions?

If you have any questions or experience any problems when submitting a proposal please contact Hansi Johnson at hjohnson@mnland.org