Abstract Rules for Creative Work

- Abstracts must be 150 - 250 words in length;
- Abstracts should observe the following format:
  - Title of paper in capital letters;
  - First name, middle initial and last name of author and co-authors;
  - Faculty sponsor name in parentheses;
  - Department, institution name.

Abstracts must include the nature and significance of the topic, the investigative strategy, the nature of the results and conclusions. The abstract should summarize the substantive results of the work and not merely list topics to be discussed. Submissions must be reviewed by the faculty sponsor and UCUR representative and will then be submitted by the representative.

Abstract Guidelines for the Fine Arts:

Performing Arts:

An abstract or artist’s statement is required for the performing arts. The abstract should describe the performance. Music, Dance and Theatre performers should submit scripts, CD/cassettes or video tapes as necessary to accompany the abstract and submission form. Performances at the conference may be up to 20 minutes in length.

Visual Arts:

An abstract or artist’s statement is required for the visual arts. The abstract should describe the visual art research question, methodology and outcomes. Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Photography, Sculpture, Ceramics and other Applied Arts may include several slides of work completed or in progress. Slides must be properly labeled with name, title of work, medium dimensions and date.

Your actual conference presentation...

At the Conference all studio artists are expected to give a 15 minute oral presentation complete with slides and 5 minutes for questions OR set up examples of your work and be prepared to explain the process. Video and Film presentations must be on VHS or DVD tape and be not more than 15 minutes in length. Arrangements for equipment must be made in advance.

Guidelines for Oral Presentations:

Oral presentations will be 15 minutes in length, with 5 minutes for questions and transition to the next talk. Presentations should contain an introduction, an explanation of methods, and a conclusion or summary of findings, and should be aimed at a general audience. Visual aids should be used if at all possible. Slides, transparencies, or power-point presentations may be
utilized in oral presentations if specified in advance. Presentation schedules will be strictly enforced.

Sample Abstract: Performing Arts

Title: DREAMS AND DISASTERS: NATURAL OR NOT
Author: Marie Grudzien
Advisor: Miguel Chuaqui

School of Music
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My creative project is a contemporary classical electro-acoustic chamber piece entitled *Dreams and Disasters: Natural or Not*. It is a multi-media work that includes live acoustic instruments, electronics, projected text and theatre. Its theme is multi-faceted in nature, investigating the complex realities of dreams/nightmares, and their counterpart in a modern world. Issues of reality, illusion, conflict, displacement, identity, and the integration (or not) of positive and negative aspects of technology are explored. Through my research, the original theme has developed further, investigating technology as a bridge, a peacemaker. What universal components can it contain – in an effort to balance the universal problems it can create? I feel this project provides no definitive answers, but rather a platform for discussion and interaction. The use of phonemes and various languages implies a universality, while the use of generated and manipulated sounds (from programs such as MAX and Logic) provide a different kind of commonality. Their complete uniqueness and newness expands a sound vocabulary for the whole world. Dr. Chuaqui’s expertise has helped me to explore the aforementioned music programs in more depth. For example, analyzed human voice samples aid in the creation of generated sound. Recorded sounds (mainly human) are manipulated and reinvented, at times interwoven with white noise. Live acoustic instruments and voices play together with electronics at points. Throughout the piece, there are links provided between man and technology. I have purposefully recorded voices from people of different races, countries, and genders, in an attempt to employ technology as a transcendent medium for all. I believe by using technology in a creative way, artists can help to rewrite a system for its use that is more holistic, user-friendly, and socially interactive…an aid for better communication and understanding among people. Perhaps through its use in the arts, technology can truly interact with our own deeper nature as human beings.