The Mormon History Association is pleased to announce the rescheduling of its Rochester/Palmyra conference for June 10-13, 2021. This 56th Annual Conference continues the previously-planned theme, “Visions, Restoration, and Movements,” commemorating the 200th anniversary of Mormonism’s birth in upstate New York. If health conditions don’t allow an in-person meeting, MHA will make the conference available digitally.

Joseph Smith’s religious movement has grown from a fledgling frontier faith to a diverse set of religious and cultural traditions across the globe. Transformational activism was a key feature of Mormonism from the beginning, born in a landscape of peoples and movements that changed the world around them—constructing the Erie Canal, “burning” with religious fervor in the Second Great Awakening, nurturing abolitionists and the fight for Black liberation, and producing the struggle for women’s rights and suffrage.

We welcome proposals on these themes from academic, professional, and independent scholars. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we also invite submissions on medicine, disease, pandemics, public health, and similar topics as they relate to Mormon history.

MHA will also offer a poster session, which offers participants the opportunity to discuss and answer questions about their work in a relatively informal, interactive setting. This format is particularly useful for works-in-progress and for projects with visual and material evidence. Poster presenters must be available for a two-hour poster viewing session and reception during the conference.

Please send: 1) a 300-word abstract for each paper or presentation and, 2) a one-page CV for each presenter, including email contact information. Though the program committee will consider individual papers, it will give preference to proposals for complete sessions, whose participants reflect MHA’s ongoing commitment to diversity and inclusion. Full session proposals should include the session title and a 150-word abstract outlining the session’s theme, along with a confirmed chair and/or commentator, if applicable. Individuals may only be included in one proposal for each conference. Previously published papers are not eligible for presentation at MHA.

Limited financial assistance for travel and lodging at the conference is available to student presenters and some international presenters. Proposals from international presenters who cannot attend the meeting in person will be considered for digital presentation. All presenters—including poster session presenters and international presenters—must be MHA members and registered for the conference, regardless of whether the conference is held in person or online.

The deadline for proposals is January 15, 2021. Send proposals to program co-chairs Joseph Stuart and Anne Berryhill at mharochester2020@gmail.com. Acknowledgment of receipt will be sent immediately. Notification of acceptance/rejection will be made by February 15, 2021.