

(Direct link to submission form: [2020 ILA Convention Program Proposal Form](#))

Join us at the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention of  
[The International Listening Association \(ILA\)](#)  
The Seattle Renaissance, Seattle, Washington, USA  
March 25-28, 2020  
<http://www.listen.org>

**We are excited to announce our call for Presenters!**

**Who we are:** People from around the world, representing business, education, healthcare, research, technology, environment, arts and humanities fields who are passionate about advancing the practice, teaching, and research of listening throughout the world. We are students, teachers, consultants, practitioners, researchers, clinicians, service providers, managers, support staff and more.

**Who should apply:** Anyone that has innovative, fascinating, educational, and/or academic technique, information, and research, to share about the application, impact, or research of listening.

**What are we looking for:** Dynamic talks, workshops, papers, and panels that will involve the audience in exchange and learning.

This year's theme: **"Embrace the World: Listen to build relationships"**

*"I believe that the key to creating society that is nourishing, empowering and healing for everyone lies in how we relate [and listen] to one another."  
— Martin Buber*

Recognizing the significant benefit of listening to build and strengthen our relationships across the world, we seek to create a space for open dialogue across countries and cultures. You will find energetic curiosity, respectful attention, and critical thinking, in a mutually shared environment, where people intentionally seek to listen and be listened to giving us greater capacities to connect and relate to one another.

*Topics examples include but are not limited to:*

- What situations or conditions are most conducive to listening in a relationship? Is there a mood, or a place, or time of day?
- Listening in healthcare setting
- Listening to understand instead of listening to respond

- Listening resilience in personal and professional relationships
- How listening disorders strain relationships
- “I’m sorry I wasn’t paying attention, what was your question?”
- Learning to listen with significant others. A conversational approach
- Intercultural listening in relationships
- Care of the environment: Listening to the natural world
- “He said, she said, they said”
- Relationship stages and listening
- The quality of listening in virtual relationships
- Personal and professional role models of listening
- Appreciating the joy in what you hear from others
- Listening-centered relationships
- Listening as a social function
- Listening and family relationships
- Listening and conversational variables across relationship types
- Customer-centered relationships and listening
- Servant leadership and listening
- When we were young: Listening and childhood friendships
- Why listening is such an important relational skill
- Listening to empower each other
- Belonging and compassionate listening in relationships

**To apply:**

Submissions should be made using this link: [2020 ILA Convention Program Proposal Form](#) Please complete this linked google form as a cover page for your submission.

**NOTE:** If you do not have a Gmail account, you will be asked to set up a Google account to complete the online form. Follow this link to set up a Google account: <https://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Google-Account-Without-Gmail>

Please note that we will have a limited number of presenters and that selection will be made based on the evaluation guidelines detailed below.

**Tips to help your proposal stand out:**

1. Choose a topic that is timely, relevant, thought-provoking, and genuinely interests you. What challenges and successes are you experiencing with listening and relationship building and how can those lessons be applied more broadly?
2. Be clear and captivating in your title and description. A good title will invite the attendee to join by making the topic and coverage distinct and engaging. Make sure that your description supports the title.
3. We want to know how you will engage your audience. The best learning and teaching practices are interactive, responsive, and use different learning formats. Tell us how you will make your presentation not only informative but participatory.
4. Know a lot about a topic? Show us! Let us know what research, case studies, examples and even anecdotes support your expertise.
5. Proofread and edit what you've submitted so reviewers know you've taken the time to achieve a quality submission.

**Evaluation Guidelines:** Each proposal will be assessed by the reviewers on these criteria:

- a) Description of Proposal included. Proposal descriptions should be thoughtfully considered and prepared, interactive, and provide resources, takeaways, and action points.
  - b) Biographical information (for all participants) included.
  - c) Headshot photo included.
  - d) Submission would be of interest to a variety of Convention attendees.
- To ensure a valuable experience is felt by all participants, reviewers will consider some of the following criteria when evaluating presentation proposals:
- **Relevance:** The proposed session connects to the felt needs, challenges, and opportunities in today's organizations, schools and society.
  - **Approach:** The following should be clear: the session description and objectives; how the session adds value to the conference and serves attendees; who the target audience is; what modes of facilitation the presenters will use; and what takeaways participants can expect.
  - **Impact:** The session contributes to professional or personal development. It should be designed to encourage attendees to build

upon existing knowledge and experience, encourage follow-up, further exploration, and action planning on various levels.

- **Creativity and innovation:** The session brings a new lens or perspective on the topic.
  - **Demonstrated expertise:** The session presents original research, applied knowledge of (others') recognized research or theory, models or use of evidence-based practices, personal mastery, and/or reflective practice.
- e) Proposal submitted by the deadline of October 20, 2019
- f) Bonus: Submission implicitly or explicitly relates to the theme "Embrace the World: Listen to build relationships"

**Deadline for all proposal submissions is October 20, 2019**

**Tentative notification of acceptance: December 20, 2019**

Questions? Contact Lori Joubert, 1st VP, at [Lori.Joubert@listen.org](mailto:Lori.Joubert@listen.org)  
Invite a friend or colleague!

Lori Joubert, MA, CLP  
First Vice President and 2020 Convention Chair  
International Listening Association  
Not a member yet? Sign up today! [www.listen.org/join](http://www.listen.org/join)