

**Social justice & public health, prevention & wellness over the lifespan: theme for APHA 2012 Spirit of 1848 sessions:**

The theme of the APHA 2012 140<sup>th</sup> annual meeting (“*Prevention and Wellness Across the Lifespan*,” San Francisco, CA, Oct 27-31, 2012) is one that we seek to place in its larger societal context, paying heed to level & spatiotemporal scale (i.e., lifespan of individuals, of neighborhoods & communities, and of historical generations at the national and global level). Moreover, in addition to our usual focus on ensuring speaker diversity in relation to race/ethnicity and gender, we also plan to include speakers ranging from the rising generation of youth, with their often wonderfully audacious impatience to create a better world, to our elders who are rich with experience, knowing we can learn much from both.

As usual, we are organizing 4 oral sessions and 1 poster session, together addressing the 3 themes of our caucus, which concern the inextricable links between social justice and public health, as manifested in: the politics of public health data, social history of public health, and progressive pedagogy.

**Abstracts for the Spirit of 1848 sessions are due on Wednesday, February 8, 2012 (with abstract submission opening on Friday, December 16, 2011);** all relevant instructions can be found at the APHA abstract submission website; see:

<http://www.apha.org/meetings/sessions/>

See also below, at the bottom, the APHA reminders re abstract requirements, including:

- (a) word limit of 250 words; and
- (b) how to ensure the presentation is eligible for continuing education (CE) credits – **AND WE STRONGLY REQUEST THAT ANYONE SEEKING TO PRESENT IN A SPIRIT OF 1848 SESSION PREPARE THEIR ABSTRACT IN ACCORD WITH THE CE REQUIREMENTS (WHICH ARE QUITE MINIMAL) SO THAT FOLK ATTENDING APHA CAN GET CE CREDITS FOR ATTENDING OUR SESSIONS WITH THEIR SOCIAL JUSTICE PERSPECTIVE ON PUBLIC HEALTH!**

To learn more about the Spirit of 1848 Caucus and sessions we have organized at past APHA meetings, please see our mission statement below and please also visit our website at: <http://www.spiritof1848.org>

The sessions we are organizing for APHA 2012 (listed in the chronological order in which they will be presented at the APHA meeting) are:

**1) SOCIAL HISTORY OF PUBLIC HEALTH SESSION -- APHA 2012**

This session, titled “**Critical Histories of Social Justice and Health Activism Across the Generations**,” will accept **only solicited abstracts** that critically examine the history of inter-generational activism that seeks to build social welfare states and social protection (i.e., promoting societal health & preventing health inequities, from "womb to tomb"). The session will be held on the Monday morning of APHA (Oct 29, 2012), in the 10:30am to noon time slot. It will be co-organized by Anne-Emanuelle Birn (email: [ae.birn@utoronto.ca](mailto:ae.birn@utoronto.ca)), Luis Avilés (email: [luis.aviles3@upr.edu](mailto:luis.aviles3@upr.edu)), and Sarah Ramírez (email: [sarahmramirez@gmail.com](mailto:sarahmramirez@gmail.com)).

## 2) POLITICS OF PUBLIC HEALTH DATA SESSION -- APHA 2012

This session, titled “**Critical perspectives on lifecourse and time trend analyses: social justice & the politics of public health data**” will have an open call for abstracts and also solicit abstracts – that critically address either of the following two issues:

-- (1) Concerns about the increasingly depoliticized, individualistic, and ahistorical approach to “lifecourse” appearing in biomedical research and its emphasis on early life (including prenatal) exposures and maternal effects. This orientation in the literature has resulted in scant attention to: (a) the roles of resilience/plasticity, gender relations, and fathers/partners (both social and biological factors), and (b) the importance of adolescent & adult experiences (noting that myriad studies demonstrate the importance of addressing cumulative disadvantage)

-- (2) Critical analysis of changing magnitudes of health inequities over time, whether within or between countries or regions, in relationship to historical generation & societal context, including for specific age groups.

This session will be organized by Spirit of 1848 Coordinating Committee members Catherine Cubbin (email: [ccubbin@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:ccubbin@austin.utexas.edu)), Vanessa Simonds (email: [vanessa-simonds@uiowa.edu](mailto:vanessa-simonds@uiowa.edu)), and Nancy Krieger (email: [nkrieger@hsph.harvard.edu](mailto:nkrieger@hsph.harvard.edu)). This session will be in the Monday afternoon 2:00 to 4:30 pm APHA time slot (Oct 29, 2012).

## 3) INTEGRATIVE SESSION -- APHA 2012

Starting with the APHA 2002 Conference, the Spirit of 1848 has sponsored an “integrative” session that integrates the three themes of our Caucus, all pertaining to the inextricable links between social justice & public health.

For APHA 2012, our integrative session, titled “**Embodying history – and changing it: health inequities, social justice, and biology in context – the case of breast cancer**” will accept only solicited abstracts. It will critically examine issues of social justice and public health across the “lifespan” – critically assessed in relation to different timescales and levels – and will do so in relation to the 3 foci of our Spirit of 1848 Caucus: the social history of public health, the politics of public health data, and progressive pedagogy for public health.

The session will be organized Spirit of 1848 Coordinating Committee members Nancy Krieger (email: [nkrieger@hsph.harvard.edu](mailto:nkrieger@hsph.harvard.edu)), Anne-Emanuelle Birn (email: [aebirn@utoronto.ca](mailto:aebirn@utoronto.ca)), and Luis Avilés (email: [luis.aviles3@upr.edu](mailto:luis.aviles3@upr.edu)). The session will take place during the Monday afternoon 4:30 to 6:00 pm APHA time slot (Oct 29, 2012).

## 4) PROGRESSIVE PEDAGOGY SESSION -- APHA 2012

This session, titled “**Progressive pedagogy across the lifespan,**” will accept only solicited abstracts that critically examine teaching, both in and outside of traditional academic settings, that includes a focus on social justice & public health in relation to different age groups and/or is geared towards either younger students (e.g., in high school) or to elders in our communities. This session will examine issues of social justice and public health across the lifespan in relation to both content and pedagogical approaches.

This session is organized by Spirit of 1848 Coordinating Committee members Suzanne Christopher (email: [suzanne@montana.edu](mailto:suzanne@montana.edu)) and Lisa Moore (email: [lisadee@sfsu.edu](mailto:lisadee@sfsu.edu)), along with Cheryl Merzel (email: [Cheryl.Merzel@einstein.yu.edu](mailto:Cheryl.Merzel@einstein.yu.edu)). It will be held during the Tuesday morning 8:30 to 10:00 am APHA time slot (Oct 30, 2012).

## 5) STUDENT POSTER SESSION – APHA 2012

For APHA 2012, The Spirit of 1848 is having an **\*open call for abstracts\*** from students of public health and health-related programs that highlight the intersection between social justice and public health from a historical, theoretical, epidemiological, ethnographic, and/or methodological perspective (whether quantitative or qualitative). We welcome abstracts on topics ranging from public health research to public health practice to student-initiated courses on connections between social justice & public health. The work presented can be global, country-specific, or local.

-- We encourage students at ALL levels of training in their work on public health to submit abstracts, whether undergraduates, master students, MPH students, medical students, or doctoral students; submissions will be judged in accordance to expectations appropriate for each level of training. Postdoctoral fellows are NOT eligible to submit posters.

-- Abstracts should focus on furthering understanding and action to address the ways that social inequality harms, and social equity improves, the public's health. Examples of social inequality include inequitable social divisions within societies based on social class, race/ethnicity, nativity, Indigenous and immigrant status, gender, and sexuality, as well as inequitable relations between nations and geographical regions. Given the theme of this year's APHA conference, we welcome abstracts that critically examine "lifecourse" perspectives as they relate to the social determinants of health in research and practice. In particular we are interested in submissions that put issues of social justice and public health across the lifespan into larger societal context with careful consideration of historical time and place in addition to individual life histories.

--This session will take place at the 140th annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, in San Francisco, CA on Tuesday, October 30, 2012 in the 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm APHA time slot.

--Reminder: for this session we are issuing an **\*open call for abstracts\***: all posters for this session will be selected from abstracts submitted in response to this "call for abstracts." Please note that if your abstract is accepted we expect you to present your poster at the APHA conference. If you are not able to attend we ask that you find someone to stand in for you so that we can maintain a full program.

-- **Abstracts are due on Wednesday, February 8, 2012**; all relevant instructions can be found at the APHA abstract submission website; see: <http://www.apha.org/meetings/sessions/>

For any questions about this session, please contact Spirit of 1848 Coordinating Committee members Rebekka Lee ([ree@hsph.harvard.edu](mailto:ree@hsph.harvard.edu)) or Tabashir Sadegh-Nobari ([tabashir@ucla.edu](mailto:tabashir@ucla.edu)).

## APHA REMINDERS RE ABSTRACT REQUIREMENTS & CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS:

### 1) APHA ABSTRACT REQUIREMENTS

- Abstracts should be no more than 250 words
- All presenters must be Individual members of APHA in order to present.
- All presenters must register for the meeting.
- Abstracts cannot be presented or published in any journal prior to the APHA Annual Meeting.

## 2) CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

- **Continuing Education Credit**

APHA values the ability to provide continuing education credit to physicians, nurses, health educators and those certified in public health at its annual meeting. Please complete all required information when submitting an abstract so members can claim credit for attending your session. These credits are necessary for members to keep their licenses and credentials.

For a session to be eligible for Continuing Education Credit, each presenter must provide:

- 1) an abstract free of trade and/or commercial product names
- 2) at least one MEASURABLE objective (DO NOT USE understand or to learn as objectives, they are not measurable).

Examples of Acceptable Measurable Action Words:

Explain, Demonstrate, Analyze, Formulate, Discuss, Compare, Differentiate, Describe, Name, Assess, Evaluate, Identify, Design, Define or List.

- 3) A signed Conflict of Interest (Disclosure) form with a relevant Qualification Statement. See an example of an acceptable Qualification Statement on the online Disclosure form.

Thank you for your assistance in making your session credit worthy.

Contact Annette Ferebee at [annette.ferebee@apha.org](mailto:annette.ferebee@apha.org) if you have any questions concerning continuing education credit. Contact the program planner for all other questions.

### **FINALLY:**

If you have any questions about the proposed Spirit of 1848 sessions, please contact session organizers (listed above).

For additional information about the Spirit of 1848, including our mission statement and why our name is "Spirit of 1848," please see below--and also please visit our website, where you can learn more about our Caucus and see past sessions that we have organized at APHA: <http://www.spiritof1848.org/>

And, if you are interested in subscribing to our email bulletin board, we welcome posting on social justice & public health that provide:

a) information (e.g. about conferences or job announcements or publications relevant to and making explicit links between social justice & public health), and

b) substantive queries or comments directly addressing issues relevant to and making explicit links between social justice and public health.

If your posting is only about social justice/political issues, or only about public health issues, and does not explicitly connect issues of social justice & public health, please do not post it on this listserv.

Please note that the listserv does not accept attachments. For petitions, please post only the text, accompanied by the explicit instruction not to reply to the listserv but to reply to you directly with signatures.

**Community email addresses:**

Post message: [spiritof1848@yahoogroups.com](mailto:spiritof1848@yahoogroups.com)

Subscribe: [spiritof1848-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:spiritof1848-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Unsubscribe: [spiritof1848-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:spiritof1848-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com)

List owner: [spiritof1848-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:spiritof1848-owner@yahoogroups.com)

Web page: [www.spiritof1848.org](http://www.spiritof1848.org)

To subscribe or un-subscribe send an e-mail to the address specified above with the word "subscribe" or "unsubscribe" in the subject line. To change to digest mode (one daily e-mail containing the day's postings), you need to access your account via the YahooGroups website and select the digest option under "Message Delivery."

For more information, please see the Spiritof1848 Listserv Semi-Regular Reminder or e-mail the list owner.

**SPIRIT OF 1848 MISSION STATEMENT**

November 2002

The Spirit of 1848: A Network linking Politics, Passion, and Public Health

Purpose and Structure

The Spirit of 1848 is a network of people concerned about social inequalities in health. Our purpose is to spur new connections among the many of us involved in different areas of public health, who are working on diverse public health issues (whether as researchers, practitioners, teachers, activists, or all of the above), and live scattered across diverse regions of the United States and other countries. In doing so, we hope to help counter the fragmentation that many of us face: within and between disciplines, within and between work on particular diseases or health problems, and within and between different organizations geared to specific issues or social groups. By making connections, we can overcome some of the isolation

that we feel and find others with whom we can develop our thoughts, strategize, and enhance efforts to eliminate social inequalities in health.

Our common focus is that we are all working, in one way or another, to understand and change how social divisions based on social class, race/ethnicity, gender, sexual identity, and age affect the public's health. As an activist and scholarly network, we have established four committees to conduct our work:

- 1) Public Health Data: this committee will focus on how and why we measure and study social inequalities in health, and develop projects to influence the collection of data in US vital statistics, health surveys, and disease registries.
- 2) Curriculum: this committee will focus on how public health and other health professionals and students are trained, and will gather and share information about (and possibly develop) courses and materials to spur critical thinking about social inequalities in health, in their present and historical context.
- 3) E-Networking: this committee will focus on networking and communication within the Spirit of 1848, using e-mail, web page, newsletters, and occasional mailings; it also coordinates the newly established student poster session.
- 4) History: this committee is in liaison with the Sigerist Circle, an already established organization of public health and medical historians who use critical theory (Marxian, feminist, post-colonial, and otherwise) to illuminate the history of public health and how we have arrived where we are today; its presence in the Spirit of 1848 will help to ensure that our network's projects are grounded in this sense of history, complexity, and context.

Work among these committees will be coordinated by our Coordinating Committee, which consists of chair/co-chairs and the chairs/co-chairs of each of the four sub-committees. To ensure accountability, all public activities sponsored by the Spirit of 1848 (e.g., public statements, mailings, sessions at conferences, other public actions) will be organized by these committees and approved by the Coordinating Committee (which will communicate on at least a monthly basis). Annual meetings of the network (so that we can actually see each other and talk together) will take place at the yearly American Public Health Association meetings. Finally, please note that we are NOT a dues-paying membership organization. Instead, we are an activist, volunteer network: you become part of the Spirit of 1848 by working on one of our projects, through one of our committees--and we invite you to join!

NB: for additional information the Spirit of 1848 and our choice of name, see:

--Coordinating Committee of Spirit of 1848 (Krieger N, Zapata C, Murrain M, Barnett E, Parsons PE, Birn AE). Spirit of 1848: a network linking politics, passion, and public health. *Critical Public Health* 1998; 8:97-103.

--Krieger N, Birn AE. A vision of social justice as the foundation of public health: commemorating 150 years of the spirit of 1848. *Am J Public Health* 1998; 88:1603-6 .

Community email addresses:

Post message: [spiritof1848@yahoo.com](mailto:spiritof1848@yahoo.com)

Subscribe: [spiritof1848-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:spiritof1848-subscribe@yahoo.com)

Unsubscribe: [spiritof1848-unsubscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:spiritof1848-unsubscribe@yahoo.com)

List owner: [spiritof1848-owner@yahoo.com](mailto:spiritof1848-owner@yahoo.com)

Web page: [www.spiritof1848.org](http://www.spiritof1848.org)

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\*\*\*\*\* Selected notable events in and around 1848 \*\*\*\*\*

1840-1847: Louis Rene Villermé publishes the first major study of workers' health in France, A Description of the Physical and Moral State of Workers Employed in Cotton, Linen, and Silk Mills (1840) and Flora Tristan, based in France, publishes her London Journal: A Survey of London Life in the 1830s (1840), a pathbreaking account of the extreme poverty and poor health of its working classes; in England, Edwin Chadwick publishes General Report on Sanitary Conditions of the Laboring Population in Great Britain (1842); first child labor laws in the Britain and the United States (1842); end of the Second Seminole War (1842); prison reform movement in the United States initiated by Dorothea Dix (1843); Frederick Engels publishes The Condition of the Working Class in England (1844); John Griscom publishes The Sanitary Condition of the Laboring Population of New York with Suggestions for Its Improvement (1845); Irish famine (1845-1848); start of US-Mexican war (1846); Frederick Douglass founds The North Star, an anti-slavery newspaper (1847); Southwood Smith publishes An Address to the Working Classes of the United Kingdom on their Duty in the Present State of the Sanitary Question (1847)

1848:

World-wide cholera epidemic

Uprisings in Berlin, Paris, Vienna, Sicily, Milan, Naples, Parma, Rome, Warsaw, Prague, Budapest, and Dakar; start of Second Sikh war against British in India

In the midst of the 1848 revolution in Germany, Rudolf Virchow founds the medical journal Medical Reform (Medicinishe Reform), and publishes his classic "Report on the Typhus Epidemic in Upper Silesia," in which he concludes that preserving health and preventing disease requires "full and unlimited democracy"

Revolution in France, abdication of Louis Philippe, worker uprising in Paris, and founding of The Second Republic, which creates a public health advisory committee attached to the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce and establishes network of local public health councils

First Public Health Act in Britain, which creates a General Board of Health, empowered to establish local boards of health to deal with the water supply, sewerage, cemeteries, and control of "offensive trades," and also to conduct surveys of sanitary conditions

The newly formed American Medical Association sets up a Public Hygiene Committee to address public health issues

First Women's Rights Convention in the United States, at Seneca Falls

Henry Thoreau publishes Civil Disobedience, to protest paying taxes to support the United State's war against Mexico

Karl Marx and Frederick Engels publish The Communist Manifesto

1849-854: Elizabeth Blackwell sets up the New York Dispensary for Poor Women and Children (1849); John Snow publishes On the Mode of Communication of Cholera (1849); Lemuel Shattuck publishes Report of the Sanitary Commission of Massachusetts (1850); founding of the London Epidemiological Society (1850); Indian Wars in the southwest and far west (1849-1892); Compromise of 1850 retains slavery in the United States and Fugitive Slave Act passed; Harriet Beecher Stowe publishes

Uncle Tom's Cabin (1852); Sojourner Truth delivers her "Ain't I a Woman" speech at the Fourth Seneca Fall convention (1853); John Snow removes the handle of the Broad Street Pump to stop the cholera epidemic in London (1854)