

## **INCCA North America**

Title	INCCA North America
Type	networking session
Date, time	Thursday 10th June, 16:00-17:30
Contact	Glenn Wharton, Time-Based Media Conservator Museum of Modern Art / New York University

The networking session for the North American group began with a presentation of its history by Glenn Wharton, Executive Director. After several years of planning, INCCA-NA was established in 2009 as a tax-exempt non-profit corporation in the US. Gwynne Ryan and Kendra Roth of the program committee then described past programming, including panel discussions with artists, curators, and conservators, and educational workshops on interview methods and copyright law for conservators.

Most of the session consisted of a lively discussion among conference participants. Approximately forty people attended the session, and the conversation was directed towards suggestions for INCCA-NA's board. The topics covered are broadly grouped as follows:

### Cross professional collaboration

Andrea Kirsh, an art historian, strongly recommended that INCCA-NA work with the College Art Association – a professional group of artists, art historians, and others in the US. She made a compelling argument for conservators to improve their communication skills in order to work more collaboratively. This includes developing a strong web presence and electronic communications.

Sydney Briggs, a registrar, spoke about the need for information about documentation and other activities that registrars of contemporary art share with conservators. She suggested working with the Registrars Committee of the American Association of Museums.

### Future programming

Suggestions on programming include holding events across the US, Canada, and Mexico – not just the east coast. In addition to panel discussions and workshops, INCCA-NA could develop educational material for artists and collectors. There was considerable interest in developing a stronger web presence as well. A suggestion was also made to create a resource list on the website.

### Membership

Some people expressed confusion over membership. The fact that people join the international network and not the INCCA-NA regional group should be clarified on the INCCA-NA website. There was a discussion about reducing or removing the requirement to make database contributions as part of INCCA membership. Several people also requested increased communications to members and other INCCA stakeholders in North America. This could include advance posting of programs.

### Fundraising

A number of participants suggested working closely with collectors who could fund future activities. Collectors represent a stakeholder group that could benefit from educational programming from INCCA.