FASHION AND *PLAY*

Symposium Dates: April 12-13, 2024
Symposium Host: Department of Design, Housing, and Apparel, University of Minnesota, St Paul, MN US

Important dates

Abstract submission: October 15 2023 – January 10, 2024
Notice of acceptance: January 15 - January 20, 2024
Online registration closes: March 8, 2024

See https://sites.google.com/umn.edu/fashionandsymposium/home for updates.

The National Institute for Play considers play extremely important for a healthy life. Each person feels playful in their own unique way. How we play may change as we mature from children to adults, and current fashion in popular play changes over time. While we might enjoy music over our lifetime, the way we interact with instruments and vocals might range from sing-alongs to electric instruments to digital synthesizers. While dolls have been a quintessential toy of childhood, today's dolls present multiple ethnicities, body shapes, and genders that are very different from traditional collectible dolls.

The neurons in our brain light up when we encounter something playful. It alters our state of mind when we are enjoying an activity that allows us to forget about time. An individual involved in play can take many roles including collector, competitor, creator, director, explorer, joker, kinesthete, and storyteller.

Submissions may be related to broad definitions of fashion/design and play. Topics may include (but are not limited) to the following:

Dress and role playing
Play Therapy
Sports apparel
Drag
Design for play
Toy Design
Costume Design
Children's clothing
Adult Play
Interior Design for play (children and adults)
Creativity connections
Designing games and gaming
Theoretical and conceptual approaches/frameworks
Technologies driving play
Play systems

Submission Categories

Scholars and practitioners are invited to submit abstracts that are original, completed at the time of submission, not submitted to another journal and/or presented at other conference in the following categories:

- **Research** – includes submissions related to research studies and scholarship grounded in theories/approaches/philosophies related to Play.
- **Teaching** – includes submissions that advance scholarship of teaching, curriculum and pedagogy related to Play in fashion and related fields.
- **Concept** – includes submissions related to broad view of the field that may be position papers, emerging philosophies/schools of thought, practitioner and action-oriented strategies advancing Play in fashion, systematic literature reviews, bibliometric analyses and interconnectedness of policy, research, and practice. Submissions in this category must be supported by thorough synthesis and analyses of diverse and reliable sources of information to inform future scholarship and actions.
- **Creative Design** – Submissions in this category include original design work focused on play.

If accepted, the study/design must be presented/displayed by at least one of the original abstract authors in an oral/poster/display format. The presenting author must register for the symposium by March 8, 2024, to allow the organizing committee time to prepare and disseminate the Symposium Program.

2024 Symposium co-Chairs: Drs. Elizabeth (Missy) Bye and Juanjuan Wu College of Design, University of Minnesota, St Paul, MN, USA

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