

## Call for Submissions

The North Texas Digital Fabrication Group seeks submissions for presentations and workshops for its third annual North Texas Digital Fabrication Symposium, hosted by the Texas Woman's University Department of Visual Arts, April 20 – 21, 2018.

**Deadline for Submission Proposals: December 15th**

### Theme: “Humanizing the Digital”

Exploring the potential for Digital Fabrication to connect us with what it means to be human.

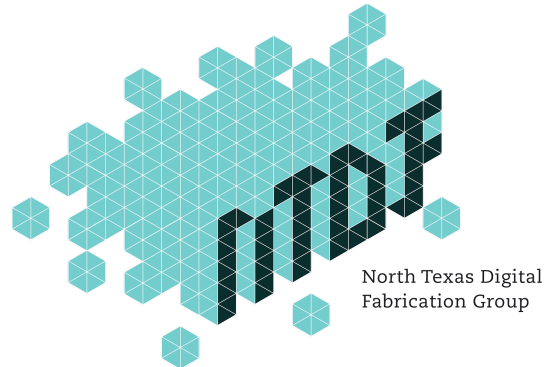
The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual North Texas Digital Fabrication Symposium (NTDFS) highlights the creative potential for digital fabrication tools and techniques to reconnect us to our humanity. Contrary to society's worst fear of the dystopian impact of technology, innovative and creative uses of digital fabrication open up possibilities for reconsidering the way humans learn, make and connect through the creative arts. The NTDFS is intended to be a forum for considering the hybrid, interdisciplinary and creative futures that lead us back to the complex imperfection of our humanity.

The NTDFS seeks interdisciplinary proposals that connect and expand an art and design perspective into other areas of research and practice. As an extension of our mission to highlight the relationship between technology and humanity, we emphasize a spectrum of digital makers representing diverse perspectives including gender, race and ethnic identity. Particularly in a time when the tech world is under serious scrutiny for a lack of commitment to diversity and access, we hope to represent perspectives that the general public less frequently associates with these new technologies.

All proposals should address the connection of any specific topic to the field of digital fabrication. Preference will be given to proposals that embrace an open-source participatory approach to knowledge sharing. With this symposium we strive to create an atmosphere of discussion and dialogue, in keeping with the spirit of the “Maker Movement”.

Below are some aspects of the theme (Humanizing the Digital) that we invite you to explore in your proposals, although not required to stay within these sub-themes:

- Failure and Adaptation: Creating aesthetics of imperfection within multiple areas of research including design, sound, material, theory, pedagogy, performance, engineering, fashion, science, computer science, information sciences, craft, and fine art.
- A craft approach to technology -- humanizing digital processes that welcome experimentation and inclusivity.



- Using “maker” tools and approaches to encourage participation in all forms of creativity and design, at levels from beginner to expert.
- Design as empowerment through creative subversion, and cross-pollination across disciplines.
- Digital pedagogy - harnessing technology’s potential to restructure learning, making and collaboration and challenges within this.

We are seeking proposals in the following 3 formats:

- Presentations - individual presentations (10-15 minutes) will be grouped into panels based on affinities in subject matter *[this has been revised]*
- Panel (75 min)- a moderator and 2-4 presenters
- Workshops (2 1/2 hrs) - 1 to 3 instructors/moderators, either hands-on or discussion format

Please note that symposium organizers are currently pursuing a range of funding sources but cannot guarantee the resources to cover expenses/stipends for presenters. If accepted, presenters may be responsible for covering their expenses associated with participating in the Symposium.

**To submit a proposal, use this online form: [Symposium Session Proposal Form](#).**