Call for Papers: Symposium on Arts, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation

The intersection of arts and culture and studies of entrepreneurship and innovation holds great promise as well as substantial mystery. On the one hand, arts and creativity clearly play large roles in innovation and entrepreneurial activity. This includes artists as entrepreneurs as well as artistic and cultural values infused in innovative products and practices. On other hand, many puzzles remain concerning the connection between arts and entrepreneurship and innovation. How can the cultural industries learn from and inform innovation in other sectors? How do the arts and cultural values lead to or follow innovation across society? What policies and practices can promote sustainable innovation in or through the arts? What are the distributional consequences of innovation in or through the arts?

This call for papers seeks new research to improve our understanding of the interplay between the arts, entrepreneurship, and innovation, broadly construed. A broad definition of the arts and cultural sector is envisioned (see the NEA’s guide to arts and cultural production for guidance on the scope). Perspectives from different disciplinary perspectives are welcome. Examples of relevant research in this area include (but are certainly not limited to):

- Artists as entrepreneurs: characteristics, impact on society, what other sectors can learn
- How arts can promote innovation (e.g., artistic aptitude or talent affecting innovative thinking)
- Economic impacts of entrepreneurship in cultural industries
- Implications of technological innovations for the arts (artists, arts organizations, cultural industries, etc.) or of artistic innovations for others.
- Roles of art and artists in entrepreneurial, innovative activities, or in economic development

This call for proposals is part of the Arts, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation (AEI) Lab at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and the Indiana University Public Policy Institute. The AEI Lab is a research lab sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, directed by professors Doug Noonan and Joanna Woronkowicz. We invite proposals for papers to be written this year to be part of the AEI Lab and its symposium, which will take place in the Spring of 2020.

Submission instructions:
Please submit an extended abstract (two pages max.) as a PDF to Doug Noonan at noonand@iupui.edu with a subject line 'AEI symposium’ by February 28, 2019. The extended abstract should detail the research question, methods and data, and expected contribution.

Research paper proposals are welcome from any discipline or country.

Authors of selected papers will be asked to submit a complete manuscript by October 31, 2019.

Selection process:
Paper proposals will be evaluated based on their expected scholarly contributions, relevance to the themes of the AEI Lab, and potential interest of the findings to policymakers or practitioners. Selected authors will be invited to participate in the AEI Lab’s research symposium in Spring of 2020. The AEI Lab will assist in paying for travel expenses. Completed manuscripts will also be made available as AEI Lab working papers. Selected papers will be considered for publication in a special issue of a highly regarded journal dedicated to this topic.
The review committee will consist of Doug Noonan (IUPUI), Joanna Woronkowicz (IU), David Audretsch (IU), Tom Guevara (IU), Deana Haggag (United States Artists), Martin Kenney (UCDavis), Angie Kim (CCI), Michael Rushton (IU), John Michael Schert (Harvard), Regan Stevenson (IU), Tim Wojan (USDA).

**Important dates:**
February 28, 2019 – extended abstract submission deadline
April 1, 2019 – authors of selected papers notified
October 31, 2019 – final complete manuscripts due
Spring, 2020 – Expected date of the AEI Lab Symposium 2020

Please submit any questions to Doug Noonan (noonand@iupui.edu).

The NEA Research Lab is a project of the National Endowment for the Arts in cooperation with Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.