

Aligning Standards with Mission:  
A New Framework for Sustainable Lending

# Convening Agenda

## Day 1: Tuesday, April 7

Time	Event
All Day	Attendees arrive at the Northwest Arkansas National Airport (XNA) and settle into their accommodations at 21c Museum Hotel Bentonville.
6:15 – 6:30 pm	Attendees gather in the hotel lobby before proceeding to dinner at The Hive.
6:30 – 7:00 pm	Glenn D. Lowry, Stephan Jost, and Neal Benezra kick off the convening with an opening conversation, accompanied by cocktail service.
7:00 – 9:00 pm	Attendees are invited to enjoy dinner service.

## Day 2: Wednesday, April 8

Time	Event
6:30 – 8:30 am	Attendees use their provided meal vouchers for breakfast at 21c Museum Hotel Bentonville.
8:15 am	The first shuttle departs from the hotel, transporting attendees to the Heartland Whole Health Institute.
8:30 am	Presenters arrive in Ballroom A to check in, review session logistics, and coordinate final technical and program details.

<b>8:35 am</b>	The second shuttle departs from the hotel, transporting attendees to the Heartland Whole Health Institute.
<b>8:45 am</b>	The third and final shuttle departs from the hotel, transporting attendees to the Heartland Whole Health Institute.
<b>9:00 – 9:10 am</b>	Attendees are welcomed to Ballroom A and oriented to the day’s program by Art Bridges CEO Anne Kraybill.
<b>9:10 – 10:15 am</b>	<p><b>Session:</b> <i>Myth, Risk, and Reality: Climate Control in the Era of Sustainability</i></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Caitlin Southwick</p> <p>This first session confronts one of the most widely misunderstood assumptions in museum practice: that rigid climate control equals “best practice.” By unpacking how specific environmental standards became embedded in institutional policy and loan agreements, this session examines why unrealistic and unsustainable targets persist despite evolving scientific evidence. Introducing Bizot and the latest research, it reframes climate control as evidence-based, risk-informed, and grounded in the actual needs of collections—not inherited or misinterpreted convention. Updating these practices is not about lowering standards; its about raising them. By aligning climate control with science and data rather than assumption, museums can cut carbon, reduce costs, expand access, and finally realize best practice in its truest sense.</p>
<b>10:15 – 10:30 am</b>	Attendees have a short break to stretch, refresh, and connect with fellow participants.
<b>10:30 – 11:45 am</b>	<p><b>Panel:</b> <i>Shifting Standards: Case Studies from the Field</i></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> Mike Brown, Amber Kerr, Adam Levine, Vanessa Applebaum, Jill Sterrett, and Stephan Jost</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Anne Kraybill</p> <p>This session highlights leading approaches to more sustainable, accessible, and mission-aligned museum practices. Stephan Jost shares international progress toward implementing the Bizot Green Protocol through collaborative case studies. Mike Brown outlines how sustainability</p>

initiatives can deliver long-term operational benefits with low financial barriers. Adam Levine and Vanessa Applebaum present the Toledo Museum of Art's loan-decision model that balances conservation risk with public benefit to expand access responsibly. Amber Kerr discusses the Smithsonian American Art Museum's path toward Bizot-aligned, risk-informed collection care, while Jill Sterrett examines strategies for increasing access, strengthening community partnerships, and advancing sustainable building practices.

**11:45 am – 1:00 pm**

Lunch is served in Ballroom B.

**1:00 – 2:00 pm**

**Session:** *Conservation Standards and Loan Realities: An Evidence-Based Approach*

**Presenter:** Joel Taylor

Changing unnecessary loan specifications has long been discussed, but such changes are far more than a technical problem. This presentation will focus on some of the social and organizational barriers that have affected progress. Drawing on interviews with international curators, conservators, exhibition managers, registrars, and insurance specialists, Joel Taylor addresses institutional obstacles to improved collection sharing and proposes new approaches.

**2:05 – 3:15 pm**

**Panel:** *Smart Sharing: Preventative Tools that Reduce Risk and Cost*

**Presenters:** Adrienne Reid, Fiona Graham, Dave Masom, and Annika Erikson

**Moderator:** Caitlin Southwick

This session explores practical strategies for expanding access while strengthening sustainability and risk management. Fiona Graham shares case studies demonstrating how museums can reduce energy use while maintaining strong preservation conditions. Dave Masom outlines a more flexible loan model grounded in real-time monitoring and object-specific requirements. Adrienne Reid offers insight into how insurers are responding to climate-focused initiatives and evolving preservation practices. Annika Erikson highlights the role of technology in enabling more efficient, accessible, and sustainable loan systems.

<b>3:15 – 3:25 pm</b>	Attendees have a short break to stretch, refresh, and connect with fellow participants.
<b>3:30 – 4:15 pm</b>	<p><b>Session:</b> Interactive Roundtables</p> <p>This interactive roundtable session invites attendees to reflect on the day’s discussions and consider what is needed to continue advancing this work within their own institutions. Each table will engage with the same guiding prompts, including identifying resources or support that would enable ongoing progress, determining what actions or changes participants plan to implement, and surfacing any points of disagreement that emerge.</p>
<b>4:15 – 4:25 pm</b>	Art Bridges CEO Anne Kraybill delivers closing remarks, highlighting key takeaways and insights from the day.
<b>4:30 pm</b>	The first shuttle transports attendees from the Heartland Whole Health Institute back to the hotel.
<b>5:00 pm</b>	The second shuttle transports attendees from the Heartland Whole Health Institute back to the hotel.
<b>5:00 – 5:50 pm</b>	Attendees gather and walk together to the nearby Tavola Trattoria for dinner.
<b>6:00 – 6:30 pm</b>	Attendees enjoy bar service and appetizers.
<b>6:30 – 8:30 pm</b>	During dinner service, attendees have a final opportunity to connect with fellow participants and share reflections on the day’s program.
<b>8:30 pm</b>	Attendees return to 21c Museum Hotel Bentonville, concluding the convening.

## Contact

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