

Call for Papers: Women and Youth Empowerment: Education, Ethics in Museums

Conference Theme: Exploring the intersection of women's contributions, youth empowerment, ethical considerations, and educational practices within the museum context.

Conference Dates: Saturday, November 15, 2025

Location: Women's Museum, Dubai, UAE

Organizers: IC Ethics and ICOM Dubai

About the Conference:

This conference aims to foster critical dialogue and the exchange of ideas surrounding museums' crucial role in empowering women and youth through education and ethical engagement. We invite scholars, museum professionals, educators, and community activists to explore how museums can serve as dynamic spaces for social change, promoting inclusivity, challenging traditional narratives, and fostering ethical awareness.

Themes of Interest:

We welcome submissions that address, but are not limited to, the following themes:

- **Representing Women's Histories and Contributions:**
 - Challenging historical omissions and biases in museum collections and exhibitions.
 - Showcasing the diverse experiences and achievements of women across cultures and periods.
 - Amplifying the voices of contemporary women artists, activists, and leaders.
- **Youth Empowerment through Museum Education:**
 - Developing innovative educational programs that foster critical thinking, leadership skills, and ethical awareness among young people.
 - Creating inclusive and accessible museum experiences for diverse youth populations.
 - Using digital technologies and interactive platforms to engage young audiences.
- **Ethical Considerations in Museum Practice:**
 - Addressing representation, cultural sensitivity, and social justice issues in museum collections and exhibitions.
 - Promoting ethical decision-making and transparency in museum governance and operations.
 - Exploring the role of museums in fostering dialogue and action on social and environmental issues.
- **Gender and Intersectionality in Museum Spaces:**
 - Examining how gender intersects with ethnic groups, class, sexuality, and other social identities within museum contexts.
 - Creating inclusive and equitable museum spaces that affirm the experiences of marginalised communities.
 - Developing strategies for addressing gender-based violence and discrimination in museums.

- **Community Engagement and Youth-Led Initiatives:**
 - Building partnerships between museums and community organisations to empower women and youth.
 - Supporting youth-led projects that promote social change and cultural preservation.
 - Utilising participatory methodologies to engage diverse audiences in museum programming.

Submission Guidelines:

- Abstracts (250-300 words) should clearly outline the research question, methodology, and key findings or arguments.
- Please include a brief biographical statement (100 words) and contact information.
- Submissions should be sent via the ICOM Dubai website
<https://registrations.dxblive.com/CommunityPortal/Registration/ICOMSURVEY/Abstract.aspx?registrantID=df0425ea-68e4-4dfa-974e-d12a49ea6304>
- Deadline for Abstract Submissions: June 22, 2025
- Notification of Acceptance: July 31, 2025

We encourage submissions from a wide range of disciplines and perspectives