



WPA 2020 Virtual Convention

July 27, 2020

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of the Western Psychological Association (WPA) has voted to change the rescheduled 2020 conference to a virtual offering. Your current registration will allow you to access all of the content that you would have received in the San Francisco conference including many special events to celebrate our centennial. This change not only ensures that safety of our members, but also addresses funding issues and travel bans implemented by many colleges and universities.

We are very excited by the platform that we are using as it will allow for live broadcasts as well as prerecorded sessions, both of which will allow live interaction during the presentations. We will also have live networking (chat) rooms and other special events. The virtual poster sessions will allow each author to prerecord an overview of their research that allows one to pan through the poster and also be available “live” for questions during the scheduled poster session. Best of all, the content can be watched on-demand at a later date if you are unable to watch during the schedule time of any of the events. Thus, you can actually consume more content than would be available during a face-to-face conference. We will also have a virtual exhibit room so that you can visit our vendors as you would have at the physical conference.

As an incentive to attending our virtual conference, the WPA Board has approved a discount on the 2021 conference in Las Vegas, NV. For all of those who preregister and pay by September 30, 2020, will receive a discount of up to 50% on their 2021 preregistration. Note that this discount is based on the member and student preregistration rates; the amount of the discount cannot exceed \$45.

For those who have reserved rooms at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco through the WPA registration link, all rooms will be automatically canceled by the Hyatt. If you made reservations through some other means, you will need to cancel those reservations directly. If you purchased tickets to the Centennial Gala or the Exploratorium events, you will need to request a refund for those by September 30, 2020. Unfortunately, we cannot process automatic refunds as we are unable to reverse charges on credit cards beyond 120 days. If you opt not to request a refund, please consider your purchase as a donation to WPA, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Refund requests can be completed online at westernpsych.org and clicking the refund link, which will prompt you to provide



**WESTERN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION**

us with all of the information needed to process a refund. You may also request a refund by following this link here: <https://forms.gle/5X198YiRDBBHYzJS6>. Registration refunds can also be done through this link as well.

To better accommodate the online format of the conference, we will be starting the conference one day early on Wednesday, October 28 and concluding the conference around noon on Saturday, October 31, 2020. All presenters will receive an updated schedule of their presentations within the next couple of weeks. Again, all content will also be available on demand through the month of November 2020 including all of the talks by our distinguished speakers.

We look forward to the virtual celebration of our centennial with you and will provide you with the same outstanding conference you would have received in San Francisco and we are hoping to see you in-person at the 2021 conference in Las Vegas, NV.

Sincerely,

Kris Leppien-Christensen, Ph.D.
Executive Officer



**WESTERN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION**