



# American Horticultural Therapy Association®

ADVANCING THE PRACTICE OF HORTICULTURE AS THERAPY

## **Requests for Presentation Proposals (RFP) for Thursday, Oct 9th, 2025**

*Nurturing Community: Planting the Seeds of our Future*

**52nd American Horticultural Therapy Association Conference (Virtual) October 9-11, 2025**

The American Horticultural Therapy Association (AHTA) annual conference brings together experts and enthusiasts in horticultural therapy to share knowledge, best practices, and innovative approaches that promote health and well-being through the use of gardening and plants. The AHTA invites professionals, researchers, educators, practitioners, students, and allied professionals to submit proposals for presentations at our upcoming virtual conference.

This year's theme focuses on the vision of horticultural therapy as a core piece of our social and healthcare infrastructure that supports healthy development for people of all abilities. The AHTA seeks presentations that represent HT and therapeutic wellness practices to promote physical, emotional, cognitive, and social well-being across the lifespan, from youth to elders.

This year the AHTA will hold an optional 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the conference: **Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. This day will be dedicated to networking, current developments in HT/AHTA, and showcasing the important work that we do in the field of HT/TH.

### **Proposal Requirements and Guidelines for Presentation on Thursday, October 9, 2025:**

#### **Proposal Types**

1. Showcase your HT/TH program: (30 min) This session will demonstrate an HT/TH program through a live, narrated slideshow of photographs. The presenter must be personally involved with the program.
2. Restorative Activity: (10 min): This session offers participants a calming and rejuvenating experience designed to reconnect with themselves, alleviate screen fatigue, and offer restoration during the conference. This activity must be presented live.

Proposals must include –

- Title of Presentation (no more than 10 words)

- Abstract (75 words): A clear and concise description of your presentation, including objectives, relevance to horticultural therapy, and key takeaways for attendees.
- Learning Objectives (3-5): Identify what participants will learn from your presentation. These statements should start with “Participants will...”
- Short Bio (100 words): Provide a brief biography for each presenter.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Alignment with the conference theme “Nurturing Community: Planting Seeds of Our Future”
- Relevance to horticultural therapy
- Clarity and coherence of the abstract
- Innovation and originality
- Practical application of the content

Examples of strong presentations can include effective tools to reduce stress, achieve healthy weight management, increase physical endurance levels, enhance emotional regulation and resilience, increase communication skills and teamwork, foster a sense of community, cooperation, and environmental stewardship.

## **Submission Process**

Please submit your proposal via the portal [here](#) by June 5, 2025. Incomplete submissions or proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

Important Dates:

- Submission Deadline: June 5, 2025
- Notification of Acceptance: June 30, 2025
- Session Presentation Date: Thursday, October 9, 2025

**Presenter Responsibilities** Presenters are responsible for attending their presentation. All presenters must register for the conference by September 1, 2025 or their presentation may be pulled from the conference program.

Presenters are given a discounted rate for registration as compensation for their contribution to the field.

For questions or additional information, please contact: AHTA Conference  
Committee Email: [info@ahta.org](mailto:info@ahta.org)