

SAVE THE DATE

NOV. 19 – 22
2026
NEW ORLEANS



Transforming Lives
Through Communication

Please join me at NCA's 112th Annual Convention in New Orleans to explore move/ment(s) in the field of Communication. Movement is the defining feature of humans in the 21st century. We are a species on the move – as migrants, tourists, refugees, workers, asylees, and students. Movement brings flux, assumes risk, implies intermixing, and sows the seeds for “both/and” thinking. Move/ment is full of interpretive possibilities for scholars, teachers, and practitioners of Communication. Our field is in the midst of a reckoning – how do we move away from a parochial, statist, and solely Euro-American view of Communication studies –into the multiple, cosmopolitan, and pluriversal versions of what it means to study communication? Movement is inherently political – communication scholars have so much to say about the ability and agency to move one's body through spaces, places, borders, and institutions. Who can and cannot move? Who gets (re)moved? What are the barriers to movement?

As we gather in New Orleans, which is marked by epochal movements of people, capital, goods, ideas, and culture, we will reflect on the various avatars of movement. Movement is also inherent to the celebratory fervor of Second Lining, the quintessential New Orleans form of communal celebration. The sobering legacies of Hurricane Katrina and the mass displacement in its wake also offer a reckoning for how we move and can be moved away/for/into places and spaces. Join us in exploring the breadth of possibilities of move/ments in Communication.

I first joined NCA as an international graduate student, new to our field, and new to the United States. I feel incredibly honored and privileged today, as a part of NCA's leadership and the convention planner, to invite you to our 2026 convention. My sincere thanks to NCA's leadership and its national office for working to make my vision for the convention a reality. I hope to see all of you in New Orleans as we plot new move/ments in Communication!

Shaunak Sastry
Second Vice President
National Communication Association