

## Accessibility Statement

**The Rowland Foundation is joyfully committed to providing equal access to all attendees at the Annual Rowland Conference.** Since 2011 our conference has been hosted by the University of Vermont, which is committed to ensuring that its facilities are accessible to individuals with disabilities in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Together, our teams are dedicated to welcoming and meeting the needs of all conference guests.

**[Registration is now open!](#)** When you register, you will be invited to request any accommodations you may require in order to attend the conference. The following information is provided in order to assist you in assessing your needs and planning your request. Please reach out to the University of Vermont's Event Services team at [eventregistration@uvm.edu](mailto:eventregistration@uvm.edu) with questions.

### **Accessible Parking**

Prior to the conference, UVM Event Services will contact attendees about parking availability and to issue permits. Conference parking is usually reserved in the Jeffords Lot, which is located walking distance from the Davis Center. If you may need closer parking or a reserved accessible parking space, please contact us to make arrangements.

### **Accommodation Requests**

During our on-line conference registration process, you will be asked about dietary restrictions and other special accommodations you may require in order to fully participate in the 12th Annual Rowland Conference. Once you have completed your

registration and your request has been received, the UVM Event Services team will be in touch to make arrangements to meet your needs.

### **ASL Interpretation and Assistive Listening Devices**

American Sign Language (ASL) Interpretation services may be requested for any and all parts of the day. Assisted listening devices may also be requested for all of our mainstage events (our morning introductions, keynote address, student presentation, and closing poetry reading), where microphones will be used. Microphones will not be used in all of our break-out workshop spaces. If you have concerns about being able to fully participate in the workshop of your choice, please contact the University of Vermont's Events Services team at [eventregistration@uvm.edu](mailto:eventregistration@uvm.edu) prior to the event so we can arrange with the presenters of your chosen workshops to accommodate your needs.

### **Conference Location(s)**

The majority of the conference events will take place in UVM's Davis Center. The Davis Center is a modern, ADA-compliant building located on UVM's main campus, on the north side of Main Street heading toward downtown Burlington. The main entrance of the Davis Center is on its third floor. Elevators are centrally located to take you to the fourth floor, where conference registration, the keynote address, and many of our workshops will take place.

Most of our workshop sessions will take place in rooms within the Davis Center, while others will take place in spaces within close walking distance elsewhere on UVM's campus: the Waterman Building, Ifshin Hall, and the Old Mill. Workshop locations will be listed in the conference folder that you will receive the day of the event; campus maps will also be provided. [This online campus map may also help you to identify these locations](#). Please contact us in advance if you have concerns about reaching your workshop location.

### **Conference Workshops (Breakout Sessions)**

We ask workshop presenters to create lively, active, and participatory sessions where attendees can practice new skills and learn by doing. If you have concerns about being able to fully participate in the workshop of your choice, please contact the University of Vermont's Events Services team at [eventregistration@uvm.edu](mailto:eventregistration@uvm.edu) prior to the event so we can arrange with the presenters of your chosen workshops to accommodate your needs.

### **COVID-19**

We recognize that COVID-19 and other infectious diseases pose special risks to those with compromised immune systems and other health problems, and that large in-person events present challenges for such individuals. With this in mind, we are monitoring the local situation so that we can respond to it as needed. Currently:

- We ask that you PLEASE STAY HOME if you experience fever, cough, muscle aches, or other symptoms in the days leading up to the event.
- Regardless of symptoms, we strongly encourage attendees to self-test for COVID-19 before attending the conference.
- We encourage attendees to update their vaccination status according to CDC guidelines and to avoid other large gatherings in advance of the event in order to further mitigate risk.
- The 12th Annual Rowland Conference will be a mask-friendly event. We encourage attendees to mask according to their comfort and needs.
- Event spaces will be well-ventilated, weather permitting.
- On the day of the event, we will offer red, yellow, and green stickers that can be affixed to your name badge as a signal to other attendees about the level of physical-distancing you prefer.

## **Food & Refreshments**

Your conference registration covers the cost of a continental breakfast, your lunch, and other refreshments during the day. Our lunch is served buffet style, with vegetarian and gluten-free options provided. You will be asked about dietary restrictions and allergies at the time of registration, which help us to have the appropriate portions of those items on hand. Please provide dietary information for all team members at the time of registration. If you need further assistance, please contact us to make arrangements.

## **Lactation Space**

There is a dedicated lactation space (also known as a Nursing Mothers' Room) in the Davis Center, Level 1, Room 117. The room is available on a first-come, first-served basis, but it is kept locked. To access it, go to the Info Desk near the 3rd floor Davis Center entrance.

## **Seating**

Our keynote conference session takes place in a large ballroom with a raised stage, a screen where slides are shown, and sound-amplification. Seating close to the stage will be arranged around tables, while further back in the room chairs will be arranged in rows. UVM Event Services will take care to arrange the room to allow for easy navigation by attendees, including those with mobility issues. If you feel you may need special seating due to a mobility aid, service animal, or visual or hearing impairment, please contact us to make arrangements.

## **Service Animals**

Trained service and assistance animals are welcome on campus in accordance with federal and state law. Emotional support animals are not permitted.

## **Virtual Access**

The 12th Annual Rowland Conference is an in-person event. We do not offer virtual or hybrid events at this time. However, our keynote remarks will be available for viewing on our website after the event.

## **Your Questions**

Your questions and comments help us learn how to better remove barriers to access for our conference. Please contact the University of Vermont's Events Services team at [eventregistration@uvm.edu](mailto:eventregistration@uvm.edu) prior to the event to share your ideas and to be sure that your needs are met.