

[Call for Panelists: The Uses and Abuses of Fashion in the Early Republic](#)

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Hello historians,

A co-panelist and I are looking to organize a panel on the politics of beauty and fashion for the SHEAR 2019 conference. We know it's a bit late, but if anyone is interested, we're still looking for another presenter, a panel chair, and a commentator.

We're interested in broad questions:

- What did it mean to "look" like an American citizen in the early republic?
- How did Americans use physical characteristics to exhibit and evaluate social status?
- How did people manipulate their fashion choices for economic and political aims?
- And how did ideas about physical beauty shape power relationships?

We'd be interested in anyone working on:

- issues of appearance in early America
- the politics of race, gender, and beauty
- visual and material culture
- fashion, capitalism, and consumer culture
- manliness and masculinity
- history of the human body
- beauty, science, and medicine
- history of photography
- and anything else that you think might work!

Please send a CV and short abstract to racwalker@hartford.edu.

Many thanks,

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