

Welcome to NordFo conference
at Konstfack in Stockholm
23–25 september 2026



Material Intelligence

The keynote lectures are in English, paper and poster presentations in language of your choice

Program

Wednesday 23 September

9-10.30 am: Registration and welcome coffee

10.30: Opening of the conference

Welcome speech by Konstfack's vice chancellor for education Jenny Althoff

Today's theme: Perspectives on the materials of handicrafts

11.00- 11.45 Craftsman **Jögge Sundqvist** begins with a multi modal lecture on his struggle with and against the material. Using an ax and knife he shapes a wooden sloyd object within "the four walls" he works with an unbending desire to craft with his unique aesthetic expression. About folk-art craft and a constant struggle on the knife's edge.

12-12.30 Associate Professor **Simon Ceder**, *Konstfack*, on sociomaterial theory, material agency and assemblage, with examples from current sloyd research.

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30-16 Paper session 1: Parallel paper presentations

17.30-20 Evening program with a small meal at **Nordiska museets** exhibition **Nordbor**

Thursday 24 September

Today's theme: The Sloyd and the brain

9.00-10.00 Paper session 2: Parallel paper- and poster presentations

10.30-12.00 Professor **Marte S. Gulliksen**, *University of South-Eastern Norway*, about her work with sculpture when her ability to see 3-dimensionally disappeared, and brain researcher Professor **Henrik Jörntell**, *Lund University*, about connections between the brain and the rest of the body in relation to e.g. fine motor skills, health - and the importance of crafts in this context.

12-13 Lunch

13.00 Conversation between Marte S. Gulliksen, Henrik Jörntell and conference participants in Marte's exhibition **Purkinje & Astrocyte**, with sculpted brain cell shapes. What can sloyd researchers learn from brain researchers and what can brain researchers learn from sloyd researchers?

13.00-16.00 Paper session 3: Parallel paper presentations

16.00-17.00 NordFo meeting. Election of a new presidium and decision on the next conference

18.30 Conference dinner at restaurant Capricci

Friday 25 September

Today's theme: Material intelligence from tradition to the future

9.00-10.30

- **Duodji.** About the relationship between man, animal and material in a tribute to the reindeer.
- **"Something is broken".** Doctoral student at Konstfack, **Ernesto Garcia**, talks about his research project in which he examines the healing power of repairing something, together and in public environments such as Sergels Torg in Stockholm
- **Knowledge of the hand: Material intelligence in textile heritage research.** Professor **Maja Gunn** presents a major research project at Konstfack, funded by the Swedish Research Council. The aim is to build knowledge about the historical and contemporary role of textiles through studies of museum collections, to make textile experiences visible and to contribute to the exchange of knowledge between different institutions and with the surrounding society.

11.00-12.00 Paper session 4: Parallel paper presentations

12.00-12.30 Closing the conference

12.30 Lunch - Grab & go