

Welcome to NordFo conference
at Konstfack in Stockholm
September 23rd –25th 2026



Material intelligence

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

Program

Wednesday 23rd of September

9-10.30 am: Registration and welcome coffee

10.30: Opening of the conference

Welcome speech by Konstfack's vice chancellor Anna Valtonen

Today's theme: Perspectives on the materials of sloyd

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

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

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30-16 Parallel presentations of papers

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

Thursday 24rd September

Today's theme: The Sloyd and the Brain

9.00-10.00 Parallel presentations of papers

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

12-13 Lunch

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

13.00-16.00 Parallel presentations of papers

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 25rd September

Today's theme: Material intelligence - from tradition towards the future

9.00-10.30

- **Duodji.** Assistant professor **Ingá Elisá Páve Idivuoma**, *Sámi Allaskuvla/Samisk høyskole in Kautokeino* about the relationship between man, animal and material in a tribute to the reindeer.
- **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, make textile experiences visible and contribute to the exchange of knowledge between different institutions and with the surrounding society.
- **"Something is broken".** Phd 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

11.00-12.00 Parallel presentations of papers

12.00-12.30 Closing the conference

12.30 Lunch - Grab & go