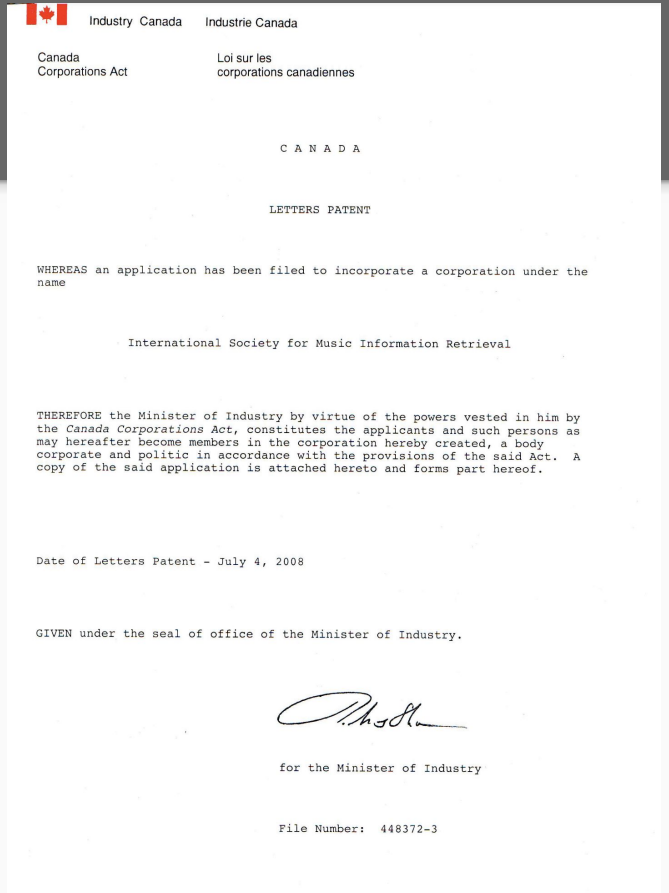
ISMIR Society Meeting

ISMIR 2024 Conference
San Francisco, USA
2024/11/14

What does the S in ISMIR mean?

- 2000: ISMIR = International Symposium on MIR
- 2002: ISMIR = International Conference on MIR
  - Steering committee
- 2008: ISMIR = International Society for MIR
  - Non-profit and independent organization
  - Members increasing (~950 members in 2024, up from ~850 in 2023)
  - Every two years, society members elect a Board
- From 2000 to 2023, there have been 24 ISMIR conferences!



Industry Canada Industrie Canada

Canada Corporations Act

Loi sur les corporations canadiennes

CANADA

LETTERS PATENT

WHEREAS an application has been filed to incorporate a corporation under the name

International Society for Music Information Retrieval

THEREFORE the Minister of Industry by virtue of the powers vested in him by the *Canada Corporations Act*, constitutes the applicants and such persons as may hereafter become members in the corporation hereby created, a body corporate and politic in accordance with the provisions of the said Act. A copy of the said application is attached hereto and forms part hereof.

Date of Letters Patent - July 4, 2008

GIVEN under the seal of office of the Minister of Industry.

for the Minister of Industry

File Number: 448372-3

Who is the ISMIR Society?

You are the society, anyone who paid the membership fee.

Current ISMIR Board (elected for the period January 2024 to December 2025)

- **President:** Zhiyao Duan, University of Rochester , USA
- **President-elect:** Justin Salamon, Adobe Research, USA
- **Secretary:** Emmanouil Benetos, Queen Mary University of London, UK
- **Treasurer:** Bob L.T. Sturm, KTH, Sweden
- **Tech lead:** **Ajay** Srinivasamurthy, Amazon Alexa, India
- **Member-at-large:** **Claire** Arthur, Georgia Tech, USA
- **Member-at-large:** **Carlos** Eduardo Cancino-Chacón, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria
- **Member-at-large:** **Elio** Quinton, Universal Music Group, UK
- **Student member:** **Shuqi** Dai, Carnegie Mellon University, USA

What is the ISMIR Board useful for ?

- Support and promote
  - Support subcommunities and working groups
  - Promote diversity in membership and disciplines
  - Support and facilitate bottom-up community initiatives
- Adapt and initiate
  - By-laws, roles and responsibilities
  - Call-for-Hosting document
  - Conference code of conduct (since ISMIR-2018)
  - ISMIR code of conduct (under work)
- Communicate and archive
  - ISMIR publications, coordinate with TISMIR
  - Websites, data, normalize conference web infrastructure
- Secure a yearly conference
  - Typically two years in advance
  - Loop between Europe, America, and other parts of the world
  - Coordinate organization and ensure continuity in conference format, culture, costs, …
  - Backup solution in case of pandemia (virtual, hybrid), in case of organizer bankrupt

TISMIR
WiMIR/WIMIR
LAMIR
MIREX
ISMIR Code of Ethics

Financial support for ISMIR
Open-review
Scopus indexing

ISMIR digital infrastructure
ismir.net new version

ISMIR 2026

How does the ISMIR Board work ?

- Task-based
  - Regular tasks
  - Initiatives
- Monthly meetings to
  - Update task progress
  - Discuss general issues
  - Sync with conference organizers
  - Discuss with subcommunities, e.g., TISMIR, WIMIR
- Communication with community
  - Survey
  - Mailing-list
  - On individual level
- Annual society meeting to report on board activities and discuss with society members

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TISMIR: Our Journal

Transactions of the International Society for Music Information Retrieval

Why TISMIR?

- Created by our society, for our society (and beyond)
- Contributions beyond the scope of ISMIR
- Competent feedback for quality improvement

→ Perfect for MIR researchers and PhD students

Organization → Constant renewal process

- Editors in chief: Anja Volk, Simon Dixon, Meinard Müller → 3-year rotation
- Editorial board → 3-year rotation
- Reviewer → Volunteers

TISMIR: Our Journal

Transactions of the International Society for Music Information Retrieval

Features & Status

- Publications per year: 21 (2021) → 15 (2022) → 15 (2023) → 20+ (2024)
- Acceptance rate: ca. 50 %
- Open access
- Article processing charge low (ca. 500 EUR) → ISMIR waiver (2024/2025)
- Article types: Research, Overview, Dataset, Education
- Invitation for extending ISMIR papers
- Special collections
- TISMIR papers @ ISMIR
- Constant efforts to improve & increase visibility → **Requires your support**

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WiMIR -> WIMIR

In 2024...

- **WiMIR** now in its 14th year.
- The **WiMIR/DEI Plenary Session** will take place for the 9th time.
- The **WiMIR Mentoring Program** completed its 9th round.
- **WiMIR@ISMIR Sponsorship** and **grants** offered for the 9th time.
- The **ISMIR Conference Code of Conduct** is in place for the 7th time.
- The **WiMIR Workshop** remains on hiatus for 2024, but Pre-conference addresses some of its aims.

ISMIR 2024 Diversity & Inclusion

WiMIR Chair

- Katie Kinnaird

Additional chairs

- Accessibility (So Yeon Park)
- Grants (Shanu Sushmita & Shuqi Dai)
- New-to-ISMIR Paper Mentoring (Ajay Srinivasamurthy, Neha Rajagopalan)
- Newcomer Initiatives (Nick Gang)

Diversity & Inclusion Initiatives

- Growing the “I” (in -> Inclusivity)
- Grants for women and other underrepresented researchers
- "Pop-Up Video" Slack backchannel
- New-to-ISMIR paper mentoring program
- Newcomer Squads

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ISMIR Bylaws Election

- The ISMIR board in coordination with WIMIR put forward a change to the society's bylaws, introducing the role of WIMIR liaison to the board, ensuring alignment between ISMIR and WIMIR activities.

- The current version of the Society's bylaws can be found at: https://ismir.net/pdfs/ISMIR-Bylaws.pdf

- The board is proposing to amend the bylaws by introducing an additional clause in Section 4:

  4.7 One of the three Members-At-Large will act as a liaison for the WIMIR (Widening Inclusion in MIR) group, ensuring the alignment between society and group activities and initiatives

- Results: bylaws change was approved (94% of voters agreed with proposed bylaws change)

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Financial Support for ISMIR Conferences

- The Board aims to provide a financial subsidy to conference organizers, depending on the financial status of the Society

- Formalized conference budget guidance in Call-for-Hosting document: https://ismir.net/pdfs/Call4Hosting-ISMIR-0.9.pdf
  - Conference Organizers try to achieve break-even
  - Conference Organizers can keep a surplus amount to support local MIR activities
  - Conference Organizers to provide financial support for conference attendance

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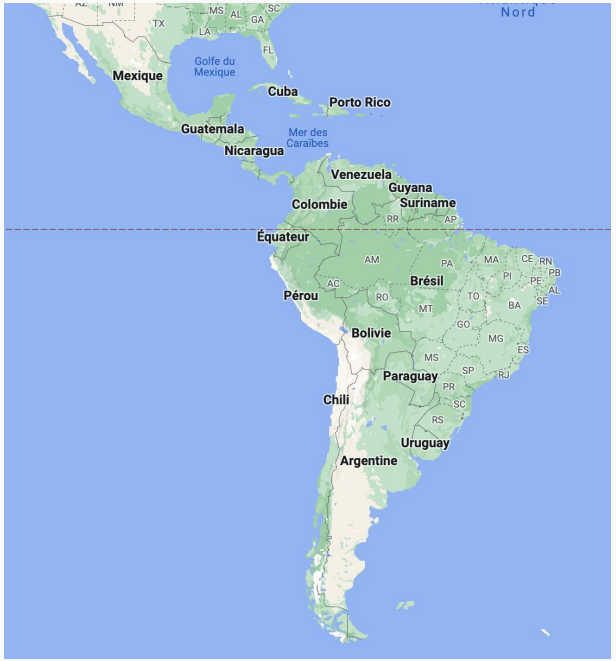
Initiatives for MIR in Latin America

- **BISH Bash LatAM**
  - https://www.meetup.com/bish-bash-latam
  - Bring together the **Latin American community** of **researchers**, **industry practitioners**, and **students** with a particular interest in **audio and music applications**
  - 329 members (and growing!), 8 meetups held to date
- **LAMIR Workshop**
  - **Satellite event of the ISMIR 2024** and part of the **KHIPUx 2024** events
  - Provide opportunities for **local students and researchers** to cultivate the **Latin American community** within the **ISMIR** and **AI** communities

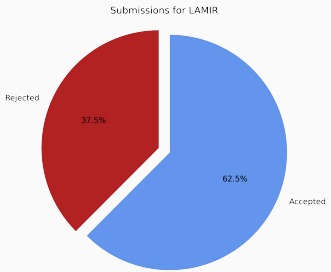


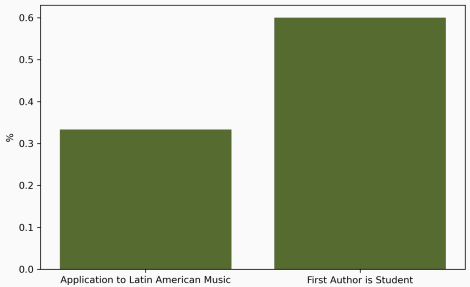
1st Latin American Music Information Retrieval Workshop

- **When:** December 9 – 11, 2024
- **Where:** Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- **Financial Support from ISMIR Board**
  - €5000
  - To be used for **travel awards** for students
  - Applications are now open!

1st Latin American Music Information Retrieval Workshop

- **Workshop Statistics**
  - Submissions from **8 countries**
  - (Valid) Submissions: 24
  - Accepted papers: 15
  - 40 reviewers, 3 reviews per paper, following the ISMIR guidelines





Authors of Accepted Papers for LAMIR

1st Latin American Music Information Retrieval Workshop

LAMIR Organizers

- Magdalena Fuentes (NYU)
- Luiz Wagner Pereira Biscainho (UFRJ)
- Martín Rocamora (UPF/UDELAR)
- Lucas Simoes Maia (UFRJ)
- Carlos Cancino-Chacón (JKU)

Sponsors

CAPES ISMIR Google

KHIPU MUSIC.AI

Institutional Support

IEEE Signal Processing Society

JKU JOHANNES KEPLER UNIVERSITY LINZ

NYU

UNIVERSIDAD DE LA REPÚBLICA URUGUAY

upf. Universitat Pompeu Fabra Barcelona

UFRJ UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DO RIO DE JANEIRO

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MIREX (Music Information Retrieval Evaluation eXchange)

After a three-year hiatus, we plan to revive MIREX starting in 2024. Our goal is to introduce new tasks and datasets that reflect the rapid advancements in computer music research. We envision the new MIREX serving the following key purposes:

1. **Benchmarking**: Establishing well-defined, fair benchmarks to assess music-related models and algorithms
2. **State of the Art**: Showcasing state-of-the-art models and evaluating how they address—or fail to address—current music-related challenges
3. **Communication Channel**: Providing a platform for summarizing and analyzing research progress, fostering communication within the ISMIR community and across related fields

MIREX 2024: tasks & organizers

Traditional tasks

- Audio Chord Estimation
- Lyrics-to-Audio Alignment
- Cover Song Identification

Modern tasks

- Symbolic Music Generation
- Music Audio Generation
- Music Description & Captioning
- Polyphonic Transcription
- Singing Voice Deepfake Detection

We got 17 teams, 31 submissions this year

Organizers

- Junyan Jiang, New York University
- Akira Maezawa, Yamaha
- Ziyu Wang, New York University
- Yixiao Zhang, ByteDance
- Ruibin Yuan, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- J. Stephen Downie, University of Illinois
- Gus Xia, MBZUAI

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Open Review Initiative

Motivation and Background

- The **Open Science** movement: making the entire life cycle of research accessible
- Some neighboring communities (e.g., machine learning) adopted Open Review practices
- ISMIR culture on continuous improvement and innovation

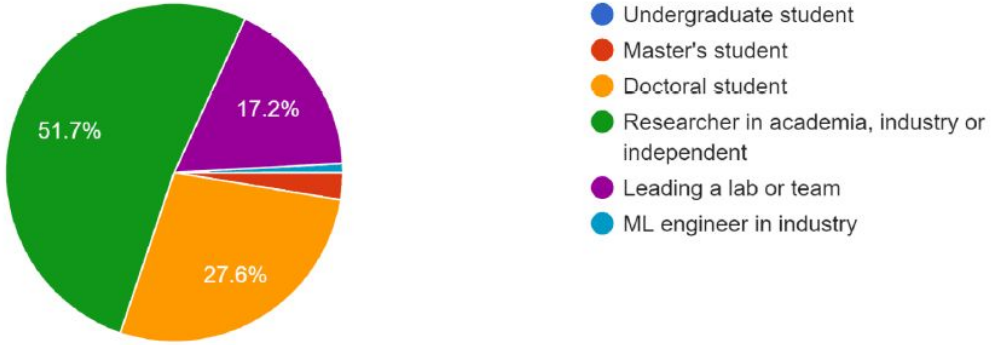
Open Review Initiative Timeline

1. 2023.07 - Online discussions, forming a working group with two subgroups
    a. **Survey** subgroup: Zhiyao Duan, Hugo Flores García, Magdalena Fuentes, Anna Huang, Blair Kaneshiro, and Justin Salamon
    b. **Webinar** subgroup: Brian McFee, Oriol Nieto, and Shuqi Dai
2. 2023.11 - Conducted an **initial survey** at ISMIR 2023, received 47 responses
3. 2023.11 - Discussions at ISMIR 2023 **Society Meeting** and **Unconference**
4. 2023.11 - Held a **webinar** for further discussions
5. 2024.03 - Released a **revised survey** to Music-IR mailing list
6. 2024.04 - Closed Survey, received 116 responses
7. 2024.06 - Released **survey summary results** at ISMIR 2024 Blog
8. 2024.07 - ISMIR 2024 SPC **adopted practice** of “publishing anonymous reviews of accepted papers with both authors and reviewers consent”.

ISMIR Open Review Survey Key Results (N=116)

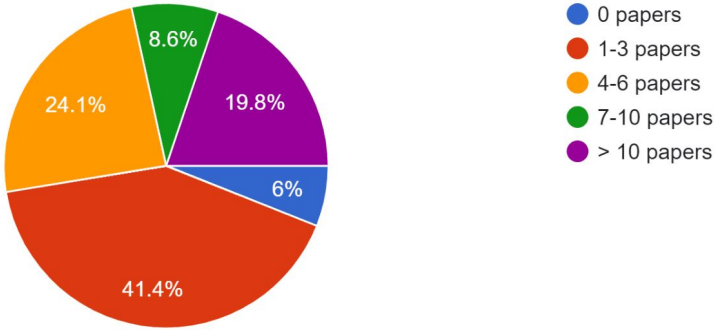
What stage are you in your career?

116 responses

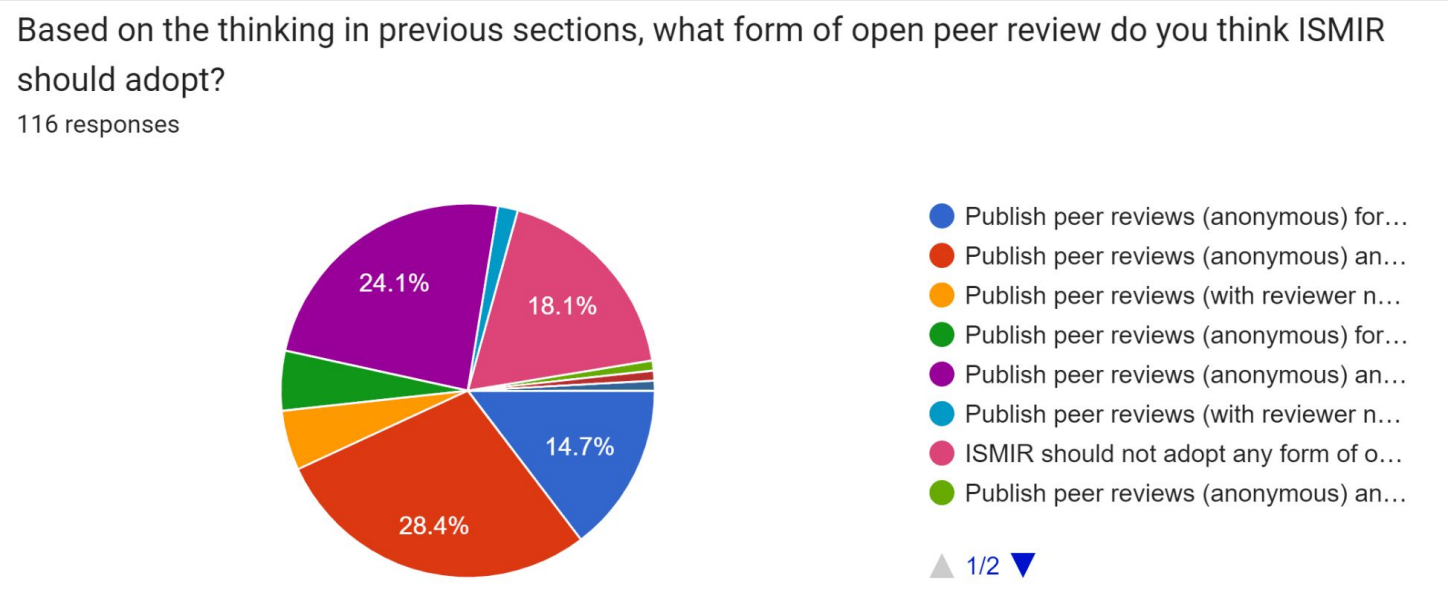


How many papers have you submitted to ISMIR (full proceedings, not LBD)?

116 responses



ISMIR Open Review Survey Key Results (N=116)



- More than 80% of survey takers **prefer some kind** of open peer review for ISMIR
- 0.9% chooses “It is not clear to me yet whether ISMIR should adopt open review. I would like to see evidence of the benefits of openreview before making a decision”
- 18.1% of survey takers think that ISMIR should not adopt any form of open review.

ISMIR Open Review Survey Key Results (N=116)

Summary of responses to **open-ended question** regarding open review for ISMIR:

- Support for Open Review
  - Enhanced Motivation and Quality
- Suggestions
  - Step-by-Step Implementation
  - Rebuttal Opportunities
- Concerns and Reservations
  - Negative Impact on Submission
  - Impact on Junior Researchers
  - Introducing Bias
  - Implementation Challenges
  - Doubts about Benefits and Appropriateness for MIR

Reflections on Open Review Initiative

- A thoughtful process
- Good discussions in our community
- A nice experiment at ISMIR 2024
- Useful experience for future ISMIR conferences

Let’s keep the discussions going!

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Scopus Indexing

Motivation

- Help researchers to justify publications at ISMIR!
- No foreseeable downsides

Electronic ISSN:	**3006-3094**
Type of serial publication:	**Conference Proceedings**
Primary field:	**Computer Science**
Primary field sub-fields:	**Artificial Intelligence** **Human-Computer Interaction** **Signal Processing**
Main field 1:	**Arts & Humanities**
Main field 1 sub-fields:	**Music**

Progress

- 2024.01 - Applied for an **ISSN**
- 2024.03 - Received an ISSN
- 2024.03 - Submitted a **“Title Suggestion”** to Scopus
- 2024.08 - Heard back from Scopus
- 2024.08-2024.09 - Multiple iterations with Scopus
- 2024.10 - Submitted a **“Title Enrichment”**

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ISMIR Digital Infrastructure

- Society Tech Stack
  - Website, community, zenodo, archives, social, etc.
- Conference Tech Stack
  - Tools to enable hybrid participation
  - Tools for long term archival

https://github.com/ismir

Conference Tech Stack

Goals:

- Support hybrid
- **Standardize!** → easier for organizers, minimize duplicated effort

Standardized ISMIR conference tech stack:

- Standard workflows for proceedings and archival
- MiniConf (virtual conference & archive, as seen in 2020, 2022, 2023, 2024)
- Zoom (video conferencing)
- Slack (chat, announcements)
- Papers and proceedings archived on Zenodo (with unique DOI)

ISMIR Website

A new website is under design and development - we can all contribute

- Improve content, discoverability, dissemination
- Suggestions and ideas welcome!

If you see something that needs to be fixed, changed or updated:

- The current ISMIR website code is hosted on GitHub: https://github.com/ismir/ismir-home/
- This means that we can make changes directly in the browser
- Make the changes on Github and submit a pull request (PR)

👍 Please help us keep the ISMIR website updated!

Digital footprint

- Archive
  - All of our papers are archived in a normalized format for posterity: https://archives.ismir.net/ismir2019/paper/000015.pdf

    `{namespace}/{dtype}/{id}`
- Zenodo
  - ISMIR takes care of Zenodo uploads - please don't add yourself!
- Metadata
  - All metadata is open source and version controlled on GitHub: https://github.com/ismir/conference-archive

👍 If you see something wrong, please submit a PR!

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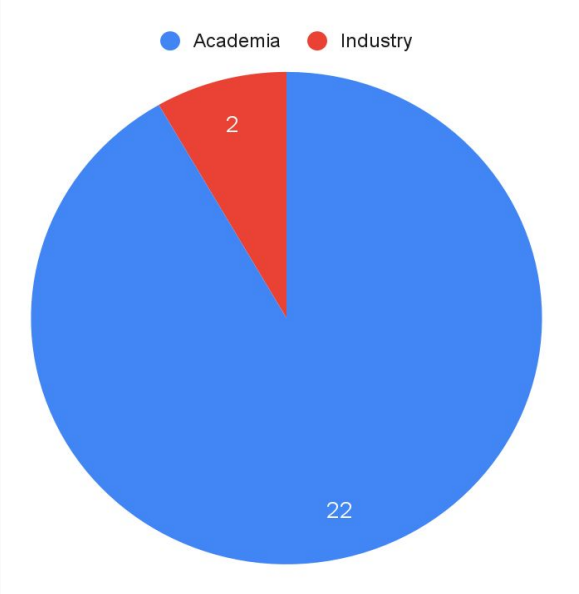
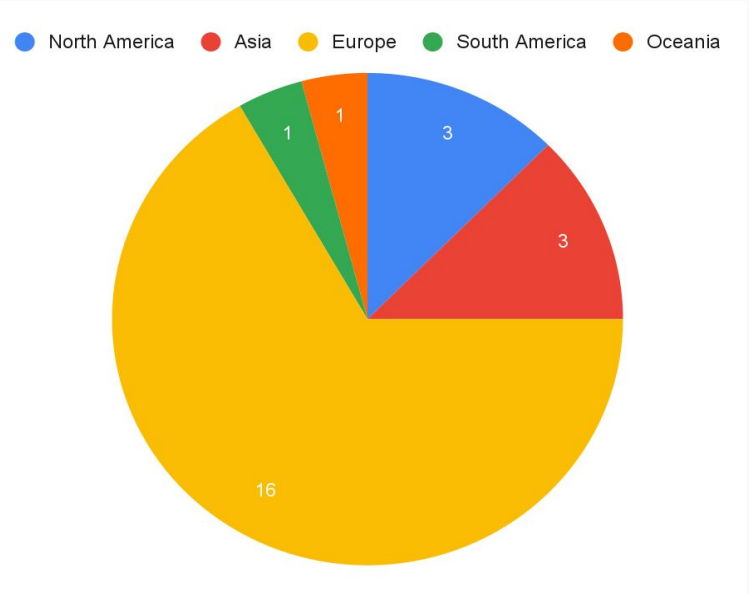
ISMIR Ethics Working Group

1. The Team: initially 9 core members, now a total of 24 members (Contact: Pedro Sarmento)



Affiliation



Region

ISMIR Ethics Working Group

2. The Document: ISMIR Code of Ethics (first draft)

Main topics include:

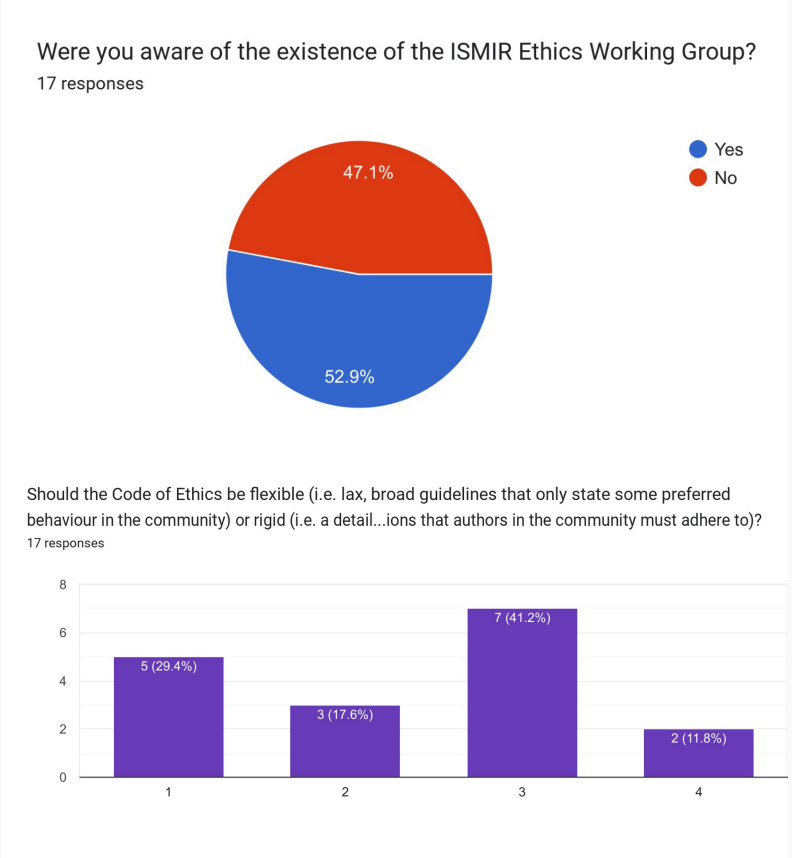
1. Data Ethics
2. Environmental Impact
3. Plagiarism & Originality
4. Practice in Studies with Human Participants
5. Musical Culture Diversity

Sent to the community on 21/10/2024 [read here]

3. The Survey: on Code of Ethics (and Working Group)

Sent to the community on 21/10/2024 [access here]

Only 17 responses by 24/10/2024



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Financial Status
Previous Balance (Reported Oct 31, 2023)

	Account 1 USD	Account 2 CAD
Bank (TD)	174,259.94	58,706.51
Paypal	128.34	0.00
Total	174,388.28	58,706.51

Financial Status
Activity Over the Past Year

		Account 1 USD	Account 2 CAD	
Income	Membership fees (paypal)	270.00	0.00	27 paid 10 USD each
Total Income		270.00	0.00	

Financial Status
Activity Over the Past Year

			Account 1 USD	Account 2 CAD
Expenses		Paypal fees	-29.23	
		ISMIR 2023 grant + expenses	-46.61	-45,014.00
		2023 Election	-90.00	
		ISSN subscription		-82.76
		Canadian Gov. Registration	-11.53	
		LAMIR initiative		-7,821.22
		TISMIR typesetting		-2,048.71
		hostgator webhosting		-40.49
		hostgator sitelock		-82.76
Total Expenses			-177.37	-55,089.94

€30,000 for ISMIR 2023

€5,000 for Latin America MIR

Financial Status
Current Balance (Oct 24, 2024)

			Account 1	Account 2
			USD	CDN
Current balances		Bank (TD)	174,259.94	3,695.43
		Paypal	174.87	0.00
		Total	174,434.81	3,695.43

Financial Outlook: *Still Excellent!*

- ISMIR is an independent society, and has an excellent financial outlook (thanks to the successful financial management of past conferences).
- ISMIR is a non-profit organization (NPO), and so it is critical that it does not accrue significant savings.
- A healthy ISMIR treasury allows the Society to continue funding students, WiMIR grants, TISMIR and other initiatives.

Financial Status: Future Budget Usage

1. Continue making ISMIR accessible: students, WiMIR, outreach to increase diversity, scholarships
2. Support for high-quality scientific papers at TISMIR (open access fees, copy editing)
3. ISMIR organizers, e.g., ISBNs, cover costs to reduce the financial risk, reduce reliance on sponsors

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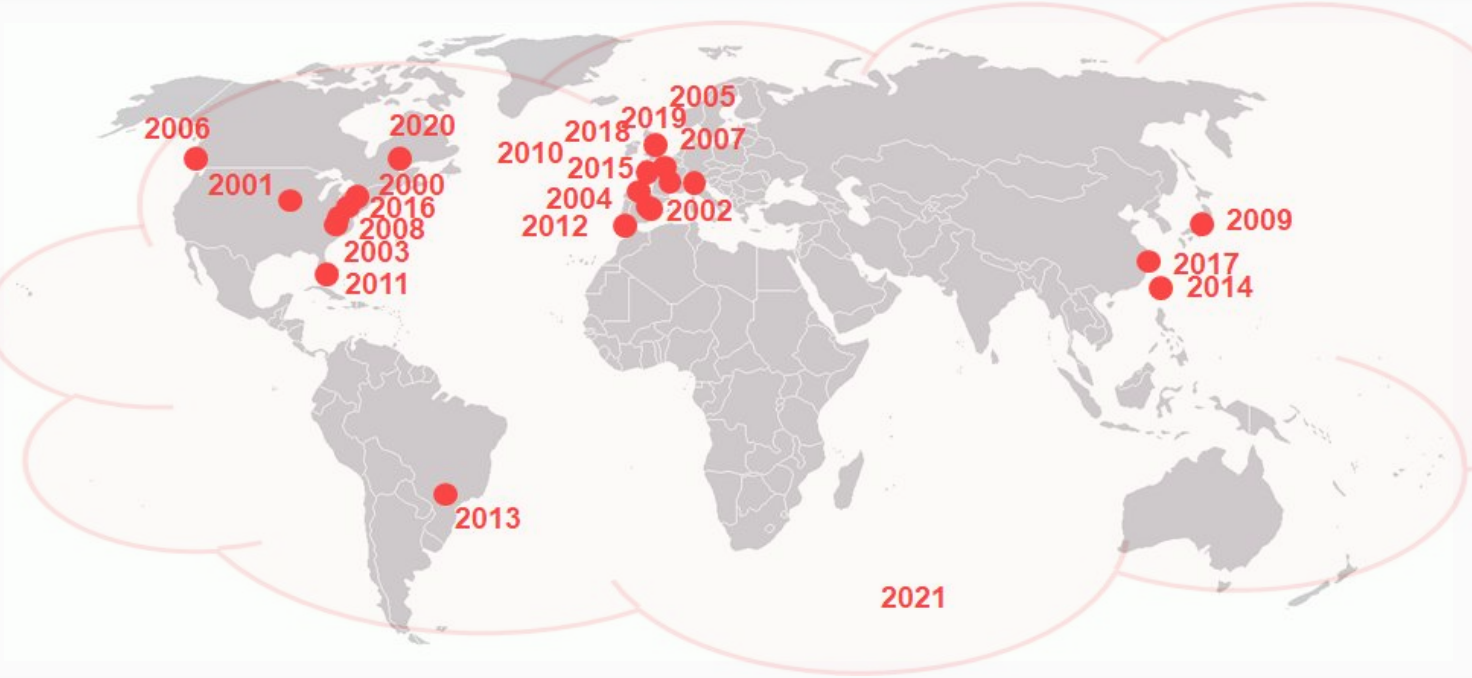
Upcoming ISMIR Conferences

Upcoming ISMIR Conferences

ISMIR: Europe, North America, Asia, South America

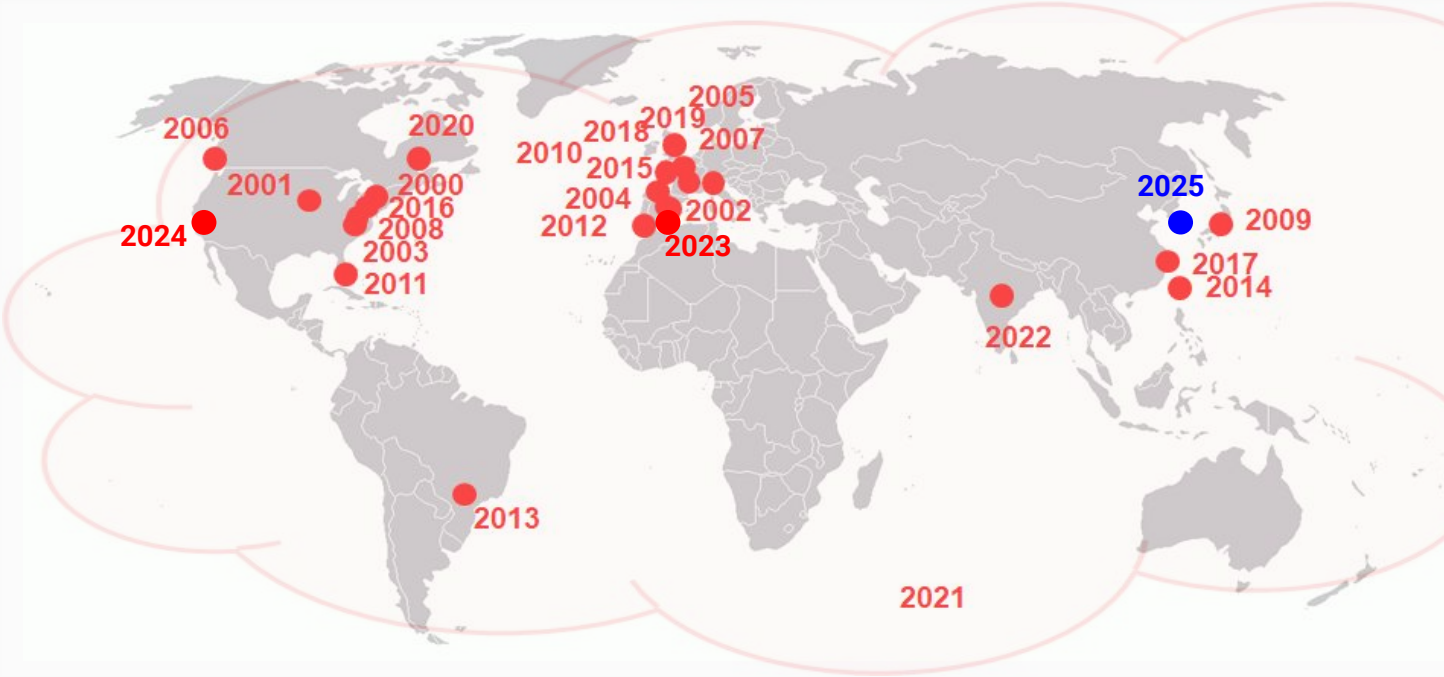
Upcoming ISMIR Conferences



ISMIR: Europe, North America, Asia, South America

ISMIR 2020 & 2021: Montreal, World (fully virtual)

Upcoming ISMIR Conferences



ISMIR: Europe, North America, Asia, South America

ISMIR 2020 & 2021: Montreal, World (fully virtual)

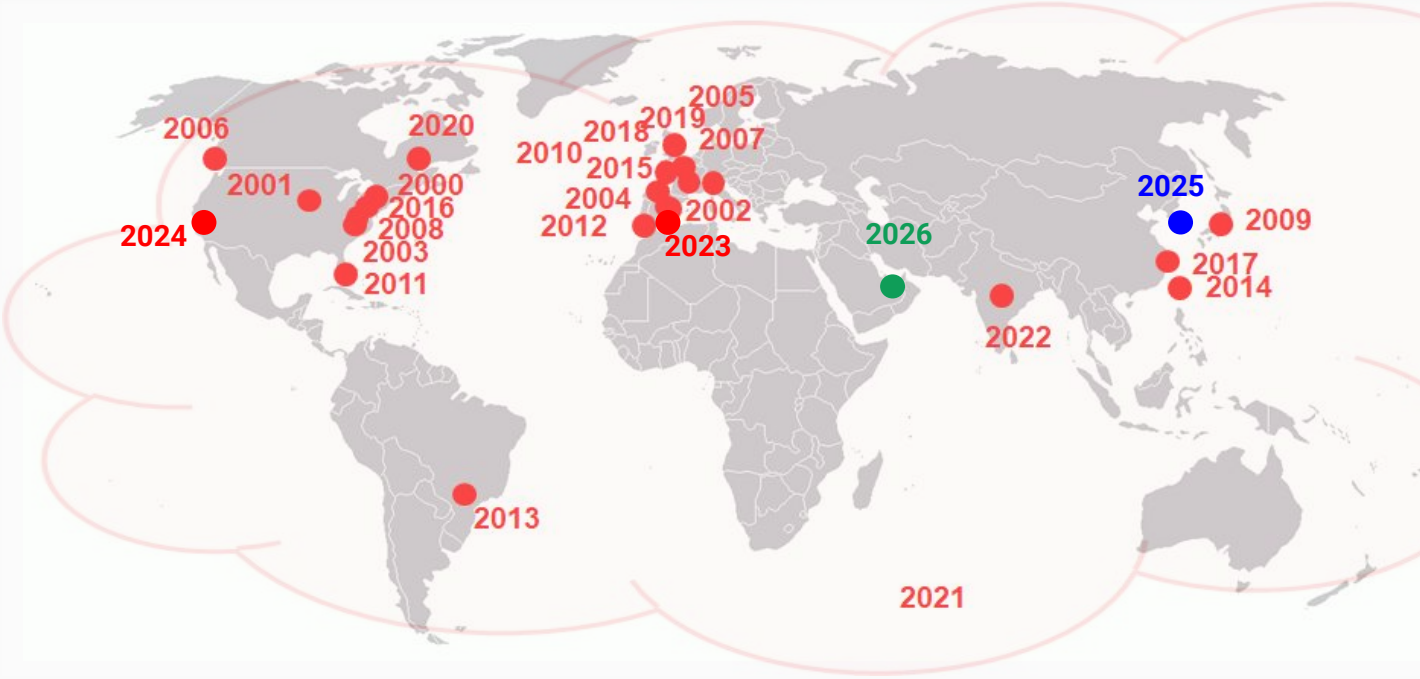
ISMIR 2022, 2023, 2024: India, Italy, USA (hybrid)

ISMIR 2025: South Korea

Upcoming ISMIR Conferences

ISMIR 2026 in …

Upcoming ISMIR Conferences



ISMIR: Europe, North America, Asia, Brazil

ISMIR 2020 & 2021: Montreal, World (fully virtual)

ISMIR 2022, 2023, 2024: India, Italy, USA (hybrid)

ISMIR 2025: South Korea

ISMIR 2026: Abu Dhabi

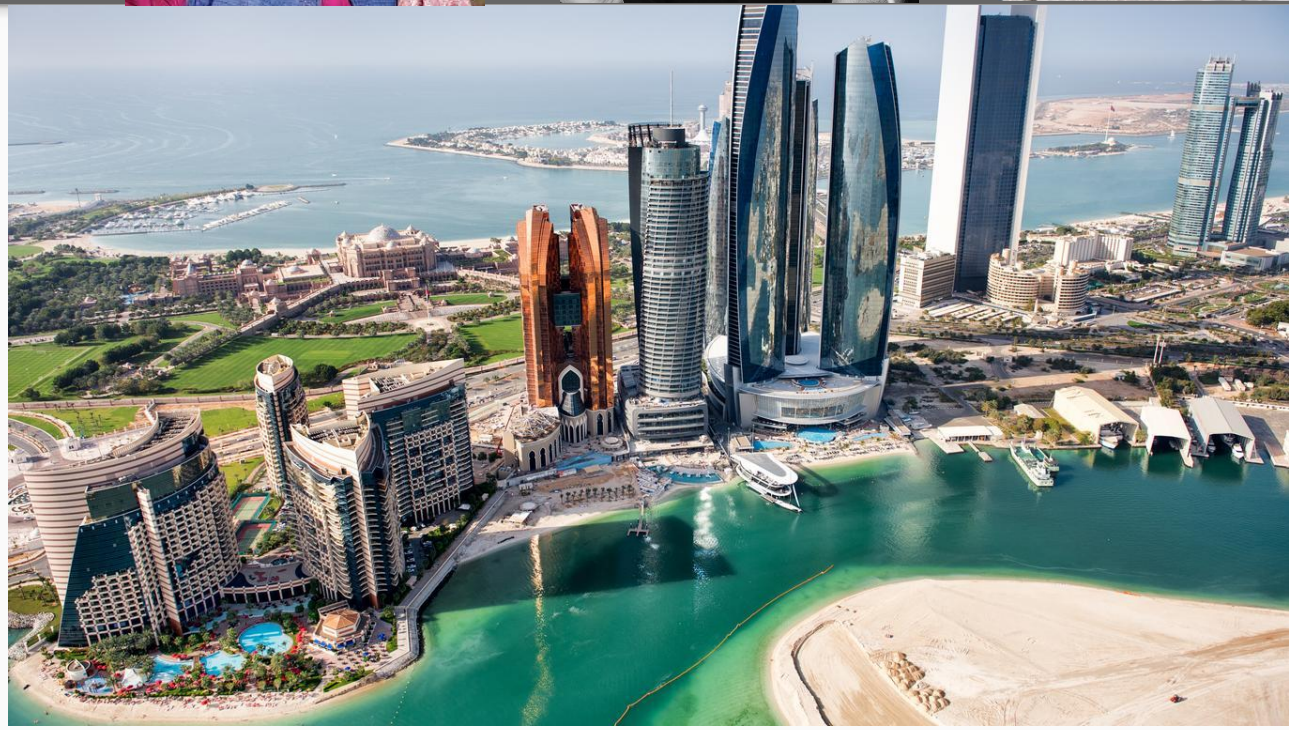
Upcoming ISMIR

ISMIR 2026

Location: Abu Dhabi, UAE

Date: (Late October/TBD)

Chairs:
Carlos Guedes
Kaustuv Ganguli
Gus Xia



ISMIR 2026

Venue: Abu Dhabi Cultural Foundation

Theme: Crossroads

Special tracks:

- Humanities and MIR
- Synesthesia
- Health and MIR
- MIR and Social Impact

جامعة زايد
ZAYED UNIVERSITY

جامعة نيويورك أبوظبي
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MaSC
MUSIC AND SOUND CULTURES

أبوظبي مدينة الموسيقى
Abu Dhabi City of Music

جامعة محمد بن زايد للذكاء الاصطناعي
MOHAMED BIN ZAYED UNIVERSITY OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Upcoming ISMIR Conferences

ISMIR 2027 and beyond

- Welcoming bids!
- Deadline for ISMIR 2027 bids will be in **mid May, 2025**

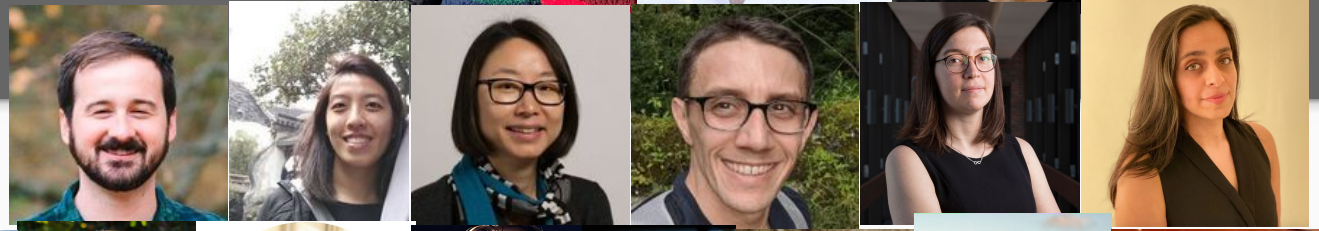
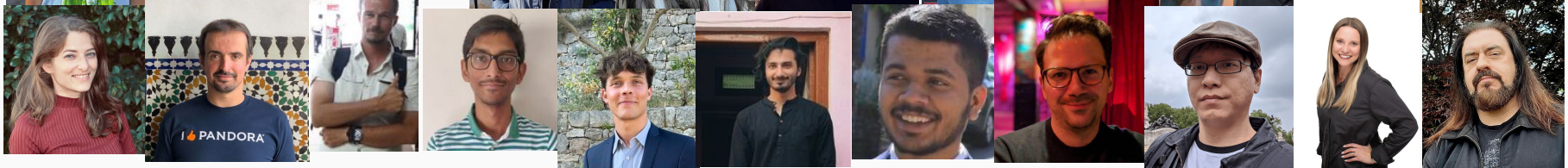
- See the “Guide for making a proposal for the organisation of the ISMIR Conference”

Questions?

ISMIR conference
San Francisco, USA
2024/11/14

Many thanks

Conference Volunteers
Many Thanks!

Aaquila Mariajohn
Anmol Mishra
Anna Aljanaki
Arjun Bahuguna
Devyani Hebbar
DJean Michael Vasciannie
Hanyu Meng
Hsiao-Tzu Hung
Hyon Kim
Ivan Meresman Higgs
Jess Rucinski
Jingwei Zhao
Joy Xu
Karolayne Dessabato
Laure Prétet
Lele Liu
Mayur Mankar
Megha Sharma
Meiying Ding
Michael Gancz
Michael Taenzer
Moiz Ali
Nancy Rico-Mineros
Natalia Farah
Neha Rajagopalan
Nicholas Boyko
Sanjay Anand Menon
SeungHyun Cho
Shrinidhi Mahesh
Sid Yu
Sonja Heinze
Stefan Balke
Surabhi Shinde
Tibor Kiss
Tirna Ghosh
Vani Dewan
Xueqi Zhang
Yigitcan Ozer
Yiwei Ding
Zeyu Yang
Zixun (Nicolas) Guo
Ziyue Piao

Organizing Team
Many Thanks!