

The Society for Ethnomusicology – 2021 Annual Meeting Call for Proposals

The Society for Ethnomusicology will hold its 66th Annual Meeting on October 28-31, 2021, at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Peachtree Center, Atlanta, Georgia. The meeting will be hosted by Georgia State University, University of Georgia, and Florida State University. A pre-conference symposium, *Celebrating the HBCU Musical Legacy*, will be held on October 27.

For information on all meeting arrangements, including a copy of this call for proposals, please visit the [SEM 2021 area](#) of the SEM website (www.ethnomusicology.org).

The SEM 2021 Program Committee asks participants to submit their best work on any topic related to ethnomusicology and to be creative with presentation formats. In addition, we suggest that SEM sections, special interest groups, and other constituent units consider sponsoring organized sessions. Though we will not give any preference to sponsored sessions during abstract review, pre-submission consultation among group members typically improves the quality of abstracts and increases the likelihood of their acceptance.

We also encourage organized panels that comprise a mix of junior and senior scholars from multiple institutions, and include a separate panel chair (i.e., a chair who does not present a paper on the panel). In addition, we encourage panels with presenters from more than one country.

All abstract submitters and members of groups that are reviewing/sponsoring abstracts are advised to read carefully all of the below submission requirements, such as the abstract word limit, the prohibition against naming session participants in an abstract, and the limit on the number of presentations by an individual.

The online **deadline** for submission of all proposals is 5:00 pm EST, Wednesday, **February 17, 2021**.

Please note that **all presenters must hold a 2021 calendar-year SEM membership and must pre-register** for the conference. Presenters who do not meet these two requirements **by July 1, 2021**, will be dropped from the program and will not be permitted to present at the SEM 2021 Annual Meeting.

Proposals for the Annual Meeting are invited in 8 categories, as outlined below. All proposals must include a proposal form and an abstract. When submitting a proposal, first select the appropriate form:

A. Individual Presenter Form for single paper, performance or lecture-demonstration, film/video, and workshop (participatory).

B. Organized Session Form for organized panel, roundtable, multiple film/video program, and group-led workshop (participatory).

PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED ON THE INDIVIDUAL PRESENTER FORM

- 1. Single Paper:** An individual paper presentation is 20 minutes long and is followed by 10 minutes of discussion.
- 2. Film/Video:** One recently completed or in-progress film. The session should include the screening of a film excerpt (approximately 20 minutes) and an introduction/discussion (approximately 10 minutes). Include information about the film (title, year produced, total length, language/sub-titles, and brief description) and information about the excerpt and the introduction/discussion.
- 3. Performance or Lecture-Demonstration:** Up to 60 minutes.
- 4. Workshop (participatory):** Informal, interactive hands-on session on one topic (e.g., music performance, dance, recording technology) for a maximum of 2 hours (indicate length).

PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED ON THE ORGANIZED SESSION FORM

- 5. Organized Panel:** An organized panel session is 1.5 or 2 hours long. A 1.5-hour panel consists of three papers. A 2-hour panel consists of either four papers or three papers plus a discussant. Each presentation (a paper or a discussant's formal response) is 20 minutes long, followed by 10 minutes of questions and general discussion. The Program Committee reserves the right to suggest the addition of a panelist when an independently submitted abstract appears to fit a panel. (Those interested in a more flexible format with more participants may want to consider proposing a roundtable.) A proposal for an organized panel should be submitted by the panel organizer. Include the panel abstract (describing the rationale for the panel as a whole) and abstracts for the individual papers. The panel abstract is particularly critical to the Program Committee's evaluation. The organized session form provides a space where participants and their affiliations should be listed.
- 6. Roundtable:** A roundtable provides an opportunity for participants to discuss a subject with each other and with members of the audience. A roundtable may be 1.5 or 2 hours long (please specify) and may include up to six presenters. We encourage formats that stimulate discussion and audience participation (at least 50% of the roundtable time must be devoted to discussion). The organizer will solicit position statements of up to 10 minutes long from each presenter and will facilitate questions and discussion for the remaining time. The organizer should submit an abstract that outlines the purpose/agenda and organization of the roundtable, as well as the contributions of each participant (unnamed in the abstract). The organized session form provides a space where participants and their affiliations should be listed.
- 7. Multiple Film/Video Program:** A session of multiple completed or in-progress film excerpts for a total of 1.5 or 2 hours (please specify). Each presentation should include the screening of a film excerpt (approximately 20 minutes) and an introduction/discussion (approximately 10 minutes). The session organizer should submit an abstract that states the overall subject of the session and that includes information about each film (title, year produced, total length, language/sub-titles, and brief description), as well as information about the excerpts, introductions, and discussion. The organized session form provides a space where participants and their affiliations should be listed.
- 8. Group-Led Workshop (participatory):** Informal, interactive hands-on session on one topic (e.g., music performance, dance, recording technology) for a maximum of 2 hours (indicate length). The organizer should submit an abstract that describes the subject of the session and the contributions of between two and five session leaders (unnamed in the abstract). The organized session form provides a space where participants and their affiliations should be listed.

SUBMISSIONS, REQUIREMENTS, AND DEADLINES

Submission: All proposals must be submitted online. To access the submission system, visit the [SEM 2021 area](#) of the SEM website (www.ethnomusicology.org) and select “Abstract Submission.”

About Abstracts: Abstracts should demonstrate a clear focus or statement of the problem, a coherent argument, knowledge of previous research, and a statement of the implications for ethnomusicology. Carefully observe these and other instructions given on the proposal submission web pages.

Note: An abstract may include (at the end) one URL for a multimedia supplement directly related to the presentation. The URL may link to a film/video or to other multimedia material. Though the Program Committee is not expected to review this material, an accepted abstract will be published with the URL in the Annual Meeting Abstracts Book.

All abstracts must comply with the following requirements:

- **Abstracts should appear as a single paragraph.**
- **Abstracts over 250 words will be automatically disqualified.** The submission software does not limit words to 250, so be sure to count.
- **Abstracts identifying presenters, fellow researchers, or other participants will be automatically disqualified.**
- **Abstracts must be submitted online by 5:00 pm EST, February 17, 2021.** In order to avoid website technical problems, it is strongly suggested that proposals be submitted at least 24 hours before the deadline.

Limit on Number of Presentations: SEM policy specifies that, during the regular sessions of the Annual Meeting, an individual may participate in ONLY ONE of the following ways:

- Give one paper (individually or as part of an organized panel)
- Act as a discussant for a panel
- Participate in one roundtable, workshop, performance, or lecture-demonstration
- Present one film/video

In addition, an individual may chair ONE panel, roundtable, film/video program, or workshop. Therefore, an individual may submit ONLY ONE abstract proposal to SEM. (Organizers of panels may submit an individual presenter abstract as well as the panel abstract.) Individuals who submit more than one presenter abstract will be automatically disqualified.

SEM membership and pre-registration fees: Following SEM policy, all participants whose proposals have been accepted for the program must hold a 2021 calendar-year SEM membership and must pre-register for the meeting by July 1. Individuals who have agreed to be waitlisted must join SEM and pre-register immediately upon notification of an acceptance. In addition, guest speakers at sessions sponsored by SEM constituent units must be SEM members and must pre-register for the meeting. If necessary, sections should arrange to use their dues to cover membership and registration fees for their guest speakers. **Any presenter who has not purchased an SEM membership and pre-registered for the meeting by July 1 will be deleted from the program.**

Notification of acceptance: Individuals whose proposals have been accepted will be sent pre-registration information in early June. If by June 15 you have not received a message from the Program Committee indicating whether or not your abstract was accepted, please contact Indiana University Conferences at semconf@indiana.edu.

Cancellations and no-shows: No-shows inconvenience the chair, discussant, fellow panelists, and audience members. Participants who discover that they are unable to attend the meeting should notify the Program Committee Chair and semconf@indiana.edu immediately. SEM policy does not permit anyone other than the author to read a paper and does not permit virtual/teleconferenced presentations. Registration cancellations made after August 5 will not qualify for a refund. (Note: SEM may implement exceptions to its virtual presentation policy in advance of the 2021 Annual Meeting.)

Special requests: Please indicate potential scheduling conflicts to the Program Committee Chair. If notified in advance, the Program Committee will attempt to accommodate requests, but cannot guarantee a particular time slot.

Charles Seeger Prize: Students interested in having a paper considered for the Charles Seeger Prize should consult the guidelines on the SEM website (www.ethnomusicology.org) under "Prizes." Note that papers must be submitted by November 1, 2021 (the day after the Annual Meeting).

Contact Information

For online submissions of proposals: Visit the [SEM 2021 area](#) of the SEM website (www.ethnomusicology.org) and select "Abstract Submission." Submission deadline: 5:00 pm EST, February 17, 2021.

For general conference questions: semconf@indiana.edu or (800) 933-9330 (within U.S.) or (812) 855-4661 (outside U.S.).

For questions to the SEM Program Committee Chair (not for submission of proposals) and for cancellations: Cheryl Keyes (UCLA), sem2021@gmail.com.

Deadlines

February 17	Online submission of all 2021 proposals (5:00 pm EST).
Early June	Notifications of acceptances sent with pre-registration information.
July 1	Receipt of pre-registration <u>and</u> SEM membership fees from individuals whose proposals were accepted.
August 5	Presenter cancellation and refund of registration fee from individuals whose proposals were accepted (minus a \$35 handling fee).
October 1	Registration cancellation refund for non-presenters (minus a \$35 handling fee).

SEM 2021 Program Committee

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Melvin L. Butler, University of Miami
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SEM 2021 Local Arrangements Committee

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