The 69th Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology will be held virtually on October 17-26, 2024. By employing a fully online format for this year’s conference, SEM aims to increase participation by presenters throughout the world, explore new forms of scholarly communication, and reduce the carbon footprint of its operations. Our online conference platform will enable modes of presentation and engagement beyond what is possible with an onsite event. We look forward to hearing from our regular conference attendees and from individuals who have not yet had an opportunity to participate in an SEM Annual Meeting. Anyone with an interest in ethnomusicology is strongly encouraged to submit a proposal.

For information on meeting arrangements, a copy of this call for proposals, and the abstract submission portal, please visit the 2024 Annual Meeting area of the SEM website (www.ethnomusicology.org).

The SEM 2024 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 with a diverse makeup, to include demographic factors as well as ranking/standing, and institutional affiliation. The virtual nature of this year’s conference also incentivizes international collaboration.

All abstract submitters and members of groups that are reviewing/sponsoring proposals are advised to read carefully all of the submission requirements below, 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 deadline for online submission of all proposals is February 16, 2024, 11:59 PM EST.

Please note that all presenters must hold a 2024 calendar-year SEM membership and must register for the conference. Presenters who do not meet these two requirements by June 30, 2024, will be dropped from the program.

Proposals for the 2024 Annual Meeting are invited in the following categories:


B. Organized Session. Organized panel, roundtable, multiple film/video program, or group-led workshop (participatory).
(A) PROPOSALS FOR INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATIONS

1. **Single Paper:** An individual paper presentation is 20 minutes long and is followed by 10 minutes of discussion. Note: Presenters of individual papers may send a pre-recorded video of their presentation to conference staff in advance, for play by their session chair during live session time. All Q&A and discussion will be live. Instructions on pre-recorded videos will be sent in July 2024.

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:** A presentation that is 60 minutes long.

4. **Workshop (participatory):** An informal, interactive participatory session on one topic for 60 minutes.

(B) PROPOSALS FOR ORGANIZED SESSIONS

5. **Organized Panel:** An organized panel is 90 or 120 minutes long. A 90-minute panel consists of three papers. A 120-minute 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. (Those interested in a more flexible format with additional 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. Do not include the names of participants in the abstract. Note: Presenters of individual papers may send a pre-recorded video of their presentation to conference staff in advance, for play by their session chair during live session time. All Q&A and discussion will be live. Instructions on pre-recorded videos will be sent in July 2024.

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 90 or 120 minutes 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 may 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 subject, purpose, agenda, and structure of the roundtable; the contributions of each participant (unnamed in the abstract); and the significance of the roundtable for music and/or sound studies. Each presentation should reflect and amplify the significance of the roundtable subject.

7. **Multiple Film/Video Program:** A session of multiple completed or in-progress film excerpts for a total of 90 or 120 minutes (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 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. Do not include the names of participants in the abstract.

8. Group-Led Workshop (participatory): Informal, interactive participatory session on one topic for 60, 90, or 120 minutes (please specify). 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).

SUBMISSIONS, REQUIREMENTS, AND DEADLINES

Submission: Visit the 2024 Annual Meeting area of the SEM website (www.ethnomusicology.org) and select “Abstract Submission Portal.” Note that this is the same abstract submission system used for the SEM 2022 and 2023 Annual Meetings. However, you will need to set up a new account for the SEM 2024 Annual Meeting. After logging in, be sure to read the instructions for Individual Presentation Proposals and Organized Session Proposals on the “Your Submissions” page.

About Abstracts: Abstracts should demonstrate: 1) a clear focus or statement of the subject; 2) a coherent argument or narrative; 3) knowledge of previous research; and 4) a statement of the significance for studies of music and sound. Carefully observe these and other instructions stated on the proposal submission webpages.

All abstracts must comply with the following requirements:

- An abstract should appear as a single paragraph.
- Abstracts over 250 words will be automatically disqualified.
- Abstracts identifying presenters, fellow researchers, or other participants will be automatically disqualified.
- Abstracts must be submitted online by February 16, 2024, 11:59 PM EST. 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:

- Deliver one paper (individually or as part of an organized panel).
- Act as a discussant for one 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. (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 registration fees: Following SEM policy, all participants whose proposals have been accepted for the program must hold a 2024 calendar-year SEM membership and must register for the meeting by June 30, 2024. Individuals who have agreed to be waitlisted must join SEM and 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 registered for the meeting by June 30 will be deleted from the program.

Notification of acceptance: Abstract submitters will receive notification on acceptance and conference registration information in early June. If by June 15 you have not received a notification message, please contact the SEM office at sem@indiana.edu.

Cancellations and no-shows: No-shows inconvenience the session chair, discussant, other panelists, and audience members. Participants who discover that they are unable to attend the meeting should notify the SEM Program Committee Chair (sempc2024@gmail.com), sem@indiana.edu, and semexec@indiana.edu immediately. SEM policy does not permit anyone other than the author to read a paper.

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 submitting a paper 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 October 27, 2024 (the day after the Annual Meeting).

Contact Information

For online submissions of proposals: Visit the 2024 Annual Meeting area of the SEM website (www.ethnomusicology.org) and select “Abstract Submission Portal.” Submission deadline: February 16, 2024, 11:59 PM EST.

For general submission questions: Kurt Baer, SEM Program Specialist, sem@indiana.edu or (812) 855-6672.

For questions to the SEM 2024 Program Committee Chair (not for submission of proposals) and for cancellations: Andrew Weintraub, sempc2024@gmail.com.
Timeline and Deadlines

Mid-December Proposal submission opens.

February 16 Online submission of all proposals (11:59 PM EST).

Early June Notifications of proposal acceptance with registration information.

June 30 Receipt of conference registration and SEM membership fees from individuals whose proposals were accepted.

Early August Posting of preliminary conference program.

August 9 Presenter cancellation and refund of registration fee for individuals whose proposals were accepted (minus a $35 handling fee).

August 16 Submission of any edits for conference program. Send edits to sempc2024@gmail.com, semexec@indiana.edu, and sem@indiana.edu.

September 13 Early-bird conference registration closes.

September 20 Registration cancellation refund for non-presenters (minus a $35 handling fee).

September 20 Registration of exhibits and program book notices closes.

October 17-26 SEM 2024 Annual Meeting.

SEM 2024 Program Committee

Andrew Weintraub (Chair), University of Pittsburgh
Michael Figueroa, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Maria Guarino, Independent Scholar
Panayotis League, Florida State University
janice mahinka, Harford Community College
Christina Sunardi, University of Washington
Shuo Yang, Central Conservatory of Music, Beijing