

## STARTING AN IGDA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG)

The International Game Developers Association is the largest non-profit membership organization serving individuals who create video games. Our mission is to advance the careers and enhance the lives of game developers by connecting members with their peers, promoting professional development, and advocating on issues that affect the developer community. Much of our organization's mission is carried out in local chapters and groups, such as the IGDA Special Interest Groups, formed and run by dedicated volunteers.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR SIGS

The following conditions must be met for the creation of an IGDA SIG:

1. **Leadership:** There must be a SIG Chair who an IGDA member committed (in both time and energy) to leading the group and moving forward with the group's goals.
2. **Steering Committee:** The Chair needs to assemble a steering committee comprised of at least 3-5 IGDA members who are likewise committed to running the SIG. Committee member roles should also be defined; at minimum, there should be a Vice Chair who assists with SIG administration.

### TYPES OF SIG ACTIVITIES

The following are some examples of activities often carried out by IGDA SIGs:

1. **Community Chats:** One of the core reasons for starting a SIG is to provide a forum for discussion amongst people who share an interest in a specific topic. Fostering an ongoing dialogue among SIG members is key to keeping the community active and engaged.
2. **Resource Development:** Many SIGs produce resources that are valuable for the SIG members in that field and/or for people outside their field to better understand the issues. SIGs have generated a variety of resources, such as online resource directories, white papers, webinars, and monthly features to highlight key individuals in their field.
3. **Events:** Some SIGs have taken the step of creating special events around their topic to bring their community together and raise awareness of their field. For example, the Game User Research SIG has run their own Summit at GDC for several years. The Localization SIG created and ran the Localization Summit at GDC until it was retired, and now run the annual LocJam event.

### HOW TO PROCEED

If you're interested in starting or restarting a Special Interest Group, first check the SIG listing on IGDA.org to see if your proposed group already exists. If not, please contact [sigs@igda.org](mailto:sigs@igda.org) with the following information:

- Inform about your intention to create a new SIG. Provide a title, group description and a brief explanation of why you believe this SIG should exist, as well as what impact you envision this SIG having on the industry.
- Names, membership numbers and emails of the SIG leadership (at least the core IGDA members starting the group, if not the final steering committee).
- Names and membership numbers of at least 10 IGDA members who support the creation of this specific SIG. These don't necessarily have to be people who will participate in the SIG, but simply concur that such a topic should be represented as an IGDA SIG.