

Association for Technology in Music Instruction (ATMI)
2026 National Conference, Grand Rapids, Michigan
Call for Program Participation
Proposal Deadline: January 9, 2026

The ATMI Program Committee invites the submission of proposals for the 2026 National Conference. The concurrent national conferences of ATMI and the College Music Society (CMS) will take place November 12 – 14, 2026, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. For more information about the conference and venue, visit the CMS conference page at: <https://www.music.org/events/national-conferences/sixty-ninth-national-conference-2026.html>

The conference theme is “Adaptive Advocacy: Collegiate Music Training at a Crossroads.” Proposals dealing with any aspect of technology in music instruction, creation, and performance are welcome. The Association is particularly interested in presentations that focus on:

- Music technology curricular and programmatic interests
- Online music instruction
- Multimedia technologies in music instruction
- Artificial intelligence in music instruction and performance
- Creative pedagogies/technological tools: music learning, composition, etc.
- Composition/performances incorporating music technology
- Performance technology, including the development or implementation of new and custom interfaces for expressive performance
- The application of immersive technologies such as augmented/virtual reality and video game technologies to music instruction and performance
- The promotion of equity and opportunity through or in the field of music technology
- Research on the effectiveness of music technology
- Student-created projects involving music technology

Please read this document before submitting a proposal. Instructions are on the last page.

After the peer-review process, all accepted submissions presented at the ATMI National Conferences in 2025, 2026, and beyond, including but not limited to papers, demos, workshops, panels, concert piece archives, and posters, will be published annually as *Special Conference Proceedings Issues* of the ATMI Journal.

Links to download this document and to access the online proposal form will also be available at the ATMI website: <http://www.atmimusic.com>.

Individuals are encouraged to circulate this information to any persons they believe would be interested in submitting a proposal by the announced deadline.

The Program Committee strongly encourages student participation. Please share this call with students who are engaged in relevant activities.

Presentation Formats

Papers

Scholarly research related to music technology and the areas listed above. Papers are allotted 25 minutes (20 minutes speaking time plus 5 minutes for questions/discussion).

Demonstrations

Demonstrations can focus on software, hardware, techniques, etc. from all aspects of the music curriculum. Demonstrations are allotted 25 minutes (20 minutes speaking time plus 5 minutes for questions/discussion).

Performance/Composition

The association values musical performances featuring the use of music and media technologies. A performance proposal may be initiated by a performer or composer. Composers will be asked to provide score and/or audio/video file. Performers may be asked for a sample for review at a later date by the program committee. Performances may include demonstration of instrument or technique (similar to a lecture-recital format). Performance proposals can be for a standalone 25-minute program or 25-minute demo/performance format, or for a “showcase” format (up to 10 minutes as part of a larger program). These times include any time needed for setup and tear-down.

Composers and performers can submit as co-presenters—ATMI will not provide performers. Composers may also submit fixed-media pieces.

Panel Discussions

Members should communicate with other members and propose a topic for panel discussion. The members of the panel should offer areas of expertise that make unique contributions to the discussion topic. Panel discussions are allotted 55 minutes.

Workshops/Training Sessions

People looking for practical ways to expand their skills often attend ATMI sessions. The program committee would like to serve this constituency by offering training sessions tailored to attendees with novice and intermediate skill levels. *Workshops differ from demonstrations in that they are interactive.* It is unlikely that a computer lab will be provided. Presenters should include in the presentation what technology attendees

should have to be able to participate. Workshops can involve a limited number of hardware items supplied by the presenter, and can involve software and/or tablet apps that attendees can install on their devices. (Please include specifics in the proposal form.) Workshops are allotted 55 minutes.

Poster Presentations

Scholarly posters are ideal for the presentation of an idea or project through an interactive ePoster. Time will be scheduled during the conference for ePoster presenters to interact with attendees regarding their research.

Authors must exclude references to individuals or institutions within the proposal description and abstract that might compromise this process. Prior to submission to the Program committee, proposals may be edited by the program chair to facilitate the blind review process.

Normal Conference Equipment

- Presentation rooms include a projector, microphone, and audio and video connections for the presenter's computer. Additional specifications can be indicated on the proposal form.
- Internet-based presentations should be designed to run locally (i.e., without actual connection to the internet) due to the unpredictability of conference facility infrastructure. If an actual connection is *essential* to your proposal, this can be indicated on the proposal form.

Important Information

- If the program must be moved from an in-person to an online venue for any reason, the program committee reserves the right to request that presenters alter the duration and structure of their presentations to better accommodate the virtual format.
- Prior to submission, proposers must communicate with all co-presenters regarding their interest and availability. Proposals not listing all participants will be deemed incomplete and will not be considered.
- **All persons whose work is selected for inclusion on the program are expected to register for and attend the full conference.** If the proposal is accepted, proposers will be asked to communicate with all participants in the presentation to ensure their registration by early Summer 2026. At its discretion, the program committee may exempt from the membership and registration fee requirements specific individuals, such as invited speakers or guest panelists who are not music professionals. It is the responsibility of the individual who

submits the proposal to, upon acceptance, make conference planners aware of all non-music professionals involved in their presentation and to request such an exemption. Following the acceptance of a proposal, the program committee will consider change requests on a case-by-case basis.

- Proposers agree to present on any day of the conference should their proposal be accepted.
- ATMI does not fund travel expenses of accepted presenters.
- Proposers must submit their own work and may not submit proposals on behalf of their students or others.
- Proposals of a strictly commercial nature that promote products or services are normally not considered. CMS offers opportunities for vendors to interact with conference attendees.

Eligibility

- The primary proposer must be a current member of ATMI. Persons interested in submitting a proposal should check their membership status well in advance of the submission deadline. Please note the processing time for membership applications and/or renewals is 1–2 business days.
- It is not necessary for co-presenters to be current members at the time of submission; however, if invited to the program, every person involved in the presentation must join ATMI.

Proposal Submission and Participation Policy

- Each member may submit one paper or demonstration proposal.
- Each member is limited to two submissions to all calls for this conference.
- If a member submits more than one proposal to the conference, each submission should be unique and content may not be duplicated, either in response to this call or any other calls for this conference, including proposals submitted to CMS.
- Each member may be added by others as a co-presenter (e.g., panelist or accompanist) to a maximum of two proposals.
- The maximum number of presentations in which a member may be involved on the conference program is two. If more than two proposals involving the same member are accepted – regardless of whether the member submitted the proposal or was added another member’s proposal – the individual in question must choose in which two presentations s/he will participate.
- ***ATMI/CMS Partnership. ATMI and CMS are independent organizations that collaborate annually for a national conference. Only oral presentations, compositions, and presentations that involve technology in music instruction and/or performance should be submitted to ATMI.***

Submission Format

Submit proposals online <https://forms.gle/gDLESaEbuEf33nms6>. You will need the following information to complete the online form:

- Presentation title
- Presentation format (select from paper, demonstration, panel, performance, workshop)
- Student, Faculty, or Independent Status
- Special setup needs
- Description of the presentation (for program committee use only)
- Abstract for program (250-word limit)
- Presenter information and biography for each presenter (250-word biography for program and 50-word biography for introduction)
- Specific information for performance and panel presentations
- For workshop proposals: listing of devices and applications audience members can bring to participate fully
- For performance proposals: group name, instrumentation, repertoire, duration, special equipment needs, ensemble biography (250-word limit)
- For composition proposals: upload of score and/or recording
- For panel proposals: list panel participants and institutional affiliations

Notification

The proposal deadline is **January 9, 2026**. Proposal receipt will be acknowledged by return e-mail. Notifications of acceptance will go out late March 2026.

NOTE: Presenters must be fully paid members of ATMI at least one month prior to the conference. All presenters are required to register for the conference and update their ATMI membership by the published deadline in June 2026.

Questions about the proposal process or individuals experiencing difficulties submitting the proposal should send an email to the program committee chair Brad Decker (b.decker75@gmail.com).