



**21st Early Childhood Music
Education (ECME)
Commission International
Seminar**

**24-26 July, 2024
Metropolia,
University of Applied Sciences
Helsinki, Finland**

Purpose:

The ECME Commission Pre-Conference Seminar provides an international forum for the exchange of ideas, development of dialogue, and collaboration among colleagues in research and practice, in order to support every child's right to equitable and accessible music education and thereby enhance the quality of children's lives.

As related to the 36th ISME World Conference theme, *Advocacy for Sustainability in Music Education*, the theme for the 21st ECME Seminar will focus on *Enhancing a Sustainable Future with Music in Early Childhood*. As we look from our vantage point into the future of music in the lives of young children and in the world, we ask: What does it look like to fruitfully and beneficially nurture spaces for young children to experience and explore their personal musicianship, in connection to the diverse places within which they live and move, their communities and musical partners? How do environment and musicality interact to provide for rich spaces of well-being, personal expression, and communal interaction? How do we foster opportunities and maximize possibilities for every learner to engage in meaningful musical play and experience? By exploring how we as educators might enhance a sustainable future with music in early childhood, we aim to understand the many roles and situations our

youngest learners are faced with from day to day, and how music-making, learning, and teaching can be best supported throughout our communities.

The seminar will concentrate on examples of research and practice aimed at identifying, describing, and critically discussing aspects of a sustainable future for music in the lives of young children (defined as prenatal through age 8 years). Highlights of the seminar will be keynote speakers, paper presentations, symposia, posters, workshops, and performances presented by participants from all over the world. Additionally, participants will have opportunities to attend concerts, participate in song sharing, and enjoy cultural experiences specific to our host country, Finland.

We cordially invite researchers and practitioners interested in the musical lives of young children (prenatal through age 8 years) to submit their work for a spoken research, theoretical, or practice paper, poster, workshop, or symposium.

Deadlines:

The deadline for submissions to the ECME Pre-Conference Seminar is 1 November, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time. Applicants will be notified of the results of the review process for presentations in early February, 2024. Successful applicants must confirm participation as presenters by registering as a delegate for the pre-conference seminar no later than 14 April, 2024. Should successful applicants not comply with this requirement, their submission may be withdrawn from the program.

Submission Requirements & Procedures:

The following procedures and policies must be adhered to. Failure to follow these policies will result in submissions being removed from consideration.

- 1) **Remove all identifiers** from your submission, as all submissions are blind reviewed. Submissions that are not anonymised will not be considered.
- 2) **Submissions are accepted online only.** The submission system will be available to ISME members through the ISME 2024 conference website at www.ismeworldconference.org.
- 3) **All submissions and presentations must be in English.**
- 4) **Submissions are open to ISME members only.** All presenters or co-presenters must be an individual ISME member at the time of submission, at the time of acceptance, and at the time of the seminar.
- 5) **Submissions must arrive by the deadline.** Late submissions will not be accepted.

- 6) **All individual presenters must be registered on the Submission System**, in order to be included in the published program. This includes any co-presenters and panelists. Any exceptions must be requested in advance of the submission.
 - 7) **Submissions must follow one of the forms and formats found in the “Submission Categories” and “Format Details” sections below.** Submissions that do not follow these guidelines will not be considered.
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Submission Categories:

- 1) **Spoken Papers:** Empirical, Theoretical, or Practice
- 2) **Poster Session:** Empirical, Theoretical, or Practice
- 3) **Workshops:** Demonstration or Performance based
- 4) **Symposia:** Panel of 3-4 participants with Convenor (Panel Chair)

Format Details For Spoken Paper Submissions:

- 1) Spoken Papers (empirical, theoretical, or practical) will be allocated 40 minutes, consisting of no more than 25 minutes for the presentation and a maximum of 15 minutes for questions and discussion.
- 2) **Full Papers must be submitted.** Abstract-only submissions will not be considered.
- 3) Proposals should include:
 - a) 15 words or fewer for paper title
 - b) 400 words or fewer for abstract (excluding title)
 - c) 1500-3000 words in length for full paper (excluding title and abstract)
 - d) See below for heading requirements by paper type**
 - e) References, tables, and figures should be added to the end of the document and are not included in the word count. No more than a total of two (2) tables and/or figures may be included.
- 4) No specific format, such as APA, is required.
- 5) All full papers must be in the format of the *Guidelines for Authors* provided on the submission website.
- 6) All papers will be fully (double-blind) refereed, and those chosen for inclusion in the seminar will be published in the Pre-Conference Seminar Proceedings.
- 7) Authors of accepted papers will also be invited to present their work as posters at the main ISME conference.

Required Paper Headings:

For Empirical papers:

- 1) Background
- 2) Aims
- 3) Method
- 4) Results
- 5) Conclusions
- 6) Literature/References

For Theoretical papers:

- 1) Background
- 2) Aims
- 3) Main Contribution
- 4) Implications
- 5) Literature/References

For Practice papers:

- 1) Theoretical Background: Discuss the literature that supports your practice.
- 2) Participants: Discuss age and characteristics of participants (number of children, ages); kind of educational setting (nursery, kindergarten, primary school, music school/lessons, etc.) or community (communities, child care center, family, etc.); time and place.
- 3) Aims of the practice
- 4) Method or pedagogical approach. (For example: Collaborative learning, individual or group work, self-initiated or led and/or adult-initiated or led, etc.)
- 5) Activities: Describe the role of the teacher and participants
- 6) Outcomes
- 7) Reflections and implications for future work
- 8) Literature/References

Format Details For Poster Submissions:

- 1) Posters can be empirical, theoretical, or practice-oriented.
- 2) Posters will be grouped into sessions that have designated time slots during the Seminar.
- 3) Posters should be 36in. x 48in. / 92 cm x 122 cm in size. APA format is preferred.
- 4) Proposals should include:
 - a) 15 words or fewer for poster title
 - b) Abstract of 400 words or fewer (excluding title and references)

- c) Description of aims, rationale, background, methodology
 - d) If Research: Results
 - e) Implications for practice in early childhood music education
 - f) References, tables, and figures should be added to the end of the document and are not included in the word count. No more than a total of two (2) tables and/or figures may be included.
- 5) Titles and abstracts for the Poster Session will appear in the Conference Program and Proceedings.
 - 6) NOTE: Full-paper submissions that are not accepted for presentation as spoken papers at the Seminar may be considered for presentation as a Poster at the seminar meeting. (This is not to be confused with the poster presentation at the main ISME conference.)

Format Details For Workshop/Demonstration Submissions:

- 1) Workshops should consist of demonstration of an empirical idea, educational practice, or methodology that offers play-based and child-centered strategies for those who engage with young children in music education. Workshops may also be defined as an interactive performance demonstration appropriate for audiences of young children, with the goal of engaging young children in musical experiences.
- 2) Workshop Sessions will have designated time-slots, for a total of 60 minutes, consisting of no more than 45 minutes for the workshop, and 15 minutes for discussion.
- 3) Proposals should include:
 - a) 15 words or fewer for paper title
 - b) Abstract of 400 words or fewer
 - c) Aims or objectives of the workshop
 - d) Theoretical background and content
 - e) Two sample activities: Briefly describe your presentation plan
 - f) Implications for early childhood music education practice
 - g) References, tables, and figures should be added to the end of the document and are not included in the word count. No more than a total of two (2) tables and/or figures may be included.
 - h) A list of any workshops you have presented in the past few years (titles, dates, venues, number of attendees). If none, please specify none.
- 4) Including groups of children as participants in your demonstration can only be accomplished if all arrangements are organized by the presenter; the ECME planning committee cannot provide for this.
- 5) Authors are responsible for ensuring that all necessary equipment is available. Submissions must therefore include a full description of the equipment and facilities needed.

Format Details For Symposia Submissions:

- 1) Symposia will consist of a set of 3-4 spoken papers. In particular, we are interested in panel presentations geared toward the ECME theme, but submissions are not limited to this. Each Symposium will be led by a Convenor (panel chair) who will submit the main abstract and abstracts on behalf of all panel presenters. The submission must not include names of the panelists or convenor.
 - 2) Symposia are to be 60-90 minutes, consisting of presentations and discussion. (The exact format will be decided between the Convenor and ECME Commissioners.)
 - 3) Proposals should include (submitted by the Convenor):
 - a) 15 words or fewer for symposium title
 - b) A 300-word overview/general description of the overall session that includes the purpose, motivation, length, and justification for the session
 - c) 300-word separate abstracts for each presenter's contribution
 - d) A complete description of the format of the Symposium, including timetable, and roles of each participant (labeled as Participant #1, Participant #2, etc.)
 - e) References, tables, and figures should be added to the end of the document and are not included in the word count. No more than a total of two (2) tables and/or figures may be included.
 - 4) No specific format, such as APA, is required.
 - 5) The Convenor must ensure that all participants are ISME members who have registered for accounts in the Submission System prior to the submission. Any exceptions must be requested in advance of the submission.
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Multiple Submissions Policy:

The ECME Commission will accept only one submission per author. Paper presenters at the Pre-Conference Seminar are invited to present their Paper as a Poster at the ISME World Conference in Helsinki. Since seminar presentations will be reviewed by the Commission for Early Childhood Music Education, submissions will not go through review again by the World Conference committee, but will be taken on recommendation of the Commission Chair for the Poster Session.

Please note: The same proposal may not be submitted for both a commission and the main ISME conference. You must choose one or the other when submitting.

Copyright Agreement:

At the time of a Full Paper submission, presenters must indicate agreement with the following copyright conditions:

I hereby assign to the International Society for Music Education (ISME) copyright of the Full Paper I am now submitting for use by the Society in all formats and through any medium of communication if it is accepted for Publication in the refereed Pre-Conference Seminar Proceedings.

I understand that the Full Paper I am submitting will be refereed for possible inclusion in the Pre-Conference Seminar Proceedings and that it may also appear on the ISME website.

I confirm that the Full Paper is original and has not been published previously nor is currently under consideration elsewhere, that I have obtained all necessary permissions for the reproduction of content not owned by me (e.g., illustrations, photographs, charts, and other visual material, etc.), and that the Contribution contains no unlawful statements and does not infringe any rights of others.

I understand that I will retain copyright of the original submission for purposes of duplicating the article, placing it on my personal and institutional websites, etc., but will give ISME the first and exclusive rights to publish the ISME-formatted and edited version in print or online in ISME Conference or Pre-Conference Seminar Proceedings and/or journal.

I understand that if my Full Paper is not selected for publication in the Pre-Conference Seminar Proceedings, then upon such notification the copyright will revert back to me (the author).

Questions about ECME Call for Proposals: Contact ECME Commission Chair, Lauren Kooistra, at lk132@psu.edu

Questions about Membership Information: Contact admin@isme.org