

CALL FOR PAPERS
American Musical Instrument Society (AMIS)
2027 Annual Meeting — Oaxaca City, Mexico
May 25–29, 2027

Influences and Convergences

Throughout history, musical instruments have been witnesses to and vehicles for encounters among cultures, technologies, and sound traditions. Trade routes, colonial processes, migrations, artistic exchanges, and technological advances have given rise to hybrid instruments, shared techniques, and organological transformations that reflect the richness of these cultural intersections. Oaxaca, one of the regions with the greatest cultural, linguistic, and musical diversity in the world, provides an ideal setting for reflecting on these dynamics.

For this reason, the *American Musical Instrument Society* invites researchers, musicians, luthiers, conservators, restorers, curators, collectors, and all those interested in the study of musical instruments to submit contributions for the 2027 annual meeting, centered on the theme “Influences and Convergences,” which will take place at the Biblioteca Fray Francisco de Burgoa, located in Oaxaca City, from May 25 to 29, 2027.

Suggested Thematic Areas

- Intercultural influences in the design, construction, and decoration of musical instruments
- Technological convergences: adaptation, adoption, and transformation of construction techniques
- Hybrid instruments and organological syncretism
- Trade routes, colonization, and migration as vectors of instrumental exchange
- Pre-Columbian and colonial instruments, and their survival or transformation in Oaxaca and Mesoamerica
- Documentation and cataloging of public and private collections
- Conservation and restoration of historical instruments
- Scientific methods applied to organological study (imaging, materials analysis, dendrochronology, etc.)
- Outreach, museography, and education related to musical instruments
- Contemporary instrument making and its dialogue with historical traditions

(These areas are intended as guidelines; proposals on any topic related to the comprehensive study of musical instruments are welcome.)

Presentation Formats:

We will welcome proposals for:

Papers: 20 minutes, followed by a brief question period

Round tables: 40 minutes, followed by 20 minutes of discussion

Panel discussions: 60 minutes

Lecture recitals: 30 minutes (notice that no instruments will be provided).

Proposals must include: submit an abstract of 250 to 300 words, in English; include the title, name of the author or authors, institutional affiliation (if applicable), and technical needs for the presentation

All presentations will be in English.

Submission deadline: November 16, 2026

Proposals should be sent to: jonathan.smb@ed.ac.uk

Venue

Oaxaca City, Oaxaca, Mexico

May 25–29, 2027

Host institution: **Biblioteca Fray Francisco de Burgoa**

Address: Macedonio Alcalá s/n, interior del Centro Cultural Santo Domingo (antiguo exconvento de Santo Domingo), Centro Histórico, C.P. 68000, Oaxaca de Juárez, Oaxaca. Website: <https://bibliotecaburgoa.org.mx/>

Contact

For questions or further information, please write to: amis.oaxaca@gmail.com

The American Musical Instrument Society (AMIS) is an international association dedicated to the study, research, and preservation of musical instruments from all periods and cultures.