



**Universitat Autònoma
de Barcelona**

**11th Conference of the EuNet MERYC
European Network of Music Educators and
Researchers of Young Children
Autonomous University of Barcelona,
Spain, 4th - 7th July 2023**

CALL FOR PAPERS

**Making music as we grow up:
Current practices in early childhood music education**

New deadline: December 7th, 2022

The 11th MERYC Conference will be hosted by the section of Music Didactics, from the Department of Teaching Musical, Artistic and Corporal Expression of the Faculty of Education at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain from 4th to 7th July 2023.

The conference title is: *Making music as we grow up: Current practices in Early Childhood Music Education*. The focus of MERYC2023 is interdisciplinary discussion and dissemination of new, unpublished research relating to the field of music and early childhood (0-8 years), in education (school and extracurricular contexts), and everyday life both in theoretical or conceptual research as well as reports on and innovative approaches to practice. The overarching aim of MERYC is to improve European research and practice with young children and music.

International perspectives

World events in the past years and discussions in the board have led us to extend our remit to include international perspectives for this conference. We consider there is a need for the encouragement of international dialogue and that music and music education are powerful tools for developing shared understanding and dismantling barriers between people. On this occasion we believe this is of greater importance than to focus on European research perspectives: we desire to create processes of making music together for all. As an endeavour towards peace, mutual understanding and shared dialogue we invite researchers and educators across the globe to join us to offer international perspectives to our European discussions of music education and research with young children.

MERYC2023 is the latest in a series of 11 biennial conferences hosted by Universities across Europe:

1. 2003 Danish University of Education
2. 2005 University of Exeter
3. 2007 University of Cyprus
4. 2009 University of Bologna
5. 2011 Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences
6. 2013 The Hague University of Applied Sciences
7. 2015 Tallinn University
8. 2017 University of Cambridge
9. 2019 University of Ghent
10. 2022 University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna

CONFERENCE CHAIR

Jèssica Pérez-Moreno

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Jaume Ayats

Sílvia Blanch

Susan Young

CONFERENCE WELCOME ADDRESS

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Susan Young, Centre for Research in Early Childhood, Birmingham, United Kingdom

SUBMISSION

Submissions are invited for:

1. Spoken papers (empirical, theoretical or practice)
2. Posters
3. Symposia
4. Workshops and Demonstrations

The main conference language is English. Participants who wish to present the spoken paper in their first language can do so, but are asked to prepare an English translation of the text and show it as a presentation slideshow while speaking.

1. Spoken papers

Spoken papers will be allocated 30 minutes, consisting of 20 minutes for presentation, 5-10 minutes for questions & discussion.

Spoken research papers are the presentation of research projects, explaining aims, method (experimental, empirical investigation, ethnological observation, etc.), data analysis, findings, and conclusion.

Spoken practice papers. explain and demonstrate innovative didactical approaches/ pedagogical theories, accompanied by a discussion on the implications for future practice.

2. Posters

Poster presentations will appear in the Conference Programme, in the Abstract Book, and in the Proceedings and will be assigned to designated times in the conference schedule. Depending on the subject and/or content, it may be more appropriate to submit an abstract as a poster for visual presentation rather than a 20-minute spoken presentation. In general, the sorts of papers, which are most effective as posters, are those in which the major conclusions become evident from the thoughtful examination of charts, graphs and photos rather than those, which require the audience to follow a sustained chain of verbal argumentation. Therefore, authors will want to make points in narrative form as brief as possible. The poster paper is able to "stand alone", that is, to be understandable even if the author is not present; moreover it does not typically require audiovisual support. Specific information about poster dimensions and other requirements will be communicated to authors of accepted posters.

3. Symposia

Symposia will consist of a set of spoken papers related to a theme. The total time allowed for a symposium will be 90 minutes to two hours, consisting of three to four 25-minute papers and a discussion (although variations will be considered). Symposium conveners are asked to coordinate the submission of papers - including an abstract for the entire symposium - stating the rationale for the topic, the aims of the symposium, and the set of speakers proposed (see detailed submission information below). A discussant may also be proposed.

4. Workshops and Demonstrations

Information on workshops and demonstrations will appear in the Conference Programme, in the Abstract Book, and in the Proceedings. The host university may provide equipment in the form of instruments or other materials if precise information is provided in the proposal.

The workshop leaders will be experts in young children's music education and in training music teachers and educators. They will present practical shared experiences according to specific aims and pedagogical approaches.

A demonstration of an innovative pedagogical approach is likely to take the form of a workshop in which participants join in actively. For demonstrations of software or equipment, authors will be responsible for ensuring that the necessary equipment is available.

The submission for workshops and demonstrations should include a short description of the aims (which should not have a commercial motive) and a full description of the equipment and facilities required. The time for a workshop will be maximum 60 minutes and for a demonstration session maximum 30 minutes.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

All submissions for spoken papers, posters, symposia papers and demonstrations must be sent by filling in the appropriate online form that is available on the MERYC2023 website. Abstracts (350 words) should be structured according to these outlines:

Spoken Research paper

For empirical papers the headings should include:

1. Background
2. Aims
3. Method
4. Results
5. Conclusions

For theoretical/review papers, the headings should include:

1. Background
2. Aims
3. Main Contribution
4. Implications

Spoken Practice paper

1. Theoretical background and content
2. Age and characteristics of participants (number of children, ages); Type of school (nursery, kindergarten, primary school, music school) or community (communities, childcare centre, family, other); Time and place
3. Aims of the project
4. Method or pedagogical approach (for example: collaborative learning, individual or group work, self-initiated or adult-led, other)
5. The activities (if possible separate descriptions of what the children do and the teacher does)
6. The outcomes
7. Conclusion and implications for future work

Poster

For posters the abstract headings should include:

1. Background
2. Aims
3. Method
4. Results
5. Conclusions

Symposium

Symposium organisers should email the conference chair expressing their intention to submit a symposium proposal. The information provided should include: (a) a 350 word general description of the organised session with its purpose, and rationale; (b) authors and title of each contribution; (c) name of a discussant who, if necessary, can be included in the symposium. Symposium papers will be submitted on-line by the authors and will be reviewed.

Workshops and Demonstrations

The headings should include:

1. Background
2. Aims
3. A short description of the activities
4. Implications
5. Specific value and meaning.

Authors of spoken papers and posters should also indicate on the submission form one or more topic areas under which the paper might be grouped, and three keywords. The chosen topic areas can be selected from the list below or a new topic area may be proposed.

Suggested Topic Areas:

- Aesthetic perception and response
- Communication
- Composition
- Emotion in early childhood music
- European music heritage
- Exploring music and sound
- Improvisation
- Intercultural music education
- Musical behaviour
- Music and education
- Music and health
- Music and language
- Music and memory
- Music and movement
- Music and creativity
- Music development
- Music in everyday life
- Music therapy
- Neuroscience
- Pedagogical theories
- Perception
- Prenatal music development
- Singing
- Socio-cultural studies
- Teacher training
- Teaching/learning performance
- Technologies and music education

PROCEEDINGS

All the authors whose abstracts have been accepted may present, by April 30th, a full paper of 2,000 – 3,000 words for the inclusion in the Conference Proceedings. Details of the procedure and format for submitting papers will be provided upon notification of abstract acceptance. Authors must take responsibility for the quality of the written academic English; this may require the author's engagement of the services of a professional translation service or at least a text correction by a native speaker.

REFEREEING AND CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

Submissions will be blind-reviewed by members of the MERYC2023 European Panel of Reviewers. Abstracts will be published in a conference booklet and distributed to all participants. Full papers will be published in an e-version of Conference Proceedings.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES

A page on the conference website will be available for online registration. Students must present a valid document on-site confirming their academic status. The registration fee includes access to all sessions, the e-version of Conference Proceedings, coffee breaks, lunches and concerts. It does not include the conference dinner or accommodation.

For each presentation at least one author should be registered at the Conference before May 15th in order for the abstract to be included in the abstract book, the paper in the Proceedings and the presentation to be scheduled within the Conference timetable.

Fees	Non-students	Students¹
From December 1 st 2022 – 28 th February 2023	290 €	150 €
From March 1 st to 31 st May 2023	360 €	190 €
From 1 st June to 1 st July 2023	400 €	250 €
Conference dinner	25 €	25 €

¹ Students must present evidence that they are enrolled on a full-time programme of study.

ACCOMMODATION

Please check the conference website for accommodation options on UAB Campus.

VENUE

The conference will be held at the Faculty of Education of the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB). The Autonomous University of Barcelona is one of the top Spanish Universities from the different world rankings. The Faculty of Education is the first choice of Catalan Students who want to train in Education Studies. The Early Childhood Education Degree is one of the four Graduate Studies the Faculty offers and counts on more than 600 students. There are also several Postgraduate programmes as well as a Doctorate programme.

We also welcome you from GRUMED, the Music Education Research Group of the Faculty.



DEADLINES

- **December 7th 2022** - abstracts submission
- December 1st 2022 to 28th February - early registration fee
- January 10th 2023 - notification of abstract acceptance
- April 30th 2023 - full paper submission for inclusion in the Conference Proceedings
- May 15th 2023 - registration fee due by at least one author for each submission in order for the paper to be scheduled in the Conference timetable and included in the Conference Proceedings.