

Regulations for the MUSICACOUSTICA-HANGZHOU 2026 Academic Paper Awards

I. About the Event

MUSICACOUSTICA-HANGZHOU, hosted by the Zhejiang Music Conservatory, is a premier international academic event. Since its inception in 2023, it has successfully concluded three editions, striving to become one of the most influential global platforms for exchange in the field of electroacoustic music. This year's festival proudly presents the "MUSICACOUSTICA-HANGZHOU 2026 Academic Paper Awards" to foster profound advancements in electroacoustic music and music technology across artistic creation, theoretical research, technological innovation, and interdisciplinary integration.

II. Organizational Structure

1. The Event is hosted by the Zhejiang Music Conservatory and jointly organized by the Organizing Committee of the MUSICACOUSTICA-HANGZHOU and the Editorial Department of "Music Culture Research".
2. The Organizing Committee oversees general coordination, submission management, conference logistics, and research translation.
3. The Jury consists of editors from domestic core academic journals, editors from international A&HCI-indexed journals, industry experts in music technology, and renowned scholars. The Jury is fully responsible for establishing evaluation criteria, maintaining quality control, and determining the final award recipients.

III. Call for Papers

The Committee welcomes original, rigorous, and cutting-edge submissions from scholars worldwide, focusing on both in-depth studies within artistic domains and interdisciplinary collaborations. Submissions should aim to construct knowledge graphs and innovate disciplinary paradigms in electroacoustic music, music technology, music and artificial intelligence, and interactive music. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Theories and practices of creation and performance in electroacoustic music, computer music, and interactive music;
- Applications of music AI in the preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) music;
- Aesthetic and sociological inquiries into music AI;
- Industry-academia-research integration and commercial transformation pathways in music technology;
- Theories and practices of spatialized and immersive music creation;
- Other original theories, technologies, and practical research related to electroacoustic music,



music technology, interactive music, and music AI.

IV. Submission Guidelines

A. Eligibility

The event is open to researchers worldwide regardless of age or nationality, including but not limited to: faculty, researchers, and graduate students from higher education and research institutions; practitioners and independent creators in music technology, electroacoustic music, and new media arts; and other professionals engaged in related research.

B. Word Count & Formatting

1. General Standards: Submissions in Chinese must comply with the “Rules for Drafting of Academic Papers” (GB/T 7713.2—2022). Submissions in English must strictly adhere to the Chicago Manual of Style.

2. Length: Chinese manuscripts should generally not exceed 15,000 characters. English manuscripts should generally not exceed 7,000 words.

3. Core Elements: All manuscripts must include titles, abstracts (approx. 200 words), and keywords (2–6 words) in both Chinese and English.

4. Double-Blind Review: To ensure fairness, submitted manuscripts must not contain author names, institutional affiliations, funding acknowledgments, or any other identifying information.

5. Citations: All citations and references must be complete and accurate (including author, publisher, publication date, edition, page numbers, etc.).

C. Visuals, Tables, and Musical Scores

1. Image & Graph Quality: All images, tables, and musical scores must be complete and clearly legible. The overall resolution should be at least 300 dpi.

2. Score Format: Musical scores must use standard staff notation. The total volume of musical scores must not exceed 1/4 of the text length (or an equivalent line-count conversion at the Committee’s discretion).

3. Source Attribution: All tables, figures, and scores must explicitly state their detailed source directly beneath the graphic:

4. Published Sources: Must include author, book/journal title, publication year, page numbers, etc.

5. Fieldwork: Must include the transcriber, field recorder, performer, and the exact date and location of recording.

D. Language Requirements



Papers may be written in either Chinese or English. Chinese submissions must provide an English abstract and keywords; English submissions must provide a Chinese abstract and keywords. Authors are responsible for the translation accuracy of these elements.

E. Timeline Conditions

Previously published papers are acceptable provided they list the journal, publication date, volume, and page numbers, and their official publication date is no earlier than January 1, 2023. There are no date restrictions for unpublished original papers.

F. Anonymization Requirements

This event implements a strict double-blind peer-review system. Submissions must comply with the following anonymization protocols:

1. No author names, institutional affiliations, or identifiable info in acknowledgments may appear in the text.
2. Document properties (metadata) must be cleared of personal identifier info.
3. Self-citations must be treated in the third person (e.g., “Zhang (2025) points out...” instead of “The author (2025) points out...”). To ensure complete anonymity, it is highly recommended to use phrases like “Scholars (2025) note...” or omit the reference entirely if it risks identity exposure.
4. Author details (name, affiliation, contact information, and declarations) must be placed on a separate cover page and submitted as a separate file from the anonymized PDF.

G. Academic Integrity

Submissions must represent original research, upholding the highest standards of academic integrity. Plagiarism, fabrication, and falsification are strictly prohibited. Papers utilizing generative AI tools for writing assistance must fully disclose such usage in a dedicated section at the end of the manuscript, detailing the tool’s name, version, scope, and manner of application. The Committee screens all submissions using plagiarism detection software; confirmed misconduct will result in immediate disqualification and notification to the author’s institution.

H. Submission Instructions

Applicants must submit materials via the designated portals. All individual files and the final compressed folder (.zip/.rar) must be named in the format: [Paper Title] - [Author Name] - [Material Type] (e.g., On Electroacoustic Music - Xiaoming Wang - Declaration).

Required materials include:

1. A signed electronic copy of the “Paper Copyright and Academic Integrity Declaration” (Appendix 2);
2. An electronic scan of a valid ID card or Passport;
3. Manuscript Files: One fully anonymized PDF and one Word document (docx) containing the author’s information.



<https://musicacoustica.zjcm.edu.cn>



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Please upload the compressed file to the following portals:

Domestic Submission Portal: <https://zjcmmed.mike-x.com/LV4xx> (or scan the QR code).



International Submission Portal: <https://forms.gle/m3EHYoAWvaGcmR968>

V. Evaluation Process

The evaluation consists of two consecutive stages: Preliminary Evaluation and Final Evaluation.

A. Preliminary Evaluation

The organizing committee will appoint a review panel to conduct double-blind anonymous peer review of submitted papers. The panel will score entries on key criteria including academic originality, theoretical depth, practical application value, and scholarly rigor, and will select papers to be shortlisted for the final round. The shortlist will be publicly posted on the festival website and announced via the Electroacoustic Music Association of China (EMAC) official WeChat account and the Zhejiang Conservatory of Music Department of Music Engineering WeChat account for a five-working-day public notice period.

B. Final Evaluation

Shortlisted authors are required to deliver a 10–20 minute presentation in person and respond to questions from the Jury. International authors (and domestic authors facing force majeure) may apply for an online defense, subject to prior approval by the Committee. Failure to attend without prior approval constitutes automatic forfeiture. The Jury will score the presentation and defense performance, combining it with manuscript quality to determine the final award tiers.

C. Hospitality Accommodation

The Committee will provide complimentary accommodation during the final defense period for all shortlisted authors. Detailed arrangements will be shared in subsequent notices.

VI. Fairness & Oversight

A. Conflict of Interest / Recusal System

1. Contributing authors (including co-authors and corresponding authors) cannot serve as members of the Jury.
2. Jurors must disclose any potential conflicts of interest (such as advisor-student relationships, family ties, or active project collaborations) and request recusal from evaluating affected submissions.



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3. The Committee monitors the process. Any juror violating the recusal policy will be disqualified immediately, their scores invalidated, and the impacted papers re-evaluated by an alternate juror.

B. Confidentiality & Misconduct Policy

1. Jurors and staff must maintain absolute confidentiality regarding the evaluation process, scoring data, and unannounced outcomes.

2. Academic misconduct (including plagiarism or data fabrication) will lead to immediate disqualification, revocation of prizes/certificates, recovery of prize money, and a public notice. Disqualified authors will face a 3-year ban from participating in the event.

VII. Award Settings

All awardees will receive official honorary certificates. Cash prizes are stated before taxes; applicable individual income tax will be withheld and paid by the Committee.

First Prize (1 recipient): RMB 10,000 + Certificate.

Second Prize (2 recipients): RMB 5,000 per person + Certificate.

Third Prize (3 recipients): RMB 3,000 per person + Certificate.

Honorary Mention (4 recipients): Certificate only (no cash prize).

Note: Special single-category awards may be added upon Jury recommendation, and the Jury reserves the right to leave prizes vacant if submissions do not meet the expected artistic/academic standards. Winners will be announced and awarded during the closing ceremony of the MUSICACOUSTICA-HANGZHOU 2026.

VIII. Publication & Academic Dissemination

A. Journal Recommendation

Outstanding winning papers will be prioritized for recommendation to cooperating Chinese music core journals and international A&HCI-indexed journals. Final acceptance remains subject to the respective peer-review outcomes of those journals. Fast-track review and revision support channels will be arranged to improve publication success rates.

B. Proceedings Publication

All winning and shortlisted final-defense papers may, at an opportune time, be compiled and formally published by the Committee in an academic conference proceedings collection, distributed both domestically and internationally. Authors will receive one complimentary copy of the book; no additional royalties will be paid.

IX. Critical Dates

Submission Deadline: August 20, 2026.

Preliminary Results Publicized: September 15, 2026.

Final Defense/Presentation: Aligned with the official schedule of the MUSICACOUSTICA-HANGZHOU 2026.



Note: All times are based on Beijing Time (UTC+8). The Committee reserves the right to adjust dates, with notices posted timely on the official website.

X. Additional Provisions

1. Copyrights of the submitted papers remain with the authors. The Committee retains non-commercial rights for compilation, publication, publicity, and promotion, with proper attribution given to the authors.
2. No entry, evaluation, or defense fees are charged for this event.
3. Submission implies full reading, comprehension, and compliance with these regulations.
4. In case of any discrepancies or ambiguities between the Chinese and English versions of these regulations, the Chinese version shall prevail.
5. The Committee retains the right of final interpretation and reserves the power to add supplementary clauses as needed.

XI. Contact Information

Official Email for the Organizing Committee of MUSICACOUSTICA-HANGZHOU 2026 Academic Paper Awards: musicacoustica@zjcm.edu.cn.

The Organizing Committee reserves the right of final interpretation for this paper award selection. Any amendments to the above terms and conditions will be promptly published in the Academic Paper Awards section on the official website of Musicacoustica-Hangzhou (musicacoustica.zjcm.edu.cn), and the results published on the website shall prevail.

Organizing Committee of the MUSICACOUSTICA-HANGZHOU 2026 Academic Paper Awards
May 26, 2026



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