

7th International Words and Music Conference

29-30 January 2027

University of Maribor
Faculty of Arts, English Department, Sociology Department
Faculty of Education, Music Department

Words, Music, and Artificial Intelligence (WMAI)

Language and music have always been among humanity's most powerful technologies. Long before algorithms and neural networks, words and melodies carried memory, emotion, ritual, persuasion, and identity across generations. Poetry and songs shaped political movements, and preserved histories and legends. Together, words and music form a uniquely human way of making meaning that combines structure and feeling, logic and intuition, communication and art.

Today, artificial intelligence has entered this creative space. Systems capable of generating lyrics, composing symphonies, imitating voices, and producing entire songs now challenge long-held assumptions about creativity and authorship. What once seemed inseparable from human experience — emotional expression through language and sound — can now be simulated by machines trained on vast archives of human culture. This raises difficult and fascinating questions: Can AI truly be creative, or is it only recombining patterns? What happens to originality when algorithms can produce endless variations in seconds? And how do words and music change when they are created not only by people, but also in collaboration with intelligent systems?

A discussion of “Words, Music, and Artificial Intelligence” therefore sits at the intersection of art, technology, philosophy, and ethics. It invites us to examine not only what AI can create, but also what creativity itself means. As artists, audiences, and machines increasingly interact in shared creative environments, the relationship between human imagination and artificial intelligence may become one of the defining cultural questions of the twenty-first century.

Suggested topics (including, but not limited to)

- Ethical and legal considerations of AI plagiarism of music and text
- AI as a legitimate tool for creators
- Detecting AI generated creations: is it still possible to tell the difference?
- Implications for educators and classroom applications
- Translating text and music with AI
- Fictional depictions of AI creations in songs, films, television programs, novels, etc.
- How does AI work?

Important dates

- Abstract submission deadline: 31 August 2026
- Notification of acceptance: 31 September 2026
- Registration deadline: 30 November 2026
- Conference dates: 29-30 January 2027
- Paper submission deadline: 1 April 2027
- Expected publication: July 31 2027

Conference fee

- Standard fee: 60 Eur
- Student fee: 30 Eur

The fee includes conference materials, coffee breaks, and conference dinner

Submission and registration

1. Abstracts (max. 300 words) should be submitted to wmai@um.si
2. Registration is to be completed via the WMAI Registration Form on the conference website

Conference website

<https://ff.um.si/o-fakulteti/oddelki/oddelek-za-anglistiko-in-amerikanistiko/>

Venue

University of Maribor, Faculty of Arts
Koroška cesta 160
2000 Maribor
Slovenia

Faculty of Arts website: <https://ff.um.si/>

Contact

Email: wmai@um.si

We look forward to your proposals.

On behalf of the Organising Committee,

Tomaž Onič (Faculty of Arts, English Department)
Michelle Gadpaille (Faculty of Arts, English Department)
Bernarda Leva (Faculty of Arts, English Department)

and the Program Committee,

Melania Fabčič (Faculty of Arts, German Department)
Cveto Kobal (Faculty of Education, Music Department)
Victor Kennedy (Faculty of Arts, English Department)
Andrej Naterer (Faculty of Arts, Sociology Department)