

Newsletter of the AMS Early Musics Skills and Resources Study Group

November 2026

Welcome to the November edition of the Early Musics Skills and Resources Study Group Newsletter! We will continue to use this space to bring your attention to the activities of the study group, to highlight the work of our colleagues, and to announce upcoming events relevant to the field.

If you have news that you would like to share about publications, awards, CFPs, job opportunities, etc., please let us know so that we can include these items in upcoming communications. Send announcements to ams.srem@gmail.com.

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EMSR Announcements

EMSR Elections

The Early Musics Skills and Resources study group is holding its annual election. Items on the ballot include election of the Co-Chair elect and the Communications Officer elect, and the ratification of the study group's by-laws.

Please cast your vote *here* by 14 December 2026.

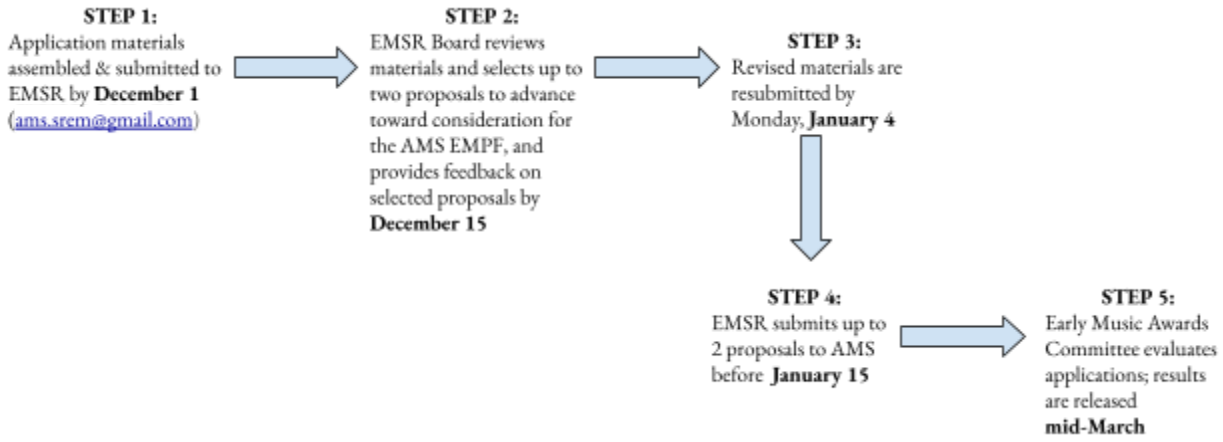
AMS Early Music Program Fund Application, December 1 Deadline

The AMS Early Music Program Fund (EMPF) was established to support educational or field-building programming for researchers studying music in the period before c. 1600. In order to apply, individuals **must** partner with an AMS chapter, study group, or committee. EMSR can advance only two (2) proposals per award cycle, including any proposal submitted by the study group co-chairs.
If you wish to submit a proposal through the EMSR, applications consist of the following materials:

1. A brief proposal summary (150 words)
2. Statements on target audience, anticipated impact, and planned promotion
3. A narrative proposal (500 words)
4. A project budget (use this budget template)

Interested in applying through EMSR? Here are the steps and deadlines:

1. Assemble your materials and submit them to EMSR (ams.srem@gmail.com) by **December 1.**
2. All applications are reviewed by the EMSR Advisory Board, who selects up to two proposals to advance for consideration for the EMPF. Study group co-chairs will recuse themselves in the deliberation of proposals they design. The Advisory Board provides feedback to strengthen the submission by **December 15.**
3. Revised materials are resubmitted to EMSR for final review by **January 4.**
4. EMSR submits up to 2 proposals to AMS before **January 15.**
5. The Early Music Awards Committee evaluates all applications and makes funding decisions; applicants will be notified of the results by **mid-March.**



Proposals will be evaluated on their **reach** (the breadth and diversity of the scholars, teachers, students, and performers they serve), **viability** (a clear, realistic plan and budget that can be carried out within the grant period and the $3,000 cap), **sustainability** (the likelihood that the program, its resources, or the networks it creates will continue beyond the funded period), and **alignment with the mission of the AMS Early Musics Skills and Resources Study Group** to build specialist research skills and foster collaborative networks for the study of early musics before c. 1600.

Early Music 101: Final 2026 Session

The second session of Early Music 101, "**What is Archival Research**" is now available online here!
Please also mark your calendars and register for the third and final session of the year:

- **Session III: Filling Up Your Research Toolkit**
    - December 10 (4:00EST)
    - **Jennifer Bain** and **Luisa Nardini** survey the essential skills and resources of the early music researcher, from transcribing early notation to using digital repositories and databases. Participants will leave with a practical toolkit for launching their own research on pre-1600 musical traditions.
    - Register here: https://fsu.zoom.us/meeting/register/vbkFAdmCQPmFBhO0B06Yqg

Please share this information with your students, colleagues, and other interested parties!

Announcements

CfP: After the Fall: Sieges, Sacks, and Surrenders in the Early Modern World

To mark the 500th anniversary of the Fall of Rome (1527), the Toronto Renaissance and Reformation Colloquium will be hosting a conference at the University of Toronto on 12-13 November 2027.

The conference is not limited to papers on the fall of Rome, or to strictly history papers, but also to papers in other disciplines, such as music. It is also open to presentation on the sieges, sacks, and surrenders of other cities and towns in the early-modern world, such as (and not limited to) the Siege of Ceuta (North Africa, 1419), Fall of Constantinople (1453), Siege of Negroponte (1470), Fall of Grenada (1492), Siege of Tenochtitlan (Mexico City, 1521), Siege of Vienna (1529), Siege of Tunis (1534), Siege of Beijing (1550), Siege of Calais (1558), Siege of La Rochelle (1572-73), Battle of Manila (1574).,Siege of Bona (Annaba, 1607), Siege of Ireland (1641-53), Attack on Hispaniola and Jamaica (1654-55), etc.

Proposals for a conference presentation should include the following:

1. your name, affiliation, and email address
2. the title of the talk, an abstract of the talk (150 words maximum), and a set of keywords
3. your one-page CV

Deadline: Proposals are due on **30 November 2026** and should be sent to konrad.eisenbichler@utoronto.ca.

Proposals from musicologists, graduate students and early-career scholars are warmly welcome.

For more information see the flyer posted at www.trrc.ca.

Rare Book School Opportunities

Rare Book School (RBS) at the University of Virginia will host an online information session on 28 October at 6:00 p.m. ET (registration required) for those interested in learning about **The M. C. Lang Fellowship in Book History, Bibliography, and Humanities Teaching with Historical Sources**. This two-year

fellowship, which is open to faculty, librarians, and curators working at liberal arts colleges and small universities in the United States, equips instructors with bibliographically informed methods that bring original historical documents into the classroom. The information session will include an opportunity to hear from past Fellows. Applications for the Lang Fellowship are due by Sunday, 6 December 2026.

Rare Book School also welcomes applications for these other funding opportunities:

- **All RBS-awarded scholarships** for both first-time and returning RBS students. See our website for descriptions of the various scholarships available, which can be used for RBS courses in 2027. Scholarship applications are due by **Sunday, 1 November** 2026.

- The **Andrew W. Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography (SoFCB) Junior Fellows Program**. The SoFCB is a community of scholars working across disciplines to advance the study of texts, images, and artifacts as material objects. Ten Junior Fellows will be selected to join the SoFCB in 2027. The application deadline for the SoFCB Junior Fellows Program is **Friday, 20 November** 2026.

Visit rarebookschool.org/scholarships-fellowships for further details on our available funding opportunities.

CfP: MedRen 2027

The **Medieval and Renaissance Music Conference** will take place at **KU Leuven (Belgium)**, on **5–9 July 2027.**

Submission deadline: **Sunday, 17 January 2027**
Notification of acceptance: **Monday, 8 March 2027**

MedRen welcomes proposals on a wide range of topics relating to medieval and Renaissance music. For the 2027 edition, we would also like to particularly encourage submissions engaging with a number of themes connected to the research interests and activities of the organising partners. These themes include:

- Music for the dead — music, death, mourning, and commemoration
- Chansons and chansonniers — repertories, sources, transmission, performance, and reception
- Musical life in the Low Countries in a global context — musical practices, communities, networks, and the circulation of musicians, repertories, and ideas

- Technological approaches to music and music sources — digitisation, databases, digital editions, virtual acoustics, computational methods, and other technological approaches to the study, documentation, preservation, and interpretation of music and musical sources
- Music sources at the Royal Library of Belgium (KBR) — manuscripts, prints, provenance studies, and new approaches to the study of musical sources
- Museums, collections, and the curatorship of musical heritage — the collecting, preservation, display, and mediation of musical objects and heritage, as well as curatorial practices and new approaches to presenting music and its histories to diverse audiences

These themes are intended as points of departure rather than exclusive categories, and proposals on other topics relating to medieval and Renaissance music are equally welcome.

Proposals may be submitted in the following formats:

- Posters (abstract of maximum 250 words)
- Individual papers of 20 minutes, followed by up to 10 minutes of discussion and questions (abstract of maximum 250 words)
- Paired papers of 60 minutes in total, including discussion and questions (overall abstract of maximum 200 words; individual abstracts maximum 150 words each)
- Themed sessions of 90 minutes (overall abstract of maximum 200 words; individual abstract of maximum 150 words each; please also provide the name of the chair)
- Roundtables of 90 minutes (abstract of maximum 250 words)
- Lecture-recitals of 30 or 60 minutes (abstract of maximum 250 words)

Please submit your abstract at www.conftool.org/medren2027/. The submission platform opens on Monday, 26 October 2026.

If you have any further questions, please contact the organisers at info-medren2027@kuleuven.be. Questions regarding the abstract submission process, as well as the registration tools, should be sent to the Conference Office at medren2027@kuleuven.be.

The conference will take place on the premises of KU Leuven's Faculty of Arts: Blijde Inkomststraat 21, 3000 Leuven, Belgium. https://maps.app.goo.gl/kdYizW2vuYVawKePA.

CfP: Vagantes 2027

We are delighted to share the Call for Papers for the 26th annual Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies, to be held at **Stanford University, March 18-20, 2027**.

Vagantes is an interdisciplinary community of junior and early career scholars that offers opportunities for mentorship, collaboration, and sharing research. The conference accepts submissions from current graduate

students and recently graduated Master's students on any topic pertaining to the long Middle Ages. We encourage submissions from scholars across all disciplines that engage with medieval studies and welcome work that explores medieval culture, religion, philosophy, literature, art, historiography, as well as medievalisms and reception studies.

This year, we are particularly (though not exclusively) interested in papers involving:

- Jewish Studies
- Nordic Studies
- Medieval France
- Digital Humanities
- **Music and Performance**

To apply, please send one PDF that includes a paper title, an abstract of 300 words, and a 1-2 page CV (with applicant's preferred name and pronouns) to vagantesboard@gmail.com by **Friday, 13 December 2026.**

For more information, email vagantesboard@gmail.com or visit vagantesconference.org.

CfP: Music before 1600 Research Colloquium

The next iteration of the international research colloquium "Music before 1600" will take place at **Heidelberg University on 17–18 June 2027**. Established in 2013, the colloquium provides a forum for early-career scholars working on music from the Middle Ages to the end of the sixteenth century. We particularly welcome proposals from doctoral and postdoctoral researchers wishing to present and discuss ongoing research, dissertation chapters, or habilitation projects in an international and collegial setting.

The colloquium will feature four presentations, each followed by an in-depth discussion introduced by an invited respondent. We are delighted that Prof. Dr. Michael Meyer (Trossingen University of Music) will join us in this capacity. The academic programme will take place on Friday, 18 June 2027, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., preceded by a welcome dinner on Thursday evening, 17 June. Travel and accommodation expenses for speakers will be fully covered. Presentations may be given in English or German.

Submission deadline: 15 January 2027

Proposals should include an abstract of approximately 300–400 words and a brief biographical note. Please send submissions to wiesenfeldt@zegk.uni-heidelberg.de. The colloquium is jointly chaired by Prof. Dr. Klaus Pietschmann (Mainz) and myself. Further information about the colloquium series and previous meetings is available at https://www.musikvor1600.de.