
MEI Community Forum

March 10, 2026
10 AM EDT / 3 PM CET

Agenda

- Interest Groups
- Community Updates
- Technical Team
- MEC 2026
- MEI Board
- Discussion & Questions

Mensural Interest Group

Co-chairs: Anna Plaksin and Martha Thomae

- Nothing to report at the moment ;)

Metadata and Cataloging Interest Group

Co-chairs: Clemens Gubsch and Dennis Ried

- Monthly Meetings (<https://github.com/music-encoding/metadata-ig/wiki>)
- Metadata Working Days (Nov. 27th, 2025 & Feb. 27th, 2026)
- Working on documentation and extension of the header for recording audio-visual-media

Analysis Interest Group

Co-chairs: Fabian Moss and Mark Saccomano

- Follow up on customizations survey

Tablature Interest Group

Co-chairs: Reinier de Valk and David Lewis

- New project started last month – DELTA (Digital Exploration of Lute Tablature Agencies), built on MEI tab
- Some tidying of the schema has now been merged (<https://github.com/music-encoding/music-encoding/pull/1611>, special thanks to Olja!)

Linked Data Interest Group

Co-chairs: David Weigl and Stefan Münnich

- MEI annotation clarifications and (small) schema change now merged into the dev branch for MEI 6.0
- A new section on using Linked Data web annotations with MEI is in progress (blocked by issues with the guidelines rendering engine: <https://github.com/music-encoding/music-encoding/issues/1752>)

Work by the 'Annote' project at the University of Oxford, funded by UK AHRC award AH/Z506278/1

Digital Pedagogy Interest Group

Co-chairs: Jessica Grimmer and Joshua Neumann

- Grant proposal in conjunction with EdVenture & Bridging Innovation; Spencer Foundation (USA)
- DH paper accepted: “Pioneering Engagement: Developing Innovative Coalitions for Cultural Preservation”
- Developing coalition with CUNY

Sibmei

Background

- Open Source MEI export plugin for Sibelius
- Created 2012 by Andrew Hankinson
- Since 2017 mostly developed by Notengrafik Berlin

Sibmei

Comparing to MuseScore MEI support

	Sibmei	MuseScore
MEI import		
Target scope	MEI CMN	MEI basic
Suited for hybrid print/digital editions		
Extensible		

Sibmei

Progress in last year's releases

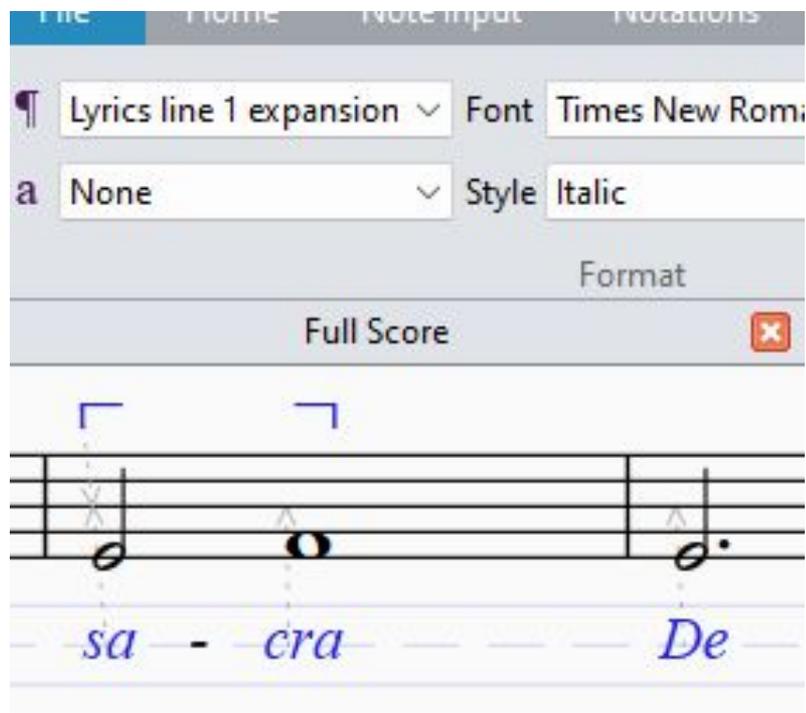
Sibmei 4.2, Sibmei 5

- MEI 5 (at last)
- All long-standing big issues solved
- Speed!
- Better reporting of warnings

Sibmei

Focus of last 5 years' releases: Extensibility

- Sibelius has an extensible library of symbols, line styles and text styles.
- Use those styles to enrich Sibelius data with semantics !
- Sibmei extensions can export those semantics to MEI.
- Goal: Input all information in Sibelius, avoid manual MEI editing



Sibmei

Defining your project specific workflow

- Identify encoding needs
- Define standards how to use Sibelius
- Create custom styles where needed
- Create a Sibmei extension to export custom styles
- Possibly some postprocessing is required

```
<line xml:id="m-2018" endid="m-2019" func="coloration" layer="1" />
<line xml:id="m-2028" endid="#m-2054" func="coloration" layer="1" />
</measure>
<measure xml:id="m-2043" n="65">
  <staff xml:id="m-2044" n="1">
    <layer xml:id="m-2045" n="1">
      <note xml:id="m-2047" dots="1" dur="2" oct="4" pname="e">
        <verse xml:id="m-2071" n="1">
          <syl xml:id="m-2072" con="d" wordpos="i">
            <expan xml:id="m-2073" resp="#ricercar">
              <rend xml:id="m-2074" rend="italic">De</rend>
            </expan>
          </syl>
        </verse>
      </note>
```

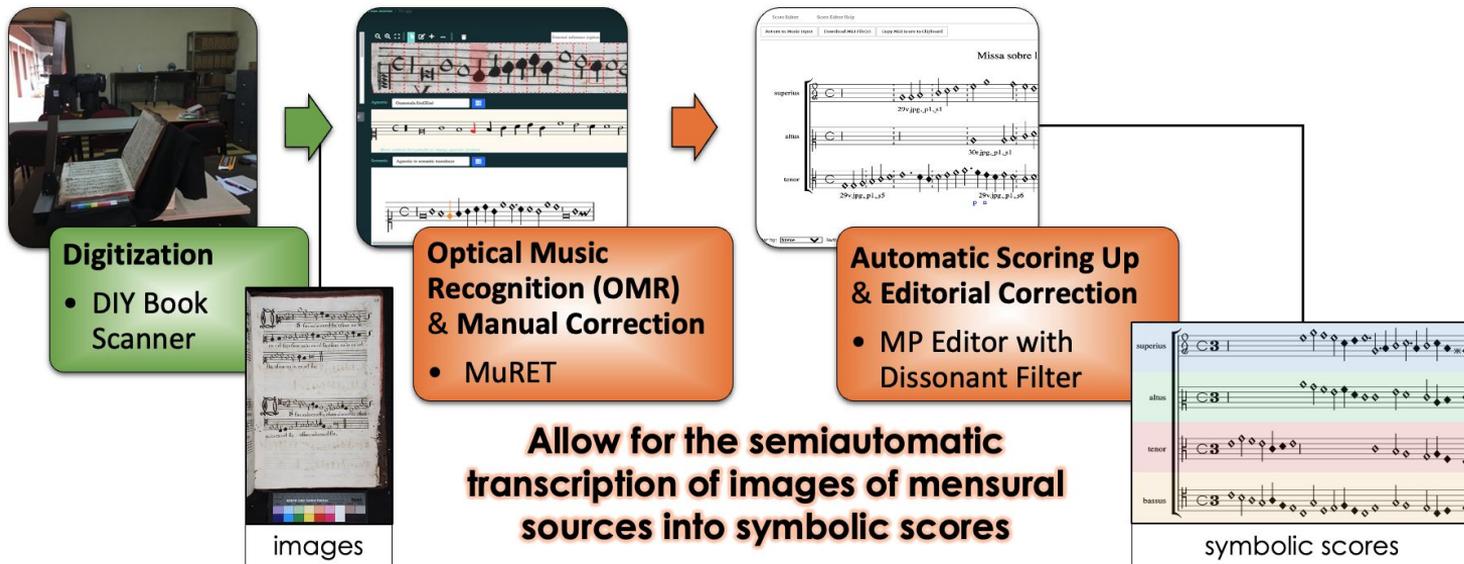
Sibmei Questions?

For questions about Sibmei, Extension and integrating it into your workflows, get in touch with me:

thomas.weber@notengrafik.com

+493025359505

Update: Digitization & Encoding of Guatemalan Polyphonic Choirbook 1



Technical Team

Co-chairs: Benjamin W. Bohl and Martha Thomae

ODD Meeting dates: <https://music-encoding.org/community/technical-team.html>

Important dates:

- 30 April – HowTo for [Customization Guidelines](#)
 - During ODD meeting
 - Everyone welcome, especially from all IGs
- Feature-freeze for MEI 6.0 end of June
- Release MEI 6.0 planned for October

MEC Tokyo, 26-29 May 2026

- High numbers of applications
- 7 Workshops
- Registration will open this week
- Some bursaries will be available
 - Announcement this week by e-mail and on website
- Conference page: <https://music-encoding.org/conference/2026/>

Program Chair: David Lewis; Anna Plaksin (MEI Board Liaison)

Organizing Committee Chairs, Eita Nakamura and Satoru Fukayama

MEI Board

- New Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for conference hosts
 - MOU for conference hosts:
<https://music-encoding.org/conference/mou-conference-hosts.html>
 - Also linked from the Hosting Guidelines:
<https://music-encoding.org/conference/hosting-guidelines.html>
- Institutional Membership in MEI
 - Updated by-law language
 - Sponsorship levels

Institutional Membership - updated By-laws language

Institutional Membership in MEI is available for any form of organization, project or company. Any of the above wishing to become an Institutional Member of MEI may apply by submitting an application, in a form prescribed by the Board, to any elected member of the Board.

There are three levels of [Institutional Membership: Regular, Patron, and Sustaining](#) with different annual monetary contribution rates and associated benefits. In-kind commitments, such as staff time or administrative support that correspond to the annual contribution rate, may substitute for monetary contributions.

The logos of sponsoring organizations will appear on publications by the [MEI Board](#) (e.g. conference proceedings, guidelines) and on a sponsors page on the [MEI website](#). Logos of Patron members will additionally appear on the [MEI website](#) homepage, and logos of Sustaining members will have prominent placement in the footer of each page on the [MEI website](#).

All Institutional members in good standing have the right to display the MEI logo on any MEI-related publications or products they create or distribute that conform to the license under which MEI is distributed.

Updated language will appear in MEI By-laws: <https://music-encoding.org/community/mei-by-laws.html>

Sponsorship Levels <https://music-encoding.org/community/institutional-sponsorship.html>

Regular (€500)	Patron (€2000)	Sustaining (€5000 or more)
Logos of sponsoring organizations will appear on publications by the MEI Board (e.g. conference proceedings, guidelines) and on a sponsors page on the MEI website	Regular level + Logos will appear on the MEI website homepage	Regular level + Logos will have a prominent placement in the footer of each page
Sponsor materials (such as stickers, handouts, pencils, etc.) can be provided to conference organizers for inclusion with conference packets provided to attendees	Sponsor materials (such as stickers, handouts, pencils, etc.) can be provided to conference organizers for inclusion with conference packets provided to attendees	Sponsor materials (such as stickers, handouts, pencils, etc.) can be provided to conference organizers for inclusion with conference packets provided to attendees
	Conference coffee break sponsorship	Conference coffee break sponsorship
	Conference bursary sponsorship	Conference bursary sponsorship
		Conference exhibitor (present your company, project, or institution at a dedicated accessible location at the conference venue)

MEI Board Elections

Term 2026-2028

- **Jessica Grimmer**, Center for Archival Futures (CAFe) and Maryland's College of Information
- **Anna Plaksin**, Musikwissenschaftliches Seminar Detmold/Paderborn, KreativInstitut.OWL
- **David M. Weigl**, Institut für musikalische Akustik – Wiener Klangstil, mdw – Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien

Thank you to Martha E. Thomae and Laurent Pugin, MEI election administrators 2025

Thank you / Herzlichen Dank!!

- Johannes Kepper for his service during the past 11+ years on the MEI Board!

MEI Board: <https://music-encoding.org/community/mei-board.html>

Discussion & Questions