



MEMBERSHIP IN OISTAT

What is OISTAT?

The International Organisation of Scenographers, Theatre Architects and Technicians (OISTAT) encourages organisations and individuals whose work supports live performance to join together with their colleagues from around the world in support of OISTAT's missions, aims, and objectives. Since established in 1968, OISTAT's role has been to provide a vital platform for international connections, communications, and collaborations. OISTAT welcomes organisations and individuals in the global theatre communities to join and participate in meetings, seminars, workshops, and all events in order to maximize the creativity in the world of theatre.

OISTAT's Missions

- To stimulate the exchange of ideas and innovations, and to promote international collaboration in professions which support live performance;
- To serve the art form of performance, and the people who design and create live performance;
- To promote the formation of OISTAT centers, and the participation of individuals, alliances, and institutions in all regions of the world in order to achieve these aims;
- To encourage life-long learning among live performance practitioners;
- To respect the integrity of all cultures and celebrate the diversity as well as the similarities of those who work in support of live performance.

How does OISTAT accomplish its goals?

- OISTAT promotes the formation of OISTAT Centres, as well as Individual and Associate Membership in order to achieve these aims;
- Through the work of its Centres and Commissions, OISTAT has established and maintained an international exchange of the knowledge and practice of scenography, architecture and technology, together with other related disciplines, in their support of live performance.

To facilitate the accomplishment of its goals:

- OISTAT maintains a Headquarters office which is expressly charged with the execution of these duties;
- OISTAT encourages a maximum exchange of work, documentation and persons working in these areas;
- OISTAT has established and encourages publications and web communication which supports the work of its projects and the field of live performance.

What Does OISTAT Do?

OISTAT Services and Activities include:

- **World Congresses**, which take place every four years, include business meetings, seminars, workshops, social activities, and exhibitions.
- **World Stage Design (WSD)**, founded in 2005, is a quadrennial international exhibition of performance design in various areas. It is the only designer-focused international exhibition, in which the exhibits are submitted by individual designers from around the world.
- **Scenofest**, originally in collaboration with Prague Quadrennial, is an educational exhibition for international student, also including series of seminars, presentations, tours and workshops. Since 2013, Scenofest has formed new connections with World Stage Design.
- **Theatre Architecture Competition (TAC)**, hosted by OISTAT Architecture, is an international competition with the objectives to encourage new ideas about theatre architecture and interdisciplinary cooperation. The best entries are exhibited at the Prague Quadrennial.
- **Technical Invention Prize (TIP)**, initiated by OISTAT Technology, is a competition encouraging theatre technicians to come up with the most creative idea for common practice on stage.
- **Publications:** OISTAT publishes and/or supports the publications of catalogues, books, and brochures on many theatre and theatre related subjects, including *New Theatre Words*, *Theatre Architecture Competition* catalogues, *Scenofest* catalogues, and *World Scenography*. OISTAT publications are available at www.oistat.org
- OISTAT maintains informative websites, social media, such as Facebook pages and LinkedIn pages, in both English and Chinese.
- OISTAT provides networking assistance to members through OISTAT Headquarters and through the various Commissions.
- OISTAT publishes regular electronic newsletters, providing information of various activities within the organisation, about the members, and about theatre news worldwide.
- OISTAT Commission reports are published on the OISTAT websites and are sent in digital forms to the Commission members.
- Commission meetings can be hosted at any location by the members. These meetings bring together experts worldwide. The meetings also provide opportunities for local organisers to invite the experts of the attendees to present seminars or public presentations, which will allow the exchanges of ideas between local practitioners and guests from other countries.

How Does OISTAT Work?

- OISTAT is composed of the member organisations in regions worldwide, known as OISTAT Centres, Associates and of Individuals in all regions.
- The directing body of OISTAT is the Congress, which is formed when the delegates of the OISTAT Centres, and individual members are assembled in plenary session.
- The administration and priorities of OISTAT are established by the Executive Committee (EC) with advice from the Governing Board (GB, Chairs of Commissions). The President, the Vice Presidents, the Secretary and the Treasurer of the Executive Committee may have OISTAT's

day-to-day administrative work carried out by OISTAT Headquarters with an Executive Director and the administrative staff.

OISTAT Commissions

OISTAT currently has six commissions:

- Architecture
- Education
- Performance Design (includes 3 Working Groups: Costume Design, Lighting Design and Sound Design)
- Publication and Communication
- Research (includes Theatre Timeline Working Group which is across Technology, Education, and Research commissions)
- Technology

The Commissions meet once a year and are available to all OISTAT members whose works and interests parallel the activities of the Commission.

How to Become an OISTAT Member?

There are three OISTAT membership categories

- Centre Member
- Associate Member
- Individual Member

1. Centre Member

Annual Membership Fee: 500 euros

An OISTAT Centre must include and support the work of members from performance design, technology, education, research, architecture, publication and communication and related fields. Some Centres will not support the work of members in all of these theatre disciplines. In this case there may be more than one OISTAT Centre in a country or region. Organisations that meet these criteria should seek membership as an OISTAT Centre.

Privileges of Centre Member

- An OISTAT Centre can nominate one of their members as a candidate for President, the Executive Committee, the Chair of a Commission or Working Group, and/or a voting delegate to the OISTAT World Congress.
- An OISTAT Centre can appoint a voting delegate to each of the Commissions and Working Groups.
- OISTAT Centre member can participate in OISTAT activities as delegate to Commission meetings, be nominated for positions on the Executive Committee, be appointed by their Centre as its voting delegate to the OISTAT Congress, or be a non-voting attendee at any OISTAT events, including Commission meetings, Congresses, exhibitions, and seminars.
- OISTAT Centre members can be elected to chair a Commission or a Working Group.

- OISTAT Centre members can be a presenter at a Congress, Commission meeting or at Scenofest.
- Members of OISTAT Centres are also members of OISTAT.

Benefits of Centre Member

- Centres where there is active participation in OISTAT activities by its members gain an acknowledged place on international forums and their members gain information and opportunities to interact, network, and work with colleagues from throughout the world.
- OISTAT activities provide Centre members with the opportunity to compare methodologies, practices, regulations, and techniques with those of other cultures, traditions, regions, and technologies. Centres are encouraged to announce their activities to all OISTAT members.
- Centres are called upon to regularly host Commission, Governing Board or Executive Committee meetings. These meetings provide the Centre with the opportunity to draw upon the expertise of their professional guests to provide seminars or discussions on topics of particular interest to their own audience.
- All Centre activities are enriched by the Centre's participation with other Centres, through OISTAT.

Requirements of Centre Member

- An OISTAT Centre must have a legal form, preferably an association.
- Each OISTAT Centre should create an organisational structure and hold meetings of its members.
- Each OISTAT Centre should form a democratic structure with all officers and representatives offering themselves for re-election on a regular basis and in such a manner as may be deemed suitable by their membership.
- Each OISTAT Centre is normally comprised of representatives of the different disciplines within OISTAT, and will elect delegates to further the work in those disciplines within OISTAT.
- OISTAT and its OISTAT Centres should enter into contacts of friendship, co-operation and co-ordination with other international organisations belonging to related disciplines.
- There may be more than one OISTAT Centre in a country.

How to Apply

- Organisations working in one or more disciplines may apply to become Centre members of OISTAT by presenting their application to the Executive Committee (headquarters@oistat.org) and adherence to the OISTAT Statutes.
- The application should include
 - 1) application form
 - 2) letter of Intent to describe the purpose/future aim
 - 3) Organisation Profile including mission, structure, membership, principal activity and work
 - 4) a copy of the statutes

- The Executive Committee will assess whether persons in that country who are active within the disciplines of OISTAT can, under the articles of association of that organisation, freely become members of the organisation.
- The Executive Committee will assess the ability of that organisation to host international meetings (see Statutes – Appendix 3).
- The Executive Committee may grant a successful applicant Candidate status.
- Unsuccessful applicant Centres may appeal directly to the subsequent Congress. The Congress will determine the success of a candidate's application for membership.
- The Congress shall decide whether a Candidate Centre will be granted permanent membership.

Note

In the case of being the second OISTAT Centre in one region, please include the following info:

- The awareness and support of existing OISTAT Centre in your country.
- How do you view the relation to the existing Centre and how your relation will benefit the goal of OISTAT.

2. Associate Member

Annual Membership Fee: 250 euros

To fulfill OISTAT's mission, it is important to include educational institutions and commercial organisations that provide professional education, training, equipment, professional services, and consultation with those architects, artists and technicians whose work support of live performance.

Privileges

- Faculty and students of Associate member institution and employees of companies are also members of OISTAT.
- Associate members may participate in OISTAT activities.
- Associate members may send delegates to participate in Commissions, Working Group meetings, and the activities of the Congress.
- Associate member delegates can be presenters at Commission or Working Group meetings or the OISTAT World Congress.
- Associate Members do not own the voting right at any election taking place in OISTAT World Congress and OISTAT Commissions.

Benefits

- Associate members, and their delegates, who participate in OISTAT activities will gain an acknowledged place on international forums as well as the opportunity to share information, network, and collaborate with colleagues from countries and disciplines.
- Associate members have a unique position in OISTAT. Their support of OISTAT takes in several forms:
 1. An Associate member is participating with professionals from other countries who want to know more about innovative practices, new technologies and practices, and who stand to benefit from the knowledge the Associate member has to offer.

Likewise, the Associate member gains an opportunity to better understand the needs of OISTAT members from other cultures and regions of the world.

2. An Associate member can provide financial support to OISTAT. The member's logo and details of the organisation's services will be published on OISTAT's websites and promotional materials. Associate member delegates in Commission, Working Group, and other committees and projects will be identified as being from the Associate Member's organisation.
3. Associate members are called upon to be closely involved in the planning and implementation of Scenofest.

Requirements

- An organisation wishing to become an Associate member must demonstrate that its principal activity or core business is directly related to one or more of the disciplines of OISTAT (See OISTAT Commissions pp3).
- An Educational Institution or Training School must provide details about its curriculum and placement of graduates from their program.
- Manufacturers, distributors, architects, consultants, and publishers must provide details about the geographic scope of their work or sales.

How to Apply

- An organisation wishing to become an Associate member of OISTAT must apply to the Executive Committee by sending their application to OISTAT Headquarters (headquarters@oistat.org)
- The application should include
 - 1) application form
 - 2) letter of intent to describe the purpose and aims
 - 3) organisation profile
- An organisation wishing to become an Associate member must demonstrate that its principal activity or core business is directly related to one or more of the disciplines of OISTAT (see OISTAT Commissions pp 3).
- An Educational Institution or Training School must provide details about its curriculum and placement of graduates from the program.
- Manufacturers, distributors, Architects, Consultants, and Publishers must provide details about the geographic scope of their work and /or sales.
- The Executive Committee is empowered to grant Associate member status.

3. Individual Member

Annual Membership Fee: 50 euros

An individual member should be an active practitioner in any of the disciplines served by OISTAT (see Commissions). The member should actively participate in the work of one or more OISTAT Commissions and/or Working Groups.

Privileges

- An Individual member is encouraged to participate in all OISTAT activities.

- An Individual member can be elected to chair a Commission or Working Group.
- An Individual member can be active in any commission, and is entitled to vote.
- An Individual member can be a presenter at a Congress, Commission meeting or Scenofest.
- An Individual member is expected to exercise their voting right at the elections for the OISTAT President and Executive Committee. Each Individual member has 1/10 of a vote.
- An Individual member can receive latest organisation information directly from OISTAT.

Benefits

- Individual members who actively participate in OISTAT activities will gain an acknowledged place on international forums and the opportunity to share information, network, and collaborate with colleagues from throughout the world.
- They will become international networking facilitators within their own professional community. They will be able to help their own colleagues and work toward the development of an OISTAT Centre in their country. Individual members are provided with an opportunity to compare methodologies, practices, regulations, and techniques with those of other cultures, traditions, regions, and technologies.
- By hosting OISTAT meetings, it provides a unique opportunity to draw upon the expertise of their professional guests to provide seminars or discussions on topics of particular interest to their own audience. These kinds of activities provide exceptional visibility to the Individual Member's efforts to develop a Centre and the professional stature of OISTAT and its activities.
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Requirements

- An Individual member must work in one of OISTAT's disciplines (see Commissions).
- An Individual member must endeavour actively to participate in the work of an OISTAT Commission.
- Individual members of different disciplines are encouraged to meet and to form a professional organisation that may become an OISTAT Centre.

How to Apply

- Persons wishing to become Individual members of OISTAT must apply to the Executive Committee by sending their application to OISTAT Headquarters (headquarters@oistat.org)
- The application must include
 - 1) application form
 - 2) resume (CV) of professional work
 - 3) letter of intent to describe the motive and future plans
- The Executive Committee is empowered to grant Individual membership status.

CONTACT US

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