International Design Week 2027

LINE

March 8 – 12, 2027
Institute of Design & Communication (idk)
FH JOANNEUM Graz / Austria

We are thrilled to announce the 6th edition of the International Design Week at the Institute of Design & Communication, FH JOANNEUM University of Applied Sciences in our UNESCO City of Design Graz.

Following the success of our previous themes – The Prepper, mutate or mute, Design Science F®ictions, unCOMMON underGROUND and Post-Human Resources – we now explore the intricate layers of LINE.

Workshop Theme

LINE is one of the most fundamental elements of human expression and design. It can define or connect, guide or divide, measure or imagine. From drawing and typography to maps, sound waves, timelines, code, choreography, and moving images, the line shapes how we communicate, navigate, and make sense of the world. The International Design Week 2027 invites participants to explore the many dimensions of **LINE** across disciplines, media, and cultures.

We'll ask: How can lines connect, divide, guide and transform? How can design rethink the line as more than a simple mark but as a boundary, a movement, a system, a signal or a story? How do lines shape the ways we organize, navigate and communicate? With workshops, cross-media collaborations and international guests, this week will trace **LINE** across creative disciplines, technologies and cultures.

Join us to follow, cross, question and redraw the lines that structure our world. To explore what happens between points, across boundaries and along unexpected paths, and to imagine where new lines might lead.

We are looking for workshop proposals for 3.5-day workshops that combine diverse design approaches, cross-medial making and cross-disciplinary thinking — spanning graphic design, sound, video, illustration, 3D, game, web and hybrid practices. This year, first-year master's students of Communication & Exhibition Design as well as Interaction, Media & Sound Design and second-year bachelor's Information Design students will participate in their chosen workshop alongside bachelor's and master's students from our international partner network. Over three and a half days, workshops (with small groups of approx. 9–14 students) should provide focused input, experimentation and collaborative production, culminating in a public presentation of documentation and results on the fifth day.

Workshop Format and Requirements

-> **Cross-Media Focus:** Workshops should promote collaboration across design disciplines. Consider combinations like illustration x immersion, sound x spatial design, graphic x interactive experiences, or editorial x video storytelling.

-> **Outcomes and outputs:** Give students a clear picture of the used studio setting (teamwork, individual work, exercises, field trips...) and projected outcomes (learning to do X with method Y) and outputs of the workshop (e.g. create a 360° video with software X and add a sonic layer with software Y, ...)

-> **Hands-on Methodologies:** Emphasize active participation, prototyping, and tangible outcomes. We aim to foster an immersive learning environment where students can experiment and apply their skills.

-> **Theme Integration:** Our workshop should creatively interpret the LINE theme exploring lines as marks, boundaries, connections, movements, systems, signals, or stories, and considering how they shape the ways we communicate, navigate, organize, and understand the world.

-> **Inclusivity and Diversity:** Workshops should be designed for fourth-semester bachelor's students in Information Design as well as second-semester master's students from the Communication, Exhibition, Interaction, Media and Sound Design programs. They should also be accessible to incoming students from our international partner university network. Please consider flexible and inclusive approaches that accommodate different levels of experience, disciplines, and cultural backgrounds.

-> **Skill Pre-requirements & Tools:** since students participate from different disciplines and level of study, we expect

our lecturers to clearly state the software/hardware tools being used in class and be open about alternative use of open source/free technologies as well as non-restrictive on prior knowledge.
-> **Workshop Duration:** All workshops are 3.5-days, Monday afternoon, Tuesday – Thursday 9 am to 5 pm, final presentations take place on Friday.
-> **Workshop Size:** 9 – 14 students per workshop.
-> **Workshop Language:** English.

Ready to follow a line, cross it, bend it or collaboratively draw entirely new ones? We welcome workshop proposals that challenge familiar paths and open up unexpected connections.

Workshop proposal and Conditions

We would kindly ask lecturers to submit a proposal for a 3.5-day workshop including the following per ONLINEFORM until **November 30, 2026:**
https://fhj.to/InternationalDesignWeek2027-Call

1 **Workshop title**
2 **Applied design disciplines**
(Which two or more design disciplines does your workshop combine and how?)
3 **Workshop concept and content**
-> Alignment with the theme LINE (How does your topic align with the theme?)
-> Goals (What will participants achieve?)
-> Intended methods
-> Workshop setting (Describe the format i.e. teamwork, individual work, exercises, field trips)
-> Accessibility/Diversity (How will you ensure accessibility for the diverse experience levels, disciplines, and cultural backgrounds?)
4 **Projected learning outcomes**
-> Learned design skills (What will students learn to do using which method?)
-> Hands-on result (What tangible output will they produce using which tool(s)?)
5 **Equipment, Software & Hardware**
-> Primary tools
-> Open source/free alternatives (if needed)
-> Pre-requirements (Are there mandatory skills students must have? If yes, specify.)
-> Materials/Equipment/Facilities needed from idk
-> Materials/Equipment provided by lecturer

Participants are expected to obtain an *Erasmus+ Teaching Staff (STA) mobility grant* from their home institution (within Europe) to cover travel, living and accommodation expenses related to their participation in the event. All participants are expected to be onsite in Graz for the entire program (Monday morning to Friday afternoon).

We look forward to your engaging workshop ideas!

Available facilities

-> Photo studio and video studio (green screen & lighting)
-> Audio studio and recording booth
-> Workshop (basic woodworking, soldering)
-> Prototyping lab (laser cutter, 3D printer, embroidery machine)
-> Print studio (plotter, risograph, vinyl cutter)
-> Vision Space (3D projection, audio spatialisation, motion tracking)
-> Media Centre (equipment rental: cameras, VR glasses, microcontroller kits...)

Preliminary Program

Mon, March 8 9 am to 2 pm	Welcome at the Institute of Design and Communication Networking Morning with international guest lecturers and the team of idk
Mon, March 8	
2 pm	Kick-off IDW27 with students
3 pm – 5 pm	Start Workshops (kick-off & team building)
Tue, March 9 **till** **Thu, March 11** 9 am to 5 pm	Workshop Days (research, experiment, consolidate & finalize)
Fri, March 12	
9 am to 1 pm	Final Presentations
1 pm to 4 pm	Get Together and Farewell

Accommodation

We recommend Hotel Daniel Graz, while guests may opt for accommodation of their choice. Hotel Daniel is located at the train station and near FH JOANNEUM (10 min walk).
As FH JOANNEUM guest you will receive a special rate.
More information will be provided with your acceptance.

About the Institute of Design & Communication (idk)

The Institute of Design & Communication, one of the largest institutes at the FH JOANNEUM, with around 300 students, contributes to the creative dynamics of the city of Graz

(UNESCO City of Design). The Institute of Design and Communication offers three degree programs that combine design practice with theoretical and methodological approaches. Students work on projects individually and in interdisciplinary teams, often in collaboration with external partners such as companies, design agencies and cultural institutions. The programs emphasize the relationship between design, technology, communication and societal contexts.

Institute of Design & Communication
https://www.fh-joanneum.at/en/institut/design-communication/
Retrospective International Design Week 2026
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ltVdVo8FpU
Publication International Design Week 2026
https://issuu.com/fhjoanneum/docs/idw2026_booklet

Contact

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