Interactive Digital Narratives

We believe in the power of the Interactive Digital Narratives (IDNs) to explain our complex world, to entertain and educate.

We understand IDN as an umbrella term encompassing such forms as narrative-focused video games, AR/VR experiences, interactive documentaries, journalistic interactive and installation pieces, as well as emerging forms.
ARDIN is an interdisciplinary and international community that gathers academics, practitioners and artists around the study and creation of Interactive Digital Narratives (IDN).

ARDIN provides a range of activities and resources for its members, including a monthly online meetup. ARDIN also runs the International Conference on Interactive Digital Storytelling (ICIDS), since 2008 the premiere place to exchange cutting-edge IDN research, art works and the latest productions.
ARDIN’s purpose is to support the study of and practice of Interactive Digital Narratives (IDN).

As a community of researchers and practitioners some of our activities include:

- To build an academic field
- To support emerging scholars
- To recognize outstanding works
- To foster collaboration for research and creative projects
- To apply IDN design for representation of complex issues
ARDIN is an organization for and by its members, run by an elected executive board, and president, supported by a larger board.

ARDIN is focused on inclusivity in terms of gender, sexual orientation, origin and level of experience. Early career professionals are represented on all levels of the organization.

New members can join by registering for the yearly ICIDS conference or through the website: https://ardin.online/membership-account/membership-levels/
Our Story

As a mainly academic community, ARDIN was born during conferences that gathered researchers and practitioners of Interactive Digital Narratives.

In 2000, Ulrike Spierling together with other researchers organized the first workshop whose central theme was interactive storytelling. Afterwards, ICVS and TIDSE conferences merged into ICIDS, our main conference in 2008.

From ICIDS, we saw the necessity to formalize our community, becoming an association that works collaboratively all year long. In 2017, Zip Scene joined as a sister conference with a focus on the Eastern European region.
ARDIN TIMELINE
A Brief History

2000
Tools for Interactive Storytelling Workshop

ICVS 2001
International Conference on Virtual Storytelling

TIDSE 2003
Technologies for Interactive Digital Storytelling and Entertainment

ICIDS 2008
ICVS+TIDSE First International Conference on Interactive Digital Storytelling

2017
First ZIP-Scene

2018
ARDIN Association funded first General Assembly during the 11th edition of ICIDS

2019
Second ARDIN general assembly

2020
- Newsletter
- First ARDIN Monthly
- Third General Assembly
AREAS OF RESEARCH
History
Media archeology, development and evolution of IDNs and its intersections with other media and art forms.

Theory
IDN Theory, Authoring processes and models.

Evaluation
User Experience evaluation of IDNs frameworks and toolsets.

Computation
AI methods to enable IDN. Research into authoring tools.

Art
IDN as an artistic practice. IDN theory and methods for the arts.

Design
Design workflows for different kinds of IDNs.

Application
Applied IDNs in areas such as education and journalism.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AI for Interactive Narrative</th>
<th>VR/MR Narratives</th>
<th>Video game Narrative</th>
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<tr>
<td>IDN in Journalism</td>
<td>IDN in Education</td>
<td>Interactive Cinema</td>
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<td>Interactive Cinema</td>
<td>Interactive Theater &amp; Performance</td>
<td>Interactive Fiction &amp; Hyperfiction</td>
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<td>Location-based and AR</td>
<td>HCI &amp; Narratives</td>
<td>Emergent Narrative</td>
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<td>Emergent Narrative</td>
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ICIDS
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INTERACTIVE DIGITAL STORYTELLING
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>ICIDS</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>ICIDS 2008</td>
<td>November 26-29, 2008, Erfurt, Germany</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>ICIDS 2009</td>
<td>December 09-11, 2009, Guimarães, Portugal</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>ICIDS 2010</td>
<td>November 1-3, 2010, Edinburgh, UK</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>ICIDS 2011</td>
<td>November 28 – December 1, 2011, Vancouver, Canada</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>ICIDS 2013</td>
<td>November 6-9, 2013, Istanbul, Turkey</td>
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<td>2014</td>
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<td>November 3-6, 2014, Singapore</td>
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<td>2015</td>
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<td>December 2-4, 2015, Copenhagen, Denmark</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>ICIDS 2016</td>
<td>November 15-18, 2016, Los Angeles, USA</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>ICIDS 2017</td>
<td>November 14-17, 2017, Funchal, Madeira, Portugal</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>ICIDS 2018</td>
<td>December 5-8, 2018, Dublin, Ireland</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>ICIDS 2019</td>
<td>November 19-22, 2019, Little Cottonwood Canyon, UT, USA</td>
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<td>2020</td>
<td>ICIDS 2020</td>
<td>November 3-6, 2020, Bournemouth, UK</td>
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<td>2021</td>
<td>ICIDS 2021</td>
<td>November 14-17, 2021, Santa Cruz, CA, USA</td>
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Publications - Long and Short Papers


Demos, Workshops and Doctoral Consortium

ICIDS is also an occasion to collaborate and interact. The Demo session is a showcase of on-development IDNs. The workshops open a space of creation and discussion. And since 2017, the Doctoral Consortium aims to give feedback to graduate students and their projects, by a panel of experts from the field.

Art Exhibition

Since 2013, ICIDS opened an art exhibition to artists and practitioners of the IDNs. This space aims to build a bridge between academia and the art sphere.
Visegrad region and Central Eastern Europe conference on new technologies-performance-game design-interactivity and emerging practices

https://zip-scene.mome.hu/
Current Activities

Committees and Task Forces
Committees are focused on important aspects of IDN research e.g. diversity, academic promotion ask Forces address current needs and emerging areas of concern, e.g. tenure equivalency documentation, or IDN in K-12 education. Members can proposed new task forces at any time.

Monthly Online Social
Last wednesday of every month ARDIN members get together and share their projects. With an hour dedicated to senior researchers, and a second hour to grad students.

Website & Identity
We are building up ARDIN.online to be an even better resource for the community, including an improved repository for recorded talks and a regular curated showcase of works, while we are working on the identity of our association.
Diversity and Inclusion
This task force will work to further inclusivity and equity within our community and the discipline at large.

Graduate Research
This task force is concerned with the needs of grad students: their research projects, career advice, collaborations, etc.

IDN in education
How can we create literacy for IDN works in schools, and educate pupils (and teachers) about interactive digital narratives.

Tenure equivalency
This task force creates tenure equivalence documentation for tenure track scholars and maintains a list of expert examiners for academic examination.
Task Forces

Outreach

This task force aims to create awareness about IDN and ARDIN, and to build partnerships with industry, art and education institutions, among others key stakeholders.

Inclusive Pricing Structure

This task force is concerned with fair and inclusive pricing for memberships and conference registration in accordance to different income levels.
Applying for Research Grants

ARDIN is incorporated as an tax-exempt association in the Netherlands and registered with the EU (PIC no 896631044)

Members of ARDIN can apply for research grants and other types of funds using ARDIN as the host organization and/or partner.
Executive Board

- Hartmut Koenitz
  President, University of Amsterdam (NL)

- Frank Nack
  Treasurer, University of Amsterdam (NL)

- Lissa Holloway-Attaway
  University of Skövde (SWE)

- Alex Mitchell
  National University of Singapore (SG)

- Rebecca Rouse
  University of Skövde (SWE)

General Board

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  Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design (HU)

- Luis Bruni
  Aalborg University (DK)

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  NYU (USA)

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  Columbia College Chicago (USA)

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  Södertörn University (SWE)

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  Carleton University (CA) and Reykjavik University (IS)

- Michael Mateas
  UC Santa Cruz (USA)