



# 2026 AKADEMY



GRAZ / Hybrid Event/

**INFORMATION FOR SPONSORS**

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# AKADEMY

Akademy is the annual world summit of KDE. It is a free, non-commercial event organized by the KDE Community.

Developers, translators, designers, and other contributors meet in one place for talks program, meetings, and coding on the different projects that are part of KDE.

Our attendees numbers keep growing year over year.

During 2020 and 2021, Akademy moved to an online model which saw an increase in online engagement during the conference. In 2022 through 2024, we adopted a hybrid model combining online and in-person participation to reach hundreds of attendees worldwide. This approach continued in 2025, setting the stage for an even larger event in 2026.

The same model will apply during Akademy 2026, and we expect attendance to grow, making Akademy 2026 a year for collaboration and innovation. This year Akademy promises to be unforgettable!



“A world in which everyone has control over their digital life and enjoys **freedom** and **privacy**.”



# WHAT IS KDE?

KDE is a diverse, worldwide Free Software Community dedicated to creating an open and user- friendly computing experience. From file managers, email clients, and text editors to multimedia players and digital graphics tools, KDE applications help users control their digital lives regardless of their background and skills.

Always ahead of the curve, KDE is expanding its presence on mobile devices with Plasma Mobile and Kirigami. The KDE Community has also developed a wide range of Android apps, such as Minuet, Marble, KDE Connect, KStars and many more. These apps provide users with a seamless operational experience on smartphones and tablets.

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# OUR COMMUNITY

An international team developing and distributing Open Source software.

Our community has developed a wide variety of applications for communication, work, education and entertainment. We have a strong focus on innovative solutions to old and new problems, creating a vibrant, open atmosphere for experimentation.

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# 30 YEARS KDE

In 2026, we are organizing a special edition of Akademy to celebrate KDE's 30th birthday. We want to make this occasion memorable by celebrating this important milestone with Akademy.

The Birthday edition of Akademy will not only bring together contributors, users, and partners but will also reflect on three decades of community, collaboration, innovation, and Free Software. To make this Birthday edition of Akademy possible, we are looking for sponsors who can support the event and join us in marking this milestone.

This brochure outlines the available sponsorship options and how your organization can be part of Akademy 2026.







# GRAZ AUSTRIA

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## **Akademy 2026**

Akademy 2026 will be held at the Graz University of Technology, Austria.

Akademy 2026 will be a hybrid event, combining on-site and remote sessions, and will include talks, workshops, Birds of a Feather (BoF) meetups, training, and coding sessions. The conference is expected to draw hundreds of attendees from the global KDE community to discuss and plan the community's future and its technologies. Many participants from the broader free and open source software community, as well as local organizations and software companies, will also attend. The call for papers will open soon, with registration following shortly after. We will soon update Akademy's website. In the meantime, follow us on Mastodon, Lemmy, and Twitter to stay up to date with Akademy's news.

## **Graz, Austria**

Graz is the second-largest city in Austria and the capital of the federal state of Styria. Known for its well-preserved old town, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Graz offers a blend of historic charm and modern vibrancy. The city is home to numerous cultural attractions, including the iconic Schlossberg with its clock tower, the Kunsthaus Graz, and the Murinsel, a unique architectural feature on the River Mur. Graz is also renowned for its educational institutions, particularly the University of Music and Performing Arts Graz and the Graz University of Technology, making it a hub for innovation and research. The city's lively atmosphere, beautiful parks, and rich culinary scene make it an ideal destination for both leisure and professional visits.



# Why sponsor **AKADEMY?**

Sponsoring Academy gives you an excellent way to reach top Open Source developers and contributors comprised of an educated audience of highly-skilled technologists, always on the lookout for new projects and ways to improve their workflow.

As a player in the IT arena, your collaboration will give you a front-row seat to the sharpest and most motivated people in FLOSS as well as early access to potentially game-changing technologies and the single-minded people that can make them happen.



# Sponsorship LEVELS

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<b>Platinum*</b> EUR 16.000	<b>Gold</b> EUR 10.000	<b>Silver</b> EUR 8.000	<b>Bronze</b> EUR 6.000	<b>Supporter</b> EUR 2.000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ 3 min. Lightning talk presentation.</li><li>✓ "Thank you" mention in opening session and social media.</li><li>✓ Distribute promotional material during conference</li><li>✓ Featured logo in event's home page and sponsors page with description.</li><li>✓ Featured logo in conference videos.</li><li>✓ Featured logo in front of badge.</li><li>✓ Company banner in reception and hacking area.</li><li>✓ Access to KDE Board's networking event. 4 seats.</li><li>✓ Reserved recruiting and meeting space during event.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ 3 min. Lightning talk presentation.</li><li>✓ "Thank you" mention in opening session and social media.</li><li>✓ Distribute promotional material during conference.</li><li>✓ Featured logo in event's home page and sponsors page with description.</li><li>✓ Featured logo in conference videos.</li><li>✓ Featured logo in front of badge.</li><li>✓ Company banner in reception and hacking area.</li><li>✓ Access to KDE Board's networking event. 2 seats.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ 3 min. Lightning talk presentation.</li><li>✓ "Thank you" mention in opening session and social media.</li><li>✓ Distribute promotional material during conference.</li><li>✓ Featured logo in event's front page and sponsors page with description.</li><li>✓ Featured logo inside badge.</li><li>✓ Access to KDE Board's networking event. 2 seats.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ 3 min. Lightning talk presentation.</li><li>✓ "Thank you" mention in opening session and social media.</li><li>✓ Distribute promotional material during conference.</li><li>✓ Featured logo in event's front page and sponsors page with description.</li><li>✓ Access to KDE Board's networking event. 2 seats.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ 3 min. Lightning talk presentation.</li><li>✓ "Thank you" mention in opening session and social media.</li><li>✓ Access to KDE Board's networking event. 2 seats.</li><li>✓ Logo and company description in sponsor page of the event website.</li></ul>

(\*) The reserved recruiting and meeting space during the event depends if it is available from the venue.





## Sponsor our Social events

Various social events happen during Akademy. If you would like to sponsor any of our social events, feel free to contact us. These can be part of a package or negotiated separately. Available are welcome event, coffee breaks, sponsor's lunch, social event and day trip.

## Custom Sponsorship Packages

If none of the listed sponsorship packages fit the needs or budget of your company or organization, we can design a custom sponsorship package for you. If you want to discuss sponsorship or receive more information, please contact us by email at [akademy-sponsoring@kde.org](mailto:akademy-sponsoring@kde.org)

## Media Partners

We welcome news publishers - both of print and online publications - to become media partners by giving suitable coverage of Akademy. Media partners help us attract new participants, and can help us spread the news with reports during and after the conference.

Media partners will have their company or journal logo displayed on the website sponsors' page and in the conference program. Copies of your publications can be distributed to attendees. At the event itself, there will be a press room and a press team available to cater to the needs of visiting journalists.

## Signing Up for a Sponsorship Package

If you are interested in sponsoring Akademy, connect with us to discuss levels and terms. Please share your confirmation via email at [akademy-sponsoring@kde.org](mailto:akademy-sponsoring@kde.org) and we can share the sponsorship agreement with you.

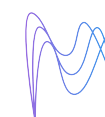
The Akademy team is looking forward to your confirmation of the sponsorship level that suits you and will be pleased to welcome you on board for Akademy 2026.





# Past Sponsors

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# TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Academy is organized by KDE e.V., for the effects of this document, the Academy Organizer.
- Sponsorship application and acceptance are managed at the discretion of the KDE e.V. Board in collaboration with the Academy Organization Team. Sponsors are expected to be committed to Free Software development and improvement, and supportive of Academy's mission. The Academy Organizer reserves the right to reject any Sponsor's application.
- After written acceptance by the Academy Organizer, the Sponsor must provide a signed Sponsorship Agreement, committed funds, a logo image (in the format required by the Academy Organization) and other necessary details (e.g. Sponsor's legal name, trademarks, etc.) to the Academy Organizer within 30 days of receiving the invoice.
- Sponsorship pledges will not be processed without payment.
- Sponsors may not sublet, assign or apportion any part of the item(s) sponsored nor represent, advertise, or distribute literature, or materials for products or services of any other firm or organization except as approved in writing by the Academy Organizer.
- The Academy Organizer will not be liable for any damage or loss of sponsors' property by fire, theft, accident, whether as a result of negligence, or extreme circumstances, or any other cause.
- For Sponsorship Packages that include the use of physical signage, signage space is limited. The Academy Organization will inform each sponsor of the maximum size or number of signs allowed at the venue.
- The Sponsor will provide banners, signage and promotional materials in advance by the date notified by the Academy Organizer. Promotional materials are not provided by the Academy Organizer. The Sponsor is also responsible for arranging the signage collection.
- To minimize waste, the Academy Organizer may replace some printed inserts and advertisement with electronic versions. Sponsors will be notified well in advance regarding advertisement changes so they can provide specific materials for the selected medium.
- The Sponsor grants the Academy Organizer the right and permission to use its name and/ or logo for promotion of the event.
- Any remaining funds from sponsorship will be donated to KDE e.V.
- If the event does not happen, the Sponsorship Agreement will be terminated and sponsorship will be returned after subtracting any direct costs already made for the event, such as materials printed or logistic costs for material returns.

