

INSTITUTE FOR STUDIES IN PRAGMATISM

APA CENTRAL GATHERINGS 2027
February 24–27, 2027, Denver, CO.

CALL FOR PAPERS

A Session Organized by
the Institute for Studies in Pragmatism

Mind, Music, and Body.

A cross-disciplinary approach to the musical mind.

Music represents one of the most profound fields of mind-body integration in human experience. Unlike most stimuli that engage isolated brain regions, music activates nearly the entire brain simultaneously, starting from primitive limbic structures governing emotion and memory to sophisticated cognitive centers responsible for prediction and planning.

As sound waves enter the ear and transform into neural signals, they trigger a cascade of effects throughout the body: heart rate synchronizes with rhythm, stress hormones diminish, and neural firing patterns mirror musical patterns through a process called entrainment. In social behavior, music may function as a tool for bonding, communication, and synchronization. This remarkable interplay explains why music can simultaneously move us, evoke powerful memories, alter our mood, and even promote healing; it bridges our physical, emotional, socio-cultural, and cognitive selves in ways that few other sign systems can achieve.

We invite contributions that explore such questions as:

How music engages the brain? What physical effects it can have on the body? How music activates mental and emotional connections?

How musical behavior functions as a process of social bonding?

Key Themes (including but not limited to):

- Neuroscience and music
- Cognitive music theory
- Physiology
- Movement and body
- Social psychology
- Social and cultural studies
- Artistic and creative

Please send your abstracts (300-500 words) to
brianna.sanchez@ttu.edu by September 10, 2026.

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About Us

The Institute for Studies in Pragmatism is the first and oldest organized center for research on the life and works of American physicist, mathematician, logician and engineer Charles Sanders Peirce (1839-1914), one of the greatest interdisciplinary scientists in history.

Its mission is to provide a collaborative space and intellectual network to experience the immediate benefits of cross-disciplinary research.



Conference Location:
Hilton Denver City Center
1701 California Street
Denver, Colorado 80202
United States