

**Dates:** May 5th - 7th 2026

Place: Kristiansand, Norway

# **GUITAR Maestro T.E.A.R.S 2026**

The NOT-TO-MISS three-day conference for pop/jazz/rock guitar teachers in higher music education institutions in the Nordic/Baltic region

What if the future of guitar education wasn't written in textbooks, but discovered together in a room full of curious guitar players? – Well... we are about to find out!

## Mastering (the space between) Function and Freedom

- What does this even mean?
- How free can you be as a guitarist?
- Should you fit into norms and roles?

Following up on the successful guitar teaching symposiums in 2019 and 2025, we're thrilled to invite you to **Guitar Maestro T.E.A.R.S. 2026** (Teaching **Excellence And Revolutionary Synergy**) in Kristiansand, Norway, **May 5-7, 2026**.

At this three-day conference for *you* – the most prominent guitar-teachers in the Nordic/Baltic region - we will be SHARING – NETWORKING & LEARNING, how we work with our students and collectively rethinking guitarist tutoring in higher music education programmes.

This is not a conference where you only sit and listen—it's one we build together!









### **Your Input Matter**

All participants are invited to share their most burning topic. Take a look at the headline: Mastering (the space between) **Function** and **Freedom**. Does this angle awake something inside you?

If – yes, then go with that.
If no, then we prefer whatever makes you burn!

When you register, tell us:

- One thing you'd like to share: It could be a teaching approach, a challenge you've overcome or struggled with, a question that's kept you up at night, or...
- Your preferred format: Teaching demonstration with/without students
   + Q&A, group discussion facilitation, presentation + dialogue, or ...

We're encouraging hands-on sessions with minimal PowerPoints and maximum guitars. Think live demonstrations, practical exercises, and conversations that spill into coffee breaks.

## Here are some ideas you may pick up:

- How do we teach versatility without sacrificing artistic identity?
- What's our responsibility in preparing students for economic realities?
- How can fundamental skills (reading, rhythm, phrasing) be taught in ways that inspire rather than bore?
- How do we teach concepts you don't personally perform (genres out side your comfort zone)?
- What learning objects (books, videos, etc.), do you use in your teaching?
- How do you balance individual lessons versus groups or ensembles?
- What do you find challenging to teach your students?
- What is relevant to teach? (and not)?









# REGISTRATION

## **Conference fees and registration**

Participation at the conference is **free for all**, and the NORDPLUS-funding will cover cheapest travel-option (flights-, train tickets, etc.), accommodation, and official meals for NORDPLUS-members. Other expenses (like Taxies and local transport) will have to be covered by participants.

**Important:** Due to limited capacity, we may need to prioritize participants who can attend the full conference and ensure diverse institutional representation. Early registration recommended.

### **Register Now**

### Complete the registration form at

https://nettskjema.no/a/gm2026 by deadline 21.11.2025

Registration open: 7th of November 2025

Registration closes: 21st of November 2025

Admission notice: 1st of December 2025











# INFORMATION

#### Venue

University of Agder, Kristiansand, Norway.

#### When

Monday 4th of May 2026 Arrivals
Tuesday 5th of May 2026 Day 1
Wednesday 6th of May 2026 Day 2

Thursday 7th of May 2026 Day 3 and departures

Let's stop teaching in isolation and start learning together.

## On behalf of the organizing committee

Martin Granum (RAMA), Marius Igland (UiA), Rolf Kristensen (UiA), Øyvind Nypan (UiA) and Ulf Bandgren (UoG)

## This initiative is funded by:

NORDPLUS and CreaTeME













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