REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

MIDAS-MUS: The Data Science for Music Challenge Initiative

One of the primary missions of the University of Michigan Institute for Data Science (MIDAS) is to foster innovative and groundbreaking multi-disciplinary research in data science. MIDAS is pleased to announce a new intramural research initiative in the Data Science for Music. Four (4) proposals will be funded at up to $75K each, for a duration of one year, based on a competitive process involving the submission of a Letter of Intent and invited submission of a full proposal.

This Initiative includes all areas of research at the interface of music and data science. Some examples are given below. Note that this list is not exhaustive, proposals of other topics that fit with the general theme of the Initiative are welcome.

- Auditory presentation and analysis of data;
- Algorithms and computer composition;
- Computational analysis of music and music perception;
- Performance analysis;
- Big Data-based acoustics or instrument design;
- The analysis of music education methods;
- Designing music and sound for use in healthcare, advocacy and other settings;
- “Crowd sourcing” for collaborative music making and experience;
- Music recommender systems;
- Data-based fundraising strategies for music organizations.

Who May Apply:
PIs and co-PIs should be faculty members at the University of Michigan Ann Arbor campus. An individual may participate as PI/co-PI on only one full proposal. Multi-disciplinary teams are especially encouraged to apply.

Important Dates:
- Jan. 19th, 2018: Letters of Intent due
- Feb. 16th, 2018: full proposal invitation issued
- Mar. 16th, 2018: full proposals due
- Apr. 16th, 2018: awards announced

How to Apply:

Letter of Intent:
- Deadline: Jan. 19th, 2018, 5 pm EST
- Two pages including background, project description, future plans, a list of senior personnel, budget outline, and key references.
- Two-page biosketch in NSF or NIH format for each PI and co-PI.
- To submit: midas-rfp@umich.edu

Full Proposal:
Invitation for full proposals will be issued on Feb. 16th, 2018.
Submission deadline: Mar. 16th, 2018, 5 pm EST
Proposal content:
  o Project description up to 6 pages, including Specific Aims, background, significance and innovation, methods, and future plans;
  o References (no page limit);
  o Two-page biosketch in NSF or NIH format for each PI, co-PI and senior personnel;
  o A detailed budget and budget justification (MIDAS will provide a template).
To submit: midas-rfp@umich.edu
Awards will be announced by Apr. 16th, 2018.

Review criteria
  o Relevance to the Initiative;
  o Likelihood of success of the proposed research;
  o Impact to the research field;
  o Innovation;
  o Benefit for UM research sustainability in Data Science for Music;
  o Multi-disciplinary collaboration.

Post-award expectations
  o PIs, co-PI's and senior investigators are expected to become MIDAS affiliate members.
  o All teams will be expected to: 1) submit annual progress reports; 2) participate in a workshop for all teams awarded under this Initiative; 3) maintain an active project website; 4) work with MIDAS to contribute in other ways to build UM research strength in this Initiative area.
  o All publications from this award should acknowledge MIDAS.

For questions please contact:
  o Jing Liu, MIDAS senior scientist, lijing@umich.edu, 734-764-2750