Akademy is the annual international conference of the KDE community and open to all who share an interest in the KDE community and its goals. This conference brings together artists, designers, programmers, translators, users, writers and other contributors to celebrate the achievements of the past year. Moreover, at Akademy visions for the next year are defined.

This year's meeting is being held in Tampere, Finland. Please visit the dedicated website at akademy.kde.org for all the latest information.

Other Meetings

The KDE community has many smaller meetings throughout the year that focus on one specific topic. These meetings allow developers to work intensively together for a period of time - often a long weekend, but sometimes lasting up to a week. Such meetings are ideal to define and reinforce the vision and strategy of a specific team or topic, and a lot of design work gets done. Akademy functions as an umbrella meeting. The individual teams use it to get work done, present their work from the last year and their plans for the future. Overarching strategies are defined, and new ideas can be discussed.

The Importance of Akademy

Akademy is also an important meeting in social terms. It keeps the community together and increases personal bonding. Developers go out together, have food and drinks, play games and share insights on code and know-how. Akademy also features many inspiring people from outside the circle of KDE contributors.

History of Akademy

Akademy 2010 will be the 8th edition of this event. Previous Akademy meetings have been held all over Europe:

- Akademy 2009/Gran Canaria Desktop Summit in Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, Spain
- Akademy 2008 in Mechelen, Belgium
- Akademy 2007 in Glasgow, Scotland
- Akademy 2006 in Dublin, Ireland
- Akademy 2005 in Málaga, Spain
- Akademy 2004 in Ludwigsburg, Germany
- Akademy 2003 in Nové Hrady, Czech Republic
Recent developments in the KDE technologies make it possible for users to connect with their data and with other users in new ways. In order to build upon this work, the main topics for this year's Akademy will be:

- Expanding Our World: KDE Beyond The Linux Desktop
  - KDE technologies have become increasingly available on mobile devices such as netbooks and mobile phones. This brings new challenges to the development of the KDE applications as well as new opportunities to greatly increase the visibility of the KDE community.
  - For this topic we encourage talks addressing the challenges of porting the KDE platform and applications to different operating systems and mobile devices, such as mobile phones and netbooks.
- Connecting Our World: Social Desktop
  - Social desktop technology is allowing users of KDE applications to connect with each other and to have stronger links with the developer community. This technology brings a new and unique element to the KDE user experience.

We are pleased to announce long time KDE developer Aaron Seigo and Valtteri Hala of Nokia will be this year's keynote speakers. See akademy.kde.org/program for the full list of speakers and activities.

Akademy Facts and Figures

Akademy is a truly international gathering:

- Over 50 countries have been represented at Akademy, reflecting KDE's strong international community
- Akademy generally draws anywhere between 250 and 400 participants

Sponsors

An event such as Akademy would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors, listed to the left

Further Information

KDE has a network of dedicated representatives who can give you more information on KDE and Akademy and put you in contact with members of our community who can best answer your questions. Please visit www.kde.org/contact for a full up to date list.