



67th Annual Maize Genetics Meeting

Union Station, St. Louis, Missouri, USA;

March 6th - 9th, 2025

Maize Genetics Meeting Steering Committee

Sherry Flint-Garcia (Chair), Frank Hochholdinger (Co-Chair), Rubén Rellán Álvarez (Past Chair), Oyenike Adeyemo (Africa Representative), Hank Bass, Keting Chen (Postdoc Representative), Melissa Draves (Student Representative), Sarah Jensen (Industry Representative), Sylvia Morais de Sousa Tinoco (Latin America Representative), Katie Murphy, Cinta Romay, Graziana Taramino (Industry Representative) and Feng Tian (Asia Representative), Petra Wolters (Industry Representative)

Ex-officio: Erin Sparks (*Treasurer*), Marty Sachs (*Guru*), Carson Andorf (*MaizeGDB Representative*), Darwin Campbell (*Planning/Audio Visual*), John Portwood (*Abstract, Website Coordinator*) and Tricia Simmons and Garrett Simmons (*Conference Managers*)

November 13, 2025

We cordially invite you to attend the 2025 Maize Genetics Meeting at the Union Station, St. Louis, Missouri, USA, beginning with the evening meal on Thursday, March 6th, and continuing until noon on Sunday, March 9th, 2025. Several pre-meetings are anticipated in the morning/afternoon of Thursday, March 6th. More information about these meetings can be found on the Maize Genetics Meeting website.

This year's meeting will feature four keynote speakers: Doreen Ware, USDA-ARS; Jonathan F. Wendel, Iowa State University; Ivan Baxter, Donald Danforth Plant Science Center; and Sióbhán Brady, HHMI and UC Davis. There will also be a keynote talk from the 2025 McClintock Prize awardee, Edward S. Buckler IV, USDA-ARS. In addition, Helen Anne Curry from Georgia Tech will give our Fostering Diversity in the Maize Research Community keynote. Further details about the program, registration for meeting and housing, abstracts, and transportation are available at the conference website: <https://www.maizegdb.org/mgc/maizemeeting/2025/>. This website will be updated regularly. **LODGING and REGISTRATION deadlines are February 7th 2025 and January 8, 2025, respectively. Please pay special attention to the earlier deadlines this year.** There are two separate registration procedures, one for lodging and one for the meeting.

1. Lodging Reservation

The Maize Meeting has arranged to offer discounted rates with Union Station Hotel. To reserve lodging, submit your reservation by February 7th through the [hotel links at the meeting website](#). The prices listed at the hotel link include room and taxes. If you need to locate a roommate, your registration will be simplified by doing so before submitting your lodging registration.

2. Meeting Registration

To register for the meeting, use the [Meeting Registration link on the meeting website](#) by January 8. Maize Genetics Cooperation members receive substantial discounts. We are asking members to maintain an active membership at the time of the meeting to enjoy member discount rates. For further information, you can contact the MGC at <https://mgcmembership.org/contact>. Membership fees help support the MGC and make the Maize Meeting possible. The registration fee includes buffet-style meals (dinner on Thursday, March 6th, through breakfast on Sunday, March 9th), refreshment breaks, everyone's share of the meeting and poster room rental costs, audio-visual, poster equipment, and other conference fees to cover the cost of running the meeting. We strongly encourage attendees to register in advance of the meeting, even after the January deadline, as pre-registration allows us to compile a list of attendees with their affiliations and to pre-print name tags. Meeting registration is handled by Conference Direct. Tricia Simmons and Garrett Simmons are the contacts and can be reached by email (Tricia.Simmons@conferencedirect.com and Garrett.Simmons@conferencedirect.com).

Schedule at a glance



MGC
Maize Genetics Cooperation, Inc.

SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE
MARCH 6-9, 2025

PLEASE NOTE: OPTIONAL TOURS HAVE LIMITED AVAILABILITY - AN EMAIL WILL BE SENT OUT WITH DETAILS AND SIGN-UP
PLEASE NOTE: ALL OPTIONAL PRE-MEETING WORKSHOPS ARE BY INVITATION OR REQUIRE SEPARATE REGISTRATION

	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
MORNING	OPTIONAL PRE-MEETING WORKSHOPS	OPTIONAL PRE-MEETING WORKSHOPS	BREAKFAST GENERAL SESSION	BREAKFAST GENERAL SESSION	BREAKFAST GENERAL SESSION
AFTERNOON	OPTIONAL PRE-MEETING WORKSHOPS	OPTIONAL PRE-MEETING WORKSHOPS OPTIONAL TOURS 39N/DANFORTH CENTER BAYER POSTER HANGING	NETWORKING LUNCH LUNCH WORKING GROUPS POSTER SESSION 1	NETWORKING LUNCH LUNCH WORKING GROUPS POSTER SESSION 2	2025 MAIZE MEETING CONCLUDES 12:30 PM OPTIONAL TOUR MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
EVENING		5 PM MAIZE MEETING BEGINS DINNER GENERAL SESSION	DINNER SPONSOR DINNERS GENERAL SESSION	DINNER SPONSOR DINNERS GENERAL SESSION	
NIGHT		9 PM - MIDNIGHT INFORMAL POSTER VIEWING & HOSPITALITY ROUND 1 CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT	9 PM - MIDNIGHT INFORMAL POSTER VIEWING & HOSPITALITY OPERA BELL BAND ROUND 2 CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT	9 PM - MIDNIGHT INFORMAL POSTER VIEWING & HOSPITALITY FINAL ROUND CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT	

If you want to attend the optional activities, please plan your travel accordingly.
Registration for the pre- and post-meeting activities will be announced separately.

TALKS, POSTERS, and ABSTRACTS deadlines are Wednesday, January 8, 2025.

In addition to the plenary, fostering diversity, and McClintock speakers, the program will include ~30 short talks (15 minutes each) selected from submitted abstracts, ~20 lightning talks (2 minutes each, 1 slide), and extended poster sessions. All abstracts must be submitted electronically by the January 8, 2025 deadline via the Abstract Form on the MGM website. Abstract submission is separate from the meeting registration and lodging reservation procedures.

In the abstract form you'll indicate whether you wish to present a poster or be considered for a short talk. Due to time constraints, some authors who request short talks will be asked to present their data in poster format instead. Those presenting a poster can opt-in to be considered for a lightning talk. Authors of short talk abstracts will be notified of format decisions via email by February 1st, 2025. Poster presenters will be notified by February 4th, 2025 if their abstract has been selected for a lightning talk. Consistent with past practice and the spirit of collegiality and inclusivity within the maize community, all poster abstracts by registered attendees will be accepted; you will NOT receive a separate confirmation that your poster abstract has been accepted. By submitting your abstract for short-talk consideration, you are consenting to your presentation being recorded and made available to in-person attendees and those who register for recording access. Recordings will be accessed through a password-protected site for six months after the meeting. Following these six months, you will have the option to not include your talk in the public archive that will be hosted on MaizeGDB. Maximum poster dimensions are 114cm horizontal x 104cm vertical (45 inches horizontal x 40 inches vertical).

CONTEST TO DESIGN THE 2025 MEETING LOGO:

A logo for the cover of the abstract book and conference t-shirt will be selected from designs submitted by cooperators. Please submit original artwork via the [ABSTRACT page](#) on the MGM website, by January 8, 2025.

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID:

The steering committee is soliciting federal grants and industry donations to help defray meeting costs for graduate students and for those undergraduates who are the first and presenting author of a poster or talk. If the student is eligible for financial aid and fundraising efforts are as successful as in previous years, then the hotel room will be paid upon check out. **This year, students from outside the United States are also encouraged to apply.** To apply, a student must:

Make reservations at the hotel reservation links on the meeting website (your credit card will not be charged until checkout from the hotel; however, a hold will likely be placed on your credit card for that amount, thus tying up your available balance).

Complete an application requesting support at <https://maizegdb.org/mgc/maizemeeting/2025/financialaid.php>.

Applications for student support must be received by January 8, 2025.

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL AID:

There are five additional awards intended to broaden meeting participation. **Most applications are due by December 2;** see <https://www.maizegdb.org/mgc/maizemeeting/2025/financialaid.php> for details. 1) A limited number of MaGNET Awards are available to support travel costs for students and researchers from underrepresented groups (restricted to U.S. citizens and permanent residents). 2) The Expanding Institutional Access (EIA) Program seeks to recruit and retain scientists from diverse institutions including community colleges, primarily undergraduate and masters granting institutions (restricted to U.S. citizens and permanent residents). 3) The Disciplinary Breadth (DB) Award will provide support for researchers in plant-related disciplines (restricted to U.S. citizens and permanent residents). 4) The Roots & Shoots Travel Award will support a limited number of travel awards for student/mentor pairs affiliated with SACNAS or MANRRS. This travel award is open to international applicants, including non-US citizens and those affiliated with an institution outside of the United States. 5) The Broadening International Participation (BIP) Program seeks to promote international access to the recordings of all talks (short talks, invited speakers, etc.) made at the 2025 Maize Genetics Meeting meeting for researchers from countries that are historically under-represented at the Maize Meeting and/or who may face financial challenges in paying registration fees.

EVENING RECEPTIONS:

On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings, beer, wine, and soft drinks will be available near the poster area until midnight.

FUTURE MAIZE MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mark your calendars now for the 2026 Maize Meeting, which will be held February 26 to March 1, 2026 in Cologne (Köln) Germany. We hope this information will help you plan ahead.

Meeting announcements are sent only by email. To ensure you receive future announcements, please make sure you are a [Maize Genetics Cooperator](#).

We look forward to seeing you all at the meeting!

Sherry Flint-Garcia

On behalf of the 2025 Maize Genetics Meeting Steering Committee