iPRES 2019 in a nutshell

Eye on the Horizon

This year, from 16-20 September, the largest and longest running International Conference on Digital Preservation - iPRES - will be held for the 16th time. This annual conference focuses on the latest developments in the area of digital preservation. In a world in which digital information is becoming increasingly important, today’s focus is on how this information can be kept permanently accessible. The topic of *digital preservation* is too comprehensive to be solved by one single country and requires international collaboration. The conference provides almost 400 experts in this area with the perfect opportunity to gather together: an international selection of researchers, students, software suppliers, archivists, librarians and other interested parties. This year’s theme is ‘Eye on the Horizon’ and guests will be welcomed at the Eye Filmmuseum, which is beautifully located by the IJ in Amsterdam.

Netwerk Digitaal Erfgoed

The Netwerk Digitaal Erfgoed (Dutch Digital Heritage Network) considers it a great honour to be the organiser for this year’s event. This network is the result of the Dutch collaboration in the area of digital heritage, consisting of an increasing number of network partners: museums, archives, libraries, research institutes and other parties from the heritage sector. Heritage collections include a wealth of information that is of interest for newly developed digital applications, for example all information about an artist such as Vincent van Gogh, or the historical development of a location such as the Amsterdamse IJ. The objective is to make this fully available and permanently accessible. The Dutch Digital Heritage Network has established a national strategy and is working on ways to increase the ‘visibility, usability and durability’ of digital heritage collections. As an initiator and one of the main sponsors of the Network, the Dutch government plays an important role.

Digital preservation is among the main themes of the Dutch Digital Heritage Network. With the establishment of the Netherlands Coalition for Digital Preservation (NCDD) in 2008, a national collaboration in this area was put into place. The NCDD has been integrated into the Dutch Digital Heritage Network in 2018, which makes it the perfect host of iPRES 2019. iPRES participants can take inspiration from the Dutch collaboration which can be considered unparalleled in the world. Conversely, during the iPRES 2019 the Dutch heritage sector may reinforce their knowledge about digital preservation.

The iPRES 2019 program

iPRES 2019 provides a varied programme of keynotes, presentations, panels and workshops about the latest developments. The conference is not just about technology, but also focuses on strategy, research, collaboration and innovation. Ample opportunity is provided to meet, exchange ideas or attend demonstrations. Hackathons are scheduled, new games are introduced and the most innovative paper and poster will be honoured. On the closing day, participants can visit various heritage institutions in the Netherlands for an inspirational look behind the scenes to see how they deal with digital preservation. This will be the conclusion of this week of cross-pollination between the international *digital preservation community* and the Dutch heritage sector.

More information

Go to <https://ipres2019.org/> for more information about iPRES 2019 and to <https://www.netwerkdigitaalerfgoed.nl/> for more information about the Dutch Digital Heritage Network. The contact person is Angela Puggioni, angela.puggioni@netwerkdigitaalerfgoed.nl.