

# **linuxaudio.org**

## **Who, What & Why?**

# The Easy Part...

## What and Who

Linuxaudio.org is a not-for-profit consortium of libre software projects and artists, companies, institutions, organizations, and hardware vendors using Linux kernel-based systems and allied libre software for audio-related work, with an emphasis on professional tools for the music, production, recording, and broadcast industries. The consortium aims to co-ordinate joint projects between members, collaborate on the promotion of Linux based systems for audio tasks, offer programs beneficial to members and subsequently its mission, and provide a single point of contact for prospective industry partners.

# ...and the Other, Not So Easy Part

## Why

- Provide a central resource for Linux audio community
  - Contact
  - Discussion
  - Web-related resources
- Foster interaction with the audio industry
  - Serve as a liaison between developers & distributors
- Programs which support the relevant endeavors
  - PR
  - CD compilation

# History

- **2004** (where it all began)
  - 17 founding member projects create Linuxaudio.org
    - Daniel James – director
    - Dave Phillips – director of the management board
    - 10 project representatives act as the management board
    - Members

# History

- **2005** (transition)
  - "Made in Linux" presented at LAC 2005
    - Foundation
    - Artist opportunity
    - General outreach
  - Proposal to merge "Made in Linux" and Linuxaudio.org
  - Daniel James steps down as the acting director
  - Membership grows to ~22 members
  - Ivica Ico Bukvic elected as the new director

# Today

## 34+ Members

- **64 Studio**

Linux distribution for creative x86\_64 users

- **(CCM)2**

University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music's Center for Computer Music.

- **AGNULA**

Libre software and music project

- **ALSA**

Soundcard drivers and utilities for Linux

- **Ardour**

Digital audio workstation for Linux

- **Audacity**

Cross-platform multitrack recorder and editor

- **Boost Hardware**

Custom built portable Linux DAW and DJ machines

- **Core Sound**

Portable recording hardware and microphone manufacturers

- **Csound**

Programming language for sound rendering and signal processing

- **Dyne:bolic**

Linux distribution running from CD-ROM

- **Fervent Software**

The company behind the Rosegarden sequencer

- **Frinika**

Frinika virtual music studio software

- **4Front Technologies**

Developers of Open Sound System and 3D audio technologies

- **FreeBoB**

Developing support for FireWire audio interfaces

- **GStreamer**

Multimedia framework for Linux

- **JACK**

Low latency audio server for Linux

- **Jack Rack**

LADSPA effects rack for the JACK audio server

- **JAMin**

Mastering tool for the JACK audio server

- **LilyPond Software Design**

Support, custom development and maintenance for the LilyPond music typesetter.

- **Linux Audio Systems**

The company supporting the Ardour DAW

- **Lionstracs**

Linux-based workstation keyboard manufacturers

- **Mandriva**

Publisher of the Mandriva (formerly Mandrake) distribution

- **Mirror Image Studios**

Linux based recording studio

- **Music Technology Laboratory**

At the National University of Ireland, Maynooth

- **Pawfal.org**

Software including Spiral Synth Modular and livenoisetools

- **Plugin.org.uk**

Home of many LADSPA effects plugins

- **Pure-Data**

Pure-Data visual digital signal processing programming language

- **Rosegarden**

MIDI and audio sequencer for Linux

- **RTcmix**

Digital signal processing and sound synthesis language

- **RTMix**

Real-time performance, composition, production and coaching interface

- **Ubuntu Linux**

Publisher of Ubuntu Linux

- **Ubuntu Studio**

Project aimed to enhance Ubuntu for professional audio purposes

- **Virginia Tech Department of Music**

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences' department of music

- **Xiph.Org Foundation**

Free and open protocols and software for multimedia

- **Several Memberships Pending**

# Today

- Management Board
  - Andrea Glorioso (AGNULA)
  - Patrick Shirkey (Boost Hardware)
  - Jaromil (dyne:bolic)
  - Richard Bown (Fervent Software)
  - Christian Schaller (Gstreamer)
  - Jan Depner (JAMin)
  - Ron Parker (Mirror Image)
  - Steve Harris (plugin.org.uk)
  - Chris Cannam (Rosegarden)
  - Daniel Wagner (FreeBob)
  - Daniel James (64 Studio)

# Today

- Assimilation and Integration of "Made in Linux" ideas
- Growing presence
  - Sponsoring outreach events at conferences and expos
  - A number of high-profile members
  - IBM/OSDL Desktop project



# Today

- Consolidation of Web resources
  - Hosted by Virginia Tech (US)
    - Virtually unlimited bandwidth
    - MySQL, Php, Imagemagick
- Currently hosted sites:
  - [www.linuxaudio.org](http://www.linuxaudio.org)
  - [lad.linuxaudio.org](http://lad.linuxaudio.org)
  - [lau.linuxaudio.org](http://lau.linuxaudio.org)
  - [ladspavst.linuxaudio.org](http://ladspavst.linuxaudio.org)
  - [lowlatency.linuxaudio.org](http://lowlatency.linuxaudio.org)
  
  - [quicktoots.linuxaudio.org](http://quicktoots.linuxaudio.org) (in-progress)
  - [docs.linuxaudio.org](http://docs.linuxaudio.org) (in-progress)
  
  - LAC depository of oggcasts (6GB and growing)

# Today

- 2 Message Boards
  - <http://lists.linuxaudio.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/consortium/>  
(open)
  - <http://lists.linuxaudio.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/management/>  
(closed, moderated)
- Preparation for the establishment of the non-profit organization
  - Bylaws (in-progress)
  - Articles of Incorporation (in-progress)
  - New branding logo

The logo features a stylized black and white penguin, Tux, standing on a small black base. It is positioned to the left of the text, with its body partially overlapping the first few letters of the domain name.

**linuxaudio.org**

# Facts

- Linuxaudio.org is not a VIP club
- Any legal Linux audio-related endeavor is welcome to join
- Focus on libre projects and allied endeavors

# Membership

- To join simply e-mail the director stating your interest in becoming a member
  - By joining one expresses support of Linuxaudio.org's mission
  - No dues and/or other hidden costs, ever
- Currently, membership limited to
  - Libre software projects
  - Institutions
  - Organizations (for and non-for-profit)
  - Corporations
  - Hardware vendors
- SYMBIOSIS
  - Linuxaudio.org gains credibility
  - Members gain free exposure whenever possible

# FUTURE

- Continued growth
- Incorporation as a non-profit organization by the year's end
  - Where?
  - Overhaul board
    - Need for dedicated volunteers
      - Director
      - Assist. Director
      - Treasurer
      - Membership/Outreach
      - Secretary
      - Other?

# FUTURE

- Continue consolidation of Web resources
  - Monthly editorials/reports
  - Dynamic page
  - Wiki resources/documentation
    - Dave's book?
- Expand membership to artists (paid?)
- Categorize membership to allow group-specific benefits

# Why Revisited

- Provide a central resource for Linux audio community
  - Contact
  - Discussion
  - Web-related resources
- Foster interaction with the audio industry
  - Serve as a liaison between developers & distributors
- Programs which support the relevant endeavors
  - PR
  - CD compilation



# Why Revisited

- **Provide a central resource for Linux audio community**
  - **Contact**
  - **Discussion**
  - **Web-related resources**
  - Consolidation
  - Standardization
- **Foster interaction with the audio industry**
  - Offer institutionalized point of contact
  - Tax-deductible contributions
  - **Serve as a liaison between developers, distributors, artists, end-users etc.**
- **Programs which support the relevant endeavors**
  - **PR**
  - **Annual CD compilation**
  - Awards
  - Journal/editorials
  - Documentation
  - Relationship with LAC?
  - Bounties?

# FAQ

- Anticipated fiscal potential of Linuxaudio.org--is it really worth it?
- Linuxaudio.org and FSF
- Where did GNU go?
- Linuxaudio vs. Libreaudio
- What about patents?

# Acknowledgments

- General Linux and Linux audio community
- Management Board and the general membership
- Thorsten Wilms and Patrick Shirkey (logo)
- Virginia Tech ([www.vt.edu](http://www.vt.edu))

# Q & A

Linuxaudio.org  
Attn: Ivica Ico Bukvic, Director  
Virginia Tech  
Dept. of Music - 0240  
Blacksburg, VA 24061  
U.S.A.

+001 540/231-7047 (phone)  
+001 540/231-5034 (fax)

ico@linuxaudio.org  
www.linuxaudio.org

