

11th of January, 2025

To,
My string theory colleagues.

Subject: **Proposal for Strings 2026 at ICTS**

Greetings.

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing this letter as a call for signatures and to propose hosting **Strings 2026** at the International Centre for Theoretical Sciences. Seeing as there are no proposals yet¹ for hosting the next Strings conference, I wish to take this opportunity to request those interested to sign this proposal to pitch a proposal @ICTS-TIFR, which had previously hosted Strings 2015.

Keep in mind that this is only a potential possibility and that no such logistics have been pitched to ICTS beforehand. I am relying on your support to be able to suggest the next Strings conference. It would be *very* unfortunate if as researchers in the high energy theory community, the wonderful and amazing conference that is the Strings conference, would be stagnated without continuous hosts. In the pages provided, I urge you to add your name, affiliation and signatures to support this proposal. If this letter gets enough signatures, I will send this proposal to Suvrat Raju, and cc the Strings organizing committee.

Since there is no particular organizing committee to approach to, this proposal would be sent via the ICTS event/conference proposals webpage. This also means that any co-organizers *must step up* and come forward for the Strings pitch; I urge you to email me at vaibhavkalvakota@gmail.com.

Please note that currently it is too early to be able to provide a tentative date for the proposed Strings, and this proposal might even be discarded in case there is no organizing interest. However, we will submit this letter by this month, so kindly provide signatures and co-organizing interest emails by the **25th of January, 2025**.

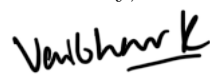
Note also that this is too early to tell; in case other universities/organizers step up, there is a not-marginal chance that this proposal would be overridden. But the core purpose of this proposal is to provide a potential Strings conference alternative in case no other universities step up. In the event that this becomes the canonical choice, we would indeed be very glad that Strings would come to ICTS after a long decade of waiting.

Kindly forward this to your colleagues and academic institutions to express interest in this proposal. Since the viability of this proposal is also very time-sensitive, I strongly request that those interested in

¹As of 10th January, 2026 remarked by David Gross.

being co-organizers on the pitch email by the cutoff mentioned above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vaibhav K". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. The "K" is particularly prominent and stylized.

Vaibhav Kalvakota

encl: **Signatures:**

