



AWC21 - October 05-07

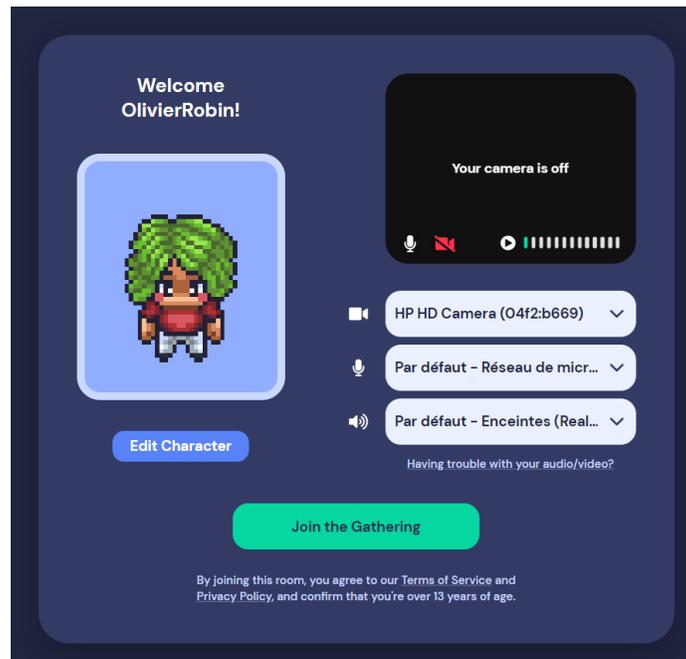
1) What is gather.town ?

The virtual conference will be held using the gather.town platform. Gather.town is a 2D web-conferencing software which allows you to meet others in a virtual "room" with the ability to move around and interact with other participants to mimic real-life interaction. Users can easily start conversations via chat or video, or return to a main speaker nearly « just like at a real-world conference ». In Gather.town, you use your avatar to walk around, to sit down at tables, and start a conversation with other attendees.

IMPORTANT: Chrome or Firefox Browser are strongly suggested.

2) How it works?

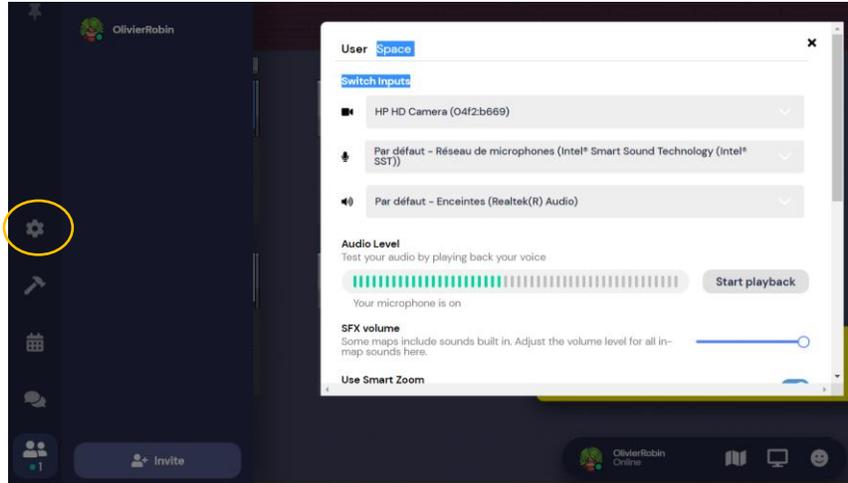
When entering Gather you will always be asked to set up your input devices, including the microphone and camera you want to use. You can keep them closed if you want. When you first enter Gather, you will be asked to enter your name and set up your avatar (edit character, see figure below).



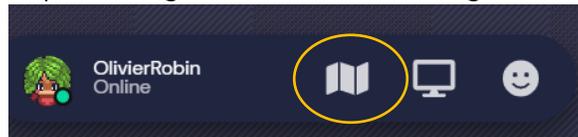


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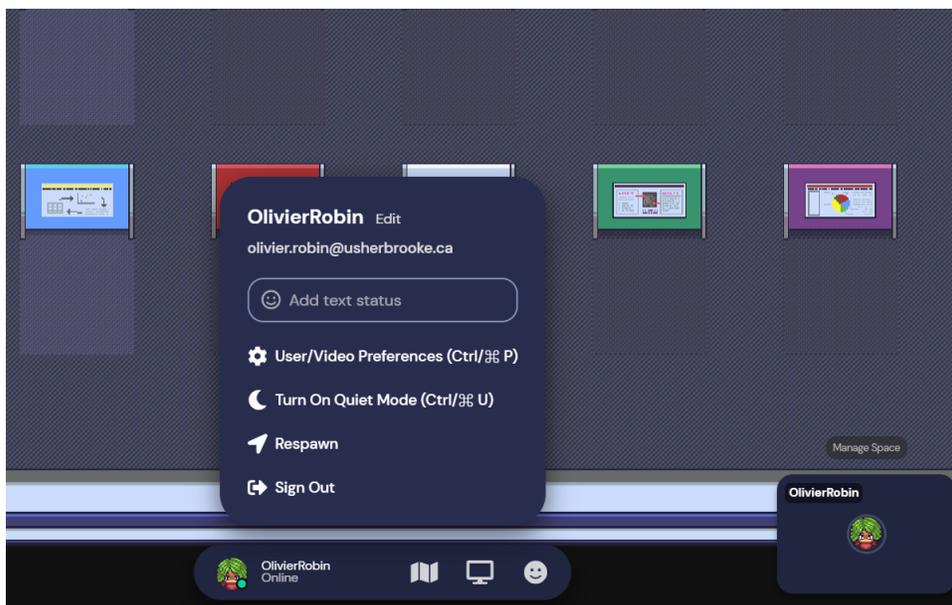
To properly use Gather, you must give permission to access your camera and your microphone: Settings can be always later updated.



You can use the minimap tool to get an overview of the gathering area.



If you click on your avatar in the toolbar, you can update user/video preferences, turn on quiet mode, or 'respawn' (this brings you back to the original position where you entered the gathering).





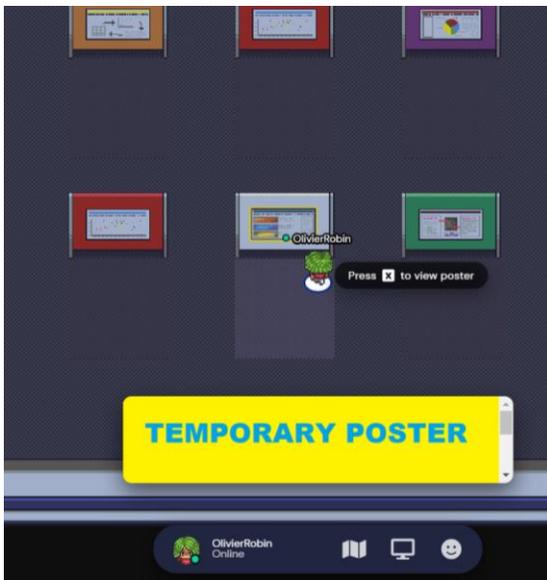
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3) Navigate in the map and interact with other participants

In the beginning Gather offers you a tutorial to show you the most basic functions. Use your mouse or keyboard to walk around the space. Use the arrow keys or WASD keys to move your avatar around the map. Use Ctrl +/- on your keyboard to zoom in and out of the map. You will be automatically connected by video and audio when you are in certain proximity to someone else.

When your avatar approaches others, a video call automatically starts between you and the people you approach. All videos will initially appear at the top of your screen. In an open area, you will be connected to everyone within a 5-tile radius unless you activate Quiet Mode. When you are in a Private Area, you will be connected to everyone who is also inside of the private area.

4) Presentation of posters or additional materials online



Posters are implemented as interactive objects. Once you are close to a poster, you can see that the interactive object appears highlighted. This is a private area.

Within this private area you can only see and hear the other people in the same area. Likewise, you can only be seen and heard by them.

This way you can talk to the poster presenter without interrupting other people nearby looking at other posters.

The Poster is highlighted and you can also see a little preview at the bottom. **You can press "x" on your keyboard and take a**

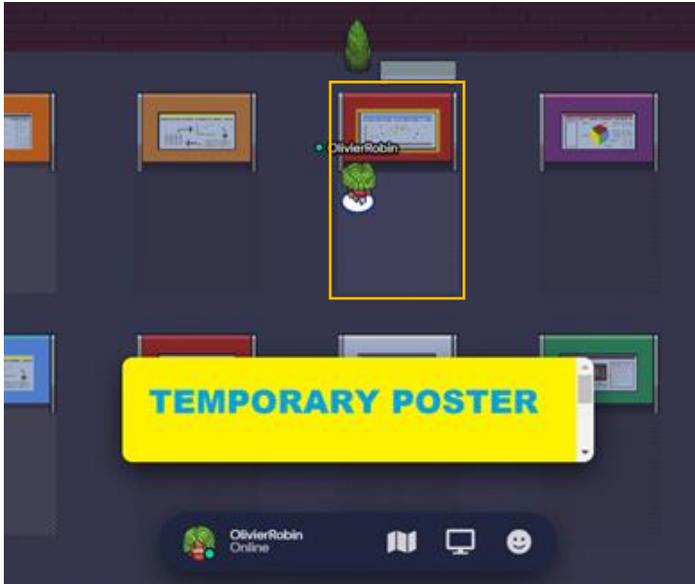
look at the poster in full by 'interacting' with the poster. You can drag the poster around to see every part of it. Also, on the right-hand side you find a zoom button to zoom in and out of the poster.

Finally, there is a laser pointer button. When this Button is active, you can click at any spot of the poster and it will be highlighted with a red circle. In this way you can interact with the presenter by asking specific questions concerning the elements you pointed out. Everyone else looking at the poster will also be able to see your laser pointer. Press "x" on your keyboard again to leave the poster view. All in all, you can easily walk up to a poster and pop in and out of presentations and conversations. With this you are able to naturally and easily see the posters and the presenters at the same time.



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5) Poster / presentation online

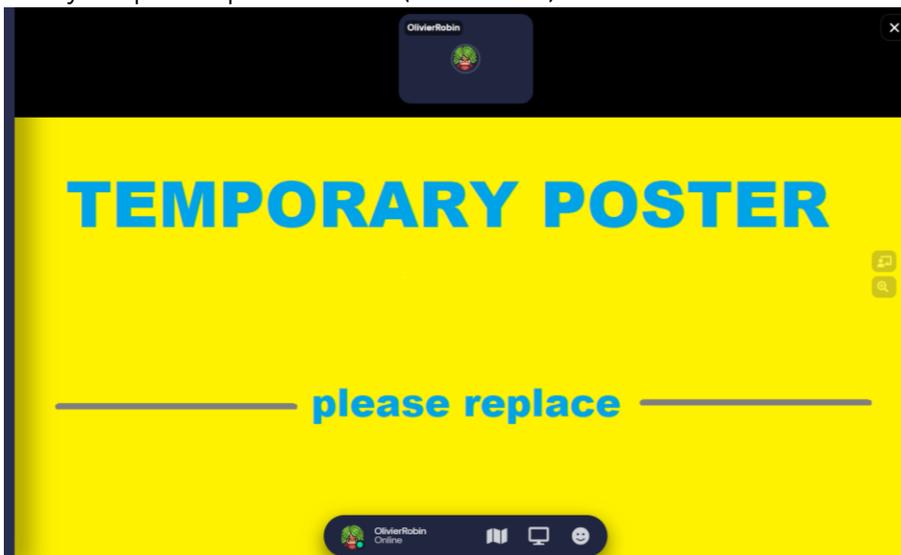


You should stand in the shaded square in front of your poster. This shaded square is known as a “private space” and your audio/video will be shared with everyone else in this square, but not neighboring spaces. Left figure illustrates poster previews seen while walking around the poster room.

Here are some tips and suggestions to prepare material with which you can interact with people. This material is meant to complement your 3-minute video.

(1) Title/abstract in PDF format: Title/abstract for your poster. (You can use the one you already submitted or an updated version.) This will be made available to all attendees beforehand so they can get a preview of your poster.

(2) Poster in JPG or PNG format: This is what the participants will see when interacting with your poster presentation (see below).





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(3) How to properly size images.

- o Maximum size: 3MB (to improve upload and visualization)
- o Minimum width: 1000px
- o Minimum height: 600px

Submit the same image as in (2) but resized for a preview.

6) How to prepare files?

For the main poster/document

1. We recommend using Powerpoint.
2. Select the Design tab
3. Select the Slide Size icon and choose Custom Slide Size from the dropdown menu
4. Change width to 27cm and Height to 16cm.
5. A pop-up will appear prompting you to make a selection. Choose Ensure Fit.
6. File > Save. Name appropriately and save as JPG.

For the poster preview

1. Repeat steps 1-3 from above.
2. Change width to 13.5cm and Height to 8cm.
3. A pop-up will appear prompting you to make a selection. Choose Ensure Fit.
4. File > Save. Name appropriately and save as JPG.