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On Wednesday, 24 December 2025, **Samuel Zambelli**, aged 48, tragically passed away following sudden heart failure while on holiday with his family. Samuel was the son of Luigi Zambelli, who served for many years as a valued member of the Intersteno Education Committee and the Italian delegation. Samuel had taken over *Studio Acta*, the reporting company founded by his father, and was vice president of the local club Lagaria Rugby Rovereto.

Our heartfelt condolences go to his wife Roberta, his sons Lorenzo and Leonardo, Jankuba, and his father Luigi, who tragically lost his beloved wife Emma in a car accident last year. We wish Samuel’s family, friends, and all those who had the good fortune to know or work with him, strength and comfort as they cope with this deeply sad and cruel loss.

All contributions to this e-news are published under the full responsibility of their authors only.

## President's message



My dear Intersteno Friends,

I look back with satisfaction on the past year, during which we had good meetings with the Board in Florence as well as with the Council in Córdoba in the lead-up to the 2026 congress in Liverpool. Naturally, decisions have been made that affect the congress in Liverpool, and preparations are going smoothly.

In this final e-news of 2025, there is, among other things, attention to the new Intersteno real-time internet competition.

The year is almost over. I wish you and your loved ones happy holidays and a good New Year!

The next e-news will appear in March 2026. The deadline for submitting articles is at the end of February, to be sent to [marlenerijkse@intersteno.org](mailto:marlenerijkse@intersteno.org).

*Rian Schwarz-van Poppel*  
*Intersteno president*



## 2026 Internet Keyboarding Competition

By Georgette Sante

A vibrant banner for the 2026 Internet Keyboarding Competition. The background features a close-up of a computer keyboard with a glowing globe in the center, overlaid with binary code (0s and 1s).

 **24<sup>th</sup> Edition**  
**World Class Typing!**

**2026 Internet Keyboarding Competition**

Registrations: **16<sup>th</sup> February - 17<sup>th</sup> April**  
Contest: **13<sup>th</sup> March - 27<sup>th</sup> April**

A blue poster for the 2026 24th International keyboarding competition by Internet. It features the INTERSTEND logo on the left and the competition details on the right.

**2026**  
**24<sup>th</sup> International keyboarding competition by Internet**

<b>Registration</b>	from Monday, February 16 <sup>th</sup> to Friday, April 17 <sup>th</sup>	2026
<b>Contest</b>	from Friday, March 13 <sup>rd</sup> to Monday, April 27 <sup>th</sup>	2026

**No extension of deadlines will be granted.**



## ‘Stenography Museum’ in Korea with more contents

By Yeonhwan Choi

The ‘Stenography Museum’ of the Computer Aided Stenography Association of Korea (Choi Gwangseok, Chairman) provides richer contents and has also expanded spatially. On November 19, Koreasteno (Shon Seok Yeon, CEO) donated one stenography keyboard ‘CAS pro-X’ to the Stenography Museum. ‘CAS pro-X’ can be driven by connecting only power to the keyboard without connecting to a computer or laptop, and there is an LCD screen, so you can directly check your typing contents with a keyboard and input the data on an SD card. Products with this function are the only ones in Korea that are produced by Koreasteno. It is expected that Koreasteno's new product in 2026 will also be displayed at the Stenography Museum.

In addition, Koreasteno, which has participated several times in Intersteno Congresses and the Friendship Competition in China, provided the association with photos and souvenirs related to this, and the status of overseas friendship relations in Korean voice-textualized industry can be found in the Stenography Museum. Due to the narrow space, some exhibits are displayed at the office of Koreasteno.

Meanwhile, the Stenography Museum opened in December 2017 and is the first permanent exhibition hall in the stenography industry of Korea. You can also see products and services from the world's stenography industry.



## VIKTOR FRANKL. Shorthand in the Darkness: The Fragile Notes That Kept Hope —and a Masterpiece— Alive

By Marcela Beatriz Kobe (Tucumán, Argentina)

A story taken from my book: “*SHORTHAND. Origins, Stories, Personalities, Writers, and the Present.*”

Twenty years ago, I came across this story related to shorthand while reading Viktor Frankl’s *Man’s Search for Meaning*.

**Viktor Frankl** (1905–1997) was an Austrian neurologist, psychiatrist, and philosopher who founded Logotherapy and Existential Analysis. From 1942 to 1945, he was imprisoned in four Nazi concentration camps, including Auschwitz and Dachau. From that experience of survival, he wrote *Man’s Search for Meaning* (1946).

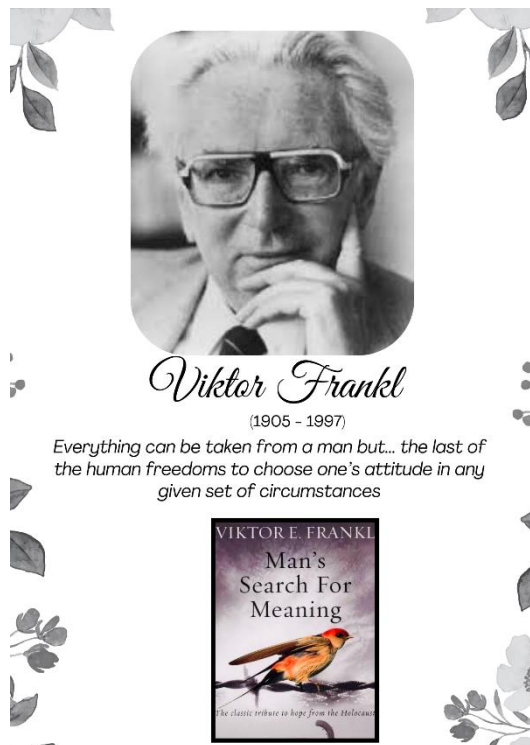
The story begins when Frankl was captured by the Germans and transported to a concentration camp. He had hidden a manuscript that was ready for publication, his “spiritual child.” He naively believed he could preserve it.

Throughout his book, Frankl reflects on how deeply he regretted losing those writings. Near the end of his captivity, he contracted typhus. The disease caused patients to fall into delirium as they slept, so to prevent drifting into sleep, he and other prisoners forced themselves to stay awake. During those nights, Frankl tried to recall the key passages from his lost manuscript –misplaced in one of the camps– and secretly jotted them down, in **shorthand**, on whatever scraps of paper he could find. This occurred in the final stage of his imprisonment.

After liberation, once reintegrated into civilian life, Frankl reconstructed his **shorthand notes** –twelve small, improvised slips of paper– and published his first book, *Psychoanalysis and Existentialism*.

Following the success of the publication –the first edition sold out in three days– he was appointed head of the Neurology Department at the Vienna Polyclinic.

In 1946, he released *Man’s Search for Meaning*, where he recounts his experiences in the concentration camps. There, he describes how he was able to test firsthand his central thesis: that for a person to survive, life must hold meaning. “Even suffering,” Frankl writes, “must have meaning for us.”



## Try Intersteno's New Realtime Internet Competition — Challenge Yourself and Connect Globally!

By Russell Page



Are you looking for a fresh way to test your realtime writing skills and see how you stack up against colleagues from around the world? Intersteno, the global organization connecting professionals in reporting, captioning, and information processing, has launched a new Realtime Internet Competition managed by the Italian delegation— and it's the perfect opportunity for both students and professionals to showcase their speed, accuracy, and professionalism on a global stage.

Unlike traditional contests, this online event is open to anyone, anywhere. Participants connect through a secure online platform, where they transcribe a short realtime text in their preferred language and system — whether that's stenotype, voice writing, or another method. The competition is designed to be quick, fair, and fun, providing instant feedback and results.

Why participate?

- Sharpen your realtime skills. The competition simulates real-world writing pressure in a supportive, friendly setting.
- Represent your country and colleagues in showing the world the excellence of realtime reporters and captioners.
- Join a global community. You'll be competing alongside professionals and students from more than 30 countries — a rare chance to connect across borders.
- Celebrate the craft. Intersteno's events honor the shared values of speed, accuracy, and communication that define our profession.

The competition takes place February 1-8, 2026, with registration open January 7-31. If you've never participated before, now's the time to give it a try. Registration is simple, and the atmosphere is collegial — you might even find yourself inspired by the passion and camaraderie of our international peers.

To learn more or sign up, visit <https://www.respeakingonair.org/ist-tic>. Let's show the world what realtime reporters can do — one keystroke at a time!



## Night of the museums in Córdoba

*By Victor Gonzalez*

On November 7, 2025, both Legislature buildings—the old and the new—hosted a grand edition of Night of the Museums. With art exhibits, dance performances, theater, live music, guided tours, and attendees who even had the chance to play the role of a legislator for a while, the event provided an ideal opportunity to showcase the art of shorthand. In both legislative buildings, the parliament's stenographers explained to visitors the origins of the profession, the systems used around the world, and how their work involves recording the democratic history of nations.

Visitors also received souvenirs of their names written in shorthand, which always sparks wonder and interest among those who attend this event each year.

















## GREETINGS FROM THE CÓRDOBA CITY COUNCIL (Miguel Correa, Legislative Secretary – Córdoba City Council)

On behalf of the Legislative Secretariat of the City Council and the entire leadership, I want to express our pride in having Córdoba chosen as the venue for the important Intersteno 2025 delegates' meeting held last September. It was a great honor to welcome you to our building; it was also very interesting to share in the conferences you presented in our auditorium on such important and current topics.

Know that you will always be welcome in our beloved Córdoba! Warm regards to the entire Intersteno community.



## ZAV-100-competition 2025

*By Helena Zaviačičová*

The 7th edition of the ZAV-100 competition took place in two rounds on 2 and 6 December 2026. The results were streamed live on Intersteno's YouTube channel, with the broadcast provided by Emrah Kuyumcu, a member of the Intersteno Board. At any given time, the stream alternately displayed the top 15 competitors in each age category.

The competition was founded on the occasion of the 80th birthday of its founder, Jaroslav Zaviačič, and the 20th anniversary of the establishment of Interinfo ČR, a registered association. Its content is ZAV-Minutes, i.e. 25 minute transcripts with a penalty of 100.

The competition attracted 1,401 competitors representing 11 countries: the Czech Republic (755), Slovakia (419), Croatia (113), Turkey (83), Belgium (15), Poland (6), Germany (4), Argentina (2), Italy (2), Hungary (1) and Russia (1).

The highest overall performance was delivered by Jonáš Vala, who achieved a speed of 953 keystrokes per minute.

A total of 43 competitors exceeded 500 keystrokes per minute, 10 surpassed the 600 keystrokes per minute mark, and four recorded speeds of over 700 keystrokes per minute.

Czech competitors won seven medals, followed by Turkey with four and Italy with one.

Winners in the individual age categories:

Seniors (60 participants): 1. Jonáš Vala (CZ) 954,6, 2. Matteo Collica (IT) 759,7, 3. Tomáš Portych (CZ) 755,8.

Juniors (768 participants): 1. Nisan Maya Tunçoğlu 743,5, 2. Adéla Klementová (CZ) 604,5, 3. Lukáš Janošík a Dan Švábenský (both CZ) oba 581,5.

Pupils (519 participants): 1. Filip Kempný (CZ) 596,2, 2. Merve Mutlu (TR) 583,3, 3. Radek Havelka (CZ) 522,2.

Children (53 participants): 1. Şevval Erva Başoğlu (TR) 598,2, 2. Patrik Saksun (CZ) 585,2, 3. Hasan Eymen Başoğlu 520.

ZAV-100 once again demonstrated that competitive typing is a highly demanding discipline combining speed, precision and mental resilience.

## ETA (Electronic Travel Authorization)-certification, required to visit England

*By Marlene Rijkse*

**<https://apply-for-an-eta.homeoffice.gov.uk/apply/electronic-travel-authorisation>**

The congress in 2026 will take place in Liverpool. It is good to already take note of the following requirement to be admitted to England.

The ETA certification is a crucial step for travelers planning to visit the UK. It is mandatory for individuals who plan to stay for less than six months in the UK. The ETA is similar to a visa and is required for entry into the UK, including any onward travel. The application process is straightforward and can be completed online, with a fee of £16. The ETA is valid for multiple trips and allows for a maximum stay of six months in the UK at a time. It is important to apply for the ETA in advance to avoid any travel disruptions. You can complete the application entirely with your phone, including scanning your passport, taking a photo, and making the payment.

The ETA certificate is valid for 2 years and is linked to your passport. If it expires, you need to apply for the certificate again.

