



## NEWS FROM IFCM

## IFCM GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ELECTIONS 2020

The **International Federation for Choral Music** (IFCM) held its General Assembly on 25 April 2023. Prior to the General Assembly, the election of the new Board of Directors was organized fully online (1 March – 1 April 2023). We can proudly say that this event has an historical significance in our association since this was the first time all individual IFCM members had the opportunity to vote individually, due to a change in the Bylaws approved at the General Assembly in Lisbon in September 2022. Other election changes include more democratic representation (votes) for the following member organizations: choirs (2 votes), local organizations (3 votes), national and regional organizations (10 votes), and international organizations (20 votes). The election of the new Board of Directors was organized through an online voting system. An election committee was appointed to overlook the process and ensure fair and democratic results. The results were announced during the General Assembly, and, on 28 April 2023, the new Board named its Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Governance Advisor.



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## The Board of Directors 2023-2026

- Emily Kuo Vong (Portugal), President
- Jan Schumacher (Germany), Vice-President
- Burak Onur Erdem (Türkiye), Vice-President
- Roula Abou Baker (Lebanon), Vice-President
- María Guinand (Venezuela), Vice-President
- Yoshihiro Egawa (Japan), Vice-President
- Dominique Lecheval (France), Treasurer
- Ki Adams (Canada), Board Member
- Ana Patricia Carbajal (Mexico), Board Member
- Yveline Damas (Gabon), Board Member
- Niels Graesholm (Denmark), Board Member
- Darius Lim (Singapore), Board Member
- Gábor Móczár (Hungary), Board Member
- John Rosser (New Zealand), Board Member



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- Kaie Tanner (Estonia), Board Member
- Anthony Trecek-King (USA), Board Member
- Cameron LaBarr (USA), co-opted Board Member

Internal Auditors

- Montserrat Cadevall (Catalonia, Spain)
- Ingrid Meka (Burundi)

Governance Advisor

- Sonja Greiner (Germany)

Congratulations to all those elected, and thank you to all candidates who applied.

A big thank you also to the board members who are leaving IFCM's Board of Directors after completing their 2020-2023 mandate: Saeko Hasegawa (Japan), Jinsheng Li (China), Victoria Liedbergius (Norway), Jo-Michael Scheibe (USA), Tim Sharp (USA), and Thierry Thiébaut (France).

## **LOOKING BACK ON THE WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON CHORAL MUSIC 2023**

*I believe we organised this year's World Symposium on Choral Music and hosted our guests from all around the world in the best way we can. We were especially happy to hear the feedback that this event changed all of our guests' horizons, with its rich programme, the quality of the choirs, presenters' inspiring talks, with all concert halls being full and so much more. We created a huge interest in choral music in Türkiye and also I think we surprised the world in a positive way.*

Burak Onur Erdem, Festival director



The July issue of the International Choral Magazine (ICM) will include more articles and quotes on the World Symposium on Choral Music 2023 in Istanbul, Türkiye. **Don't miss it!** Meanwhile, **[Watch the daily highlights of the WSCM 2023](#)**

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## CALL FOR THE YOUNG IFCM FOR THE 2023-2026 TERM

The idea for creating the Youth Committee of the International Federation for Choral Music came after a successful program for young choral and cultural managers. In 2022 during the World Choral EXPO in Lisbon, Portugal, IFCM organized its first YOUNG program - Youth International Cultural Management program. Following the interest of young people who applied for the program and their input, hard work, and personal and professional growth during the event, the Board of Directors of IFCM decided to form a YOUNG IFCM - youth committee. With this committee, IFCM wants to offer young people worldwide a chance to **learn, expand** and **exchange** their knowledge and **develop** in the field of choral music and choral management by including them in the very heart of the federation. This strategy aims to set up the basic borders and rules of forming a youth committee of IFCM, but also its objectives, works, coordination, organization, governance, and evaluation.

IFCM is opening a call for **The YOUNG IFCM for the term 2023-2026**. Qualified applicants for this term are those born not earlier than 18 June 1994 and not later than 17 June 2005. We are looking for up to 8 (eight) young people aged 18 to 28 representing eight regions of the world recognized by IFCM Bylaws and Membership Policy document:

- North America
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- Middle East and North Africa
- Northern & Western Europe and Israel
- Central-Eastern & South-Eastern Europe
- Asia (Central, East and South)
- Oceania (Australia, New Zealand, South Pacific)

## HOW TO APPLY

Please send the following documents to [secretarygeneral@ifcm.net](mailto:secretarygeneral@ifcm.net) by June 17th:

- CV
- Motivation letter
- Two letters of recommendation.

Read the full strategy of the YOUNG IFCM and more details on responsibilities and selections criteria [HERE](#).

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR CHORAL MUSIC monthly electronic newsletter

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### IFCM CHORAL COMPOSITION COMPETITION 2023/2024

IFCM has organized five international choral composition competitions since this project was created in 2010. The aim of these competitions is to promote the creation and distribution of new and accessible choral repertoire.

IFCM announces its **6th International Competition for Choral Composition** to promote new works in choral music and to encourage innovation in choral writing which fits the needs of a 21st-century choir. We are looking for compositions that combine originality, imagination, and creativity within the context of contemporary global themes.

#### Rules and Regulations

Deadline: 30 September 2023. Submissions to be sent to [secretarygeneral@ifcm.net](mailto:secretarygeneral@ifcm.net).

Applications fees are US\$12.00 ([HDI3](#)) / 18.00 ([HDI2](#)) / 25.00 ([HDI1](#)). Fees vary according to the country of nationality of the composer.

### UPDATES ON THE WORLD YOUTH CHOIR

#### **World Youth Choir (WYC) Board Meeting and Strategy Retreat in Istanbul**

On 1 May 2023, following the World Symposium on Choral Music 2023, the World Youth Choir Foundation board met in İstanbul, Türkiye, for a board meeting and strategy retreat. The meeting provided an opportunity to review ongoing projects, including the 2023 Alumni Session, and to discuss the future of the WYC program. The Foundation was delighted to welcome members of the Youth Committee of the European Choral Association along with Jean-Claude Wilkens, previous Director of the International Center for Choral Music (ICCM) and former IFCM Secretary General, as guests as they have been instrumental in assisting with various WYC Foundation's projects.



#### **World Youth Choir Alumni Session 2023 - Concert Tour**

The **World Youth Choir** is back with an incredible summer tour! Catch them in Croatia, Slovenia, and Hungary, and experience the amazing talent of these young performers from all over the world!

Check out the concert dates and venues below, and don't miss out on the opportunity to see the World Youth choir in action!

- Tuesday, 6 June 2023: location/time to be confirmed, Grožnjan, Croatia
- Friday, 9 June 2023: 18:00 - Julij Betetto Hall University of Ljubljana Academy of Music, Ljubljana, Slovenia

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- Saturday, 10 June 2023: 19:30 - Liszt Academy, Grand Hall, Budapest, Hungary
- Sunday, 11 June 2023: 19:30 - Saint Michael's Cathedral, Veszprém, Hungary

For more information about the World Youth Choir concert tour, click [here](#).



**AFRICA CANTAT**

## Meet our atelier conductors!

Have you already chosen your atelier? From South African songs to West African rhythms and from pop music to famous opera choruses, the Africa Cantat ateliers offer a great variety of choices. And for our young visitors, two ateliers in the "Junior Space" will be offered. Find out more about the ateliers here: <https://www.africacantat.org/ateliers>

***Let's sing in the heart of Africa!***

## AMERICA CANTAT 10

**La Plata, Argentina (capital of the Province of Buenos Aires), 11-15 October 2023.**

**More details [here](#).**

**Register [here](#).**

WORKSHOPS

# MASTERCLASSES

## LA PLATA, ARGENTINA

OCTOBER 11-15TH. 2023



CONCERTS



*Digna Guerra*  
Cuba



*Elisenda Carrasco*  
Spain



*Ricardo Barrera*  
Argentina



*Santiago Ruiz*  
Argentina



*Maibel Tzira*  
Venezuela



*Viviana Bogner*  
Argentina



*Cecilia Espinosa*  
Colombia



*Federico Trindade*  
Brazil












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**MUSICA INTERNATIONAL**

**Musica International – let's meet again and talk repertoire!**

How lovely it was to meet friends and make new acquaintances at the World Symposium on Choral Music 2023 in İstanbul in April! Musica International ([www.musicanet.org](http://www.musicanet.org)), a multimedia collaborative database of the world's choral repertoire, invites you to meet again, this time in Strasbourg, France, from 23-28 October 2023 at a **MusicaWorkshop**. The workshop is a gathering for choral conductors, music librarians, publishers, composers, and experienced choral music lovers. The aim is to (re)discover the Musica database and to enrich it with new choral scores. Whether you bring your own scores to enter into the database or you grab the

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ones proposed by Musica, you will benefit from discussing the pieces with peers (difficulties, keys, liturgical use, keywords, pronunciation of the text, etc.), and you will receive on-the-spot help from the Musica International team. You will also find new repertoire ideas and learn how to optimize your usage of the Musica database for building your future concert programs. Why not also using the opportunity to promote the choral repertoire from your country or region? The workshop takes place on the campus of the Strasbourg University where the working space has a view on the [Strasbourg Cathedral](#), one of the finest examples of Rayonnant Gothic architecture in the world!



After the workshop, you can continue using Musica online in order to find repertoire ideas, to add new descriptive records of choral works, and to manage your own musical library. There is no tuition fee. Participants are responsible for their own transportation and accommodation costs.

**[More information here.](#)**

Do you want to organize a Musica Workshop in your own town or region? If so, please contact [\*\*office@musicanet.org\*\*](mailto:office@musicanet.org).

## UPDATE ON THE 2023 ASIA PACIFIC YOUTH CHOIR (APYC)



Courtesy: The Hong Kong Children's Choir

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR CHORAL MUSIC monthly electronic newsletter

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Susanna Saw (Malaysia) and her team will welcome the [Asia Pacific Youth Choir](#) singers to Penang, Malaysia, on 16 July 2023. The rehearsal camp will begin the following day and will include activities such as an exchange meeting for the singers and an outreach program. A short presentation for the public and a first concert will be held on 21 July 2023, followed by two concerts on 22 July 2023. Singers will return home on 23 July 2023. Organized in collaboration with the [Georgetown Music Festival](#), the 2023 APYC welcomes conductors Tracy Wong (Malaysia/Canada) and Chi Hoe Mak (Malaysia).

## NEWS FROM IFCM FOUNDING MEMBERS

### A CŒUR JOIE INTERNATIONAL

[A Coeur Joie International](#) (ACJI) is organizing its first composition competition for mixed voices based on French texts – ***Chanter en français***. Open to composers from all over the world without any restrictions, the competition offers 3,000 euros in prizes.

The objective of the competition is to promote the creation of new works in French that are accessible to amateur choirs throughout the international network of ACJI. As well, this initiative demonstrates the strong commitment of ACJI to safeguarding and enriching the cultural heritage that includes choral repertoire in all its French-speaking and international diversity.

The winning works will have the possibility of being published by Editions A Coeur Joie France as well as being performed at concerts organized through initiatives of the federation's members. Deadline to submit: **31 December 2023**.

[More information here.](#)



### EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION (ECA)

**The first environmental strategy and policies of the European Choral Association is now available online**

At the end of March 2023, the European Choral Association published its first environmental sustainability strategy and policies based on the guidelines developed in the frame of the [SHIFT Project](#) (2019-2022), coordinated by the [European Music Council](#) and co-funded by the EU [Erasmus+ programme](#). ECA was a partner in this project in which the process for the SHIFT Eco Certificate for European cultural networks was begun.

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In autumn 2020, the membership of ECA approved a new vision, mission, strategy, and action plan. The topic of environmental sustainability was explicitly mentioned under the first strategic aim. With the start of the project IGNITE in December 2021, ECA began working concretely on how the sector of collective singing can contribute to environmental sustainability and to the European Green Deal.

We understand that we are at the very beginning of a long path and that there is still a lot to do. Yet we also know that there is urgency and that we have to start now. As ECA, we have decided to set an example for the sector and to start with ourselves.

Read the environmental strategy and policies [HERE](#) and walk the talk!



## AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION (ACDA)

The American Choral Directors Association is happy to announce its [Regional Conferences 2024](#):

- [Northwestern Region](#) (Spokane, Washington), 24-27 January 2024
- [Midwestern Region](#) (Omaha, Nebraska), 7-10 February 2024
- [Southern Region](#) (Louisville, Kentucky), 21-24 February 2024
- [Eastern Region](#) (Providence, Rhode Island), 28 February- 2 March 2024
- [Southwestern Region](#) (Denver, Colorado), 28 February- 3 March 2024
- [Western Region](#) (Pasadena, California), 6-9 March 2024

## NEWS FROM IFCM MEMBERS

### EUROPEAN MUSIC COUNCIL CELEBRATES ITS 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Fifty years ago, the [European Music Council](#) (EMC) was created as the regional group for Europe of the International Music Council (IMC). Thirty years later, in 2003, EMC was registered as a non-profit association at the Bonn District Court in Germany.

EMC will celebrate these anniversaries with a concert on 1 June 2023, 19h CEST, in Bonn, Germany. The [European Choral Association](#), which turns 60 this year, will also be part of the celebrations.

One week later, the celebrations will continue in Budapest, Hungary, at the [11th European Forum on Music](#) (EFM), 8-10 June 2023. All EMC members are kindly invited to join the EFM 2023.

Topic of the forum: Sustain Music

Other topics: Music in Ukraine, music and gender, music education, music in the digital arena, urban and local communities, as well as cultural policy in the EU.

See more info on the program [here](#).

We invite you to visit the [Calendar of Choral Activities](#) published by the European Choral Association — Europa Cantat and the American Choral Director Association ACDA's Network [ChoralNet](#) to check on the choral events planned in the coming months.