

“Volunteers Connecting our Choral World”



ACDA NATIONAL CONVENTION 2015

The American Choral Directors Association will hold its 2015 National Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, February 25-28. This biennial gathering brings together approximately 20,000 choral conductors and singers for three days of informational sessions, concerts, and special events designed to celebrate and advance the choral art.

Following a competitive audition process that included consideration of several hundred audition applications, 40 choral ensembles were invited to present concerts. In addition to those from the U.S., the list of prestigious performers includes choirs from Cuba, Estonia, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, South Korea, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

For additional information visit <http://acda.org/page.asp?page=conferences>.

NORDIC BALTIC CHORAL FESTIVAL 2015

The 8th Nordic and Baltic Choral Festival will be held on June 25 to 28, 2015 in Riga, thus celebrating its 20th anniversary.

As during the period January 1 until June 30, 2015 Latvia holds the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the Festival is organized also as the final event of the Presidency's public diplomacy and cultural program.

Nordic and Baltic Choral Festival as a tradition was established in 1995 with the aim to bring together amateur choirs from the Baltic and Nordic countries, to develop the singing together tradition, including a cappella performances, being characteristic just for the Baltics, and to promote mutual European culture exchange.

The first festival took place in Latvia, Riga, in 1995, gathering about 6000 singers from the Baltic and Nordic countries. Later on the Festival was held in: Visby, Gotland, Sweden (1997), Skien, Norway (2000), Klaipeda, Lithuania (2002), Tartu, Estonia (2008), Reykjavik, Island (2010), Helsinki, Finland (2012).

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More detailed information about participation rules and application at: <http://www.nordicbalticchoir.lv>.

EUROPA CANTAT XIX

The Regional Artistic Committee (RAC) of the EUROPA CANTAT XIX Pécs 2015 festival - composed of professionals of the choral world coming from Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia and Hungary - had a fruitful meeting on 4-5th October in Pécs. RAC members could suggest music programs and conductors for long ateliers and discovery ateliers, furthermore choirs and music ensembles, folk groups and special programs to the festival fringe. The meeting ended with the elaboration of the so-called National Days, a new initiative for the Pécs festival to present the culture and gastronomy of the member's countries. For more information check regularly www.ecpecs2015.hu



WORLD YOUTH CHOIR NEWS

At the hot spot! Seoul 2014 — This past August the choral world gathered in Seoul for the IFCM's 10th World Symposium on Choral Music under the motto "Healing and Youth"! A well-organized international event served with South Korean culture's flavors, tradition and heritage! Thanks to the kind invitation of IFCM, the World Youth Choir was in Seoul presenting current plans, working on future prospects within the activities and exhibitions of the Choral EXPO, sharing the booth together with ECA-EC and other Founding members of IFCM. Our colorful booth with friendly and smiling presenters was a meeting point for our former singers, conductors and hosts as well as for potential new singers, new recruitment partners and future hosts. Everyone was drawn to our booth by a dose of good energy, for an overview of our successful past and memories, for a "cup" of vibrant and constructive talks, a "peek" into the exciting future plans and for a "dessert" of positive thoughts, ideas and new, vigorous cooperation agreements. Pins, notebooks, magazines, new WYC brochures were distributed. For pictures, visit our -> Facebook page or our -> Pinterest board.

Welcome on board! — After the General Assembly of the International Federation for Choral Music held in Seoul this summer, we are happy to announce that Mr. **Rudolf de Beer**, South Africa/Norway, was appointed as a new World Youth Choir Board member on behalf of IFCM. On the same occasion, Ms. **Joy Hill**, United Kingdom, was appointed as new IFCM representative in the World Youth Choir Artistic Committee. Congratulations!

Future PROSPECTS — Strategic meetings have been planned between September and December 2014 where the steps will be discussed and planned. We're confident that the results will be published before the end of 2014. We have actual negotiations going on with several organizers: for four events in 2015, two events in 2016, two events in 2017, one event for 2020. As we are still in the stage of negotiations, plans will only be announced and published after the agreements are signed; for the same reason, a new (2014/2015) recruitment season will start only after a session is secured. Once the next sessions and projects are confirmed, decisions will be made on further steps and the recruitment partners will be informed accordingly. This also means we now welcome new offers and ideas! For more info, please read our new Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) or -> download a full document.

Calling for session hosts in 2018, 2019, and 2021 — we have started significant changes in our operational systems and artistic concepts to make them more accessible to our potential partners. Concepts have been adjusted, aims have been expanded and different event packages / session concepts are on offer to our

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potential partners. From now on, you can select the most suitable one, financially, logistically and artistically. You can even create your own session concept combining different facts and figures, in what's currently offered. To know what is NEW please read our online PPT.

Host a | project for peace | a multicultural, youth musical showcase of the highest quality | an "international choral academy" | an interactive platform for education and exchange with local individuals and groups | expand horizons for young, talented musicians supporting personal endeavors of each participant and build new social and communal capabilities chorally while promoting your organizational capacities as well as social, cultural and historical achievements of the host nation. If interested download our NEW organizational requirements -> "Guidelines on how to organize a World Youth Choir session" or contact us at manager@worldyouthchoir.org

IN BRIEF - NEWS FROM THE MEMBERS

VALE – Francisco F. Feliciano (February 19, 1941 – September 19, 2014)

Seventy-three-year-old Dr. Francisco F. Feliciano passed away after losing a lengthy battle with cancer. He is considered one of the Philippines' most important composers and was one of Asia's leading composers in liturgical music. Feliciano obtained his degree in Music Composition from the Hochschule der Kuenste in Berlin, Germany, his Masters in Music Composition from the University of the Philippines; and his Master of Musical Arts and Doctorate in Musical Arts, Composition at Yale University School of Music. Among his esteemed teachers numbered conductors Arthur Weisberg and Martin Behrmann, and composers IsangYun, Jacob Druckman, Krystof Penderecki, and H.W. Zimmerman.

His work has been performed at choral festivals in Europe and the United States. He was given the John D. Rockefeller Award for Music Composition in 1977.

Article on <http://www.gmanetwork.com/news/story/380084/lifestyle/artandculture/national-artist-for-music-francisco-feliciano-passes-away>.

Vale Christopher Hogwood

British conductor, ethnomusicologist and performer Christopher Hogwood has died aged 73.

Hogwood worked with many leading orchestras around the world and was considered one of the most influential exponents of the early-music movement. The conductor founded the Academy of Ancient Music (AAM) in 1973 and directed the academy across six continents for some 30 years. The AAM also made more than 200 CDs, including the first-ever complete cycle of Mozart symphonies on period instruments. Among his most famous recordings include the 1980 version of Handel's Messiah with Emma Kirkby and Carolyn Watkinson, which was named by BBC Music Magazine as one of the top 20 recordings of all time. <http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-29347895>

VALE Stephen Paulus

American Twin Cities composer Stephen Paulus has died at the age of 65. Paulus was among USA's leading classical composers composing hundreds of works — including nearly 60 orchestral scores, 10 operas and 150 choral pieces, which are performed and loved by choirs world-wide. RIP Stephen Paulus.

VOLUNTEERS

Do you want to join with others around the globe in volunteer work for the IFCM? The IFCM is currently compiling a database of people such as you who wish to have their name included for consideration for

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assistance in various choral projects throughout the world, as they are required. The process is simple. Just send a CV, a photo, and any suggestion of ways you might be able to help us to leonardifra@yahoo.it. Please write "Volunteer's database" in the subject line of your email, and preferably send your material in English. Remember the IFCM slogan "Volunteers connecting our choral world" - come and join us in our work!

FEEDBACK

Remember that the IFCM wants to hear your feedback about our projects and other choral issues. HAVE YOUR SAY is an important feature of the current IFCM website. The IFCM would love to hear from you.

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS and CHOIRS

Remember to forward this newsletter to your individual members! This will assist the IFCM in its mission to "connect our choral world".

WHAT'S ON IN OUR CHORAL WORLD

3-9 : 1000 Voices for Peace, Brussels, Belgium - www.festivalbrxl.be
3-8 : Musica International Session, Strasbourg, France - www.MusicaNet.org
4-8 : 26th Cantapueblo 50 Years of La Misa Criolla and tribute to Ariel Ramirez, Mendoza, Argentina - www.cantapueblo.com.ar
5-9 : 41st Choir Festival Pampa Canta Tandil, Argentina - www.festamusicale.com
6-9 : Cantate Dresden, Germany - www.musicandfriends.net/html/cantate_dresden1.html
6-9 : Festival of Peace and Brotherhood, Rome, Italy - www.music-contact.com
7-10 : International festival of choirs and orchestras in Vienna, Austria - www.mrf-musicfestivals.com
7-9 : 1st Asia Kodály Symposium (AKS) for Music and Choral Educators, Jakarta, Indonesia - www.kam.sg
8-14 : 3rd International Choral Festival of Mar del Plata, Argentina - festcormdq@gmail.com
14-19 : 7th International Festival Interfolk in Russia, St. Petersburg, Russia - <http://interfestplus.ru/en/>
15-16 : Miramar Canta 2014, Miramar, Buenos Aires province, Argentina - www.miramarcanta.com.ar
20-23, 27-30 & 4-7 Dec : Prague Advent Choral Meeting, Czech Republic - www.pragueadvent.cz
21-24, 28 Nov-1 Dec : Prague Advent Choral Festival, Czech Republic - www.advent-choir-prague.info
22-23 : 67th JCA National Choral Competition Takamatsu City, Kagawa, Japan - www.jcanet.or.jp
27 Nov-1 Dec: International Advent Singing Festival Vienna 2014, Austria - www.musicultur.com/en/trips/reisen/chorfestival-salzburg-2013.html
28 Nov-1 Dec: 6th International Festival of Choirs and Orchestras "Advent Music Festival", Prague, Czech Republic - www.mrf-musicfestivals.com
28-29 : 24th International Festival of Advent and Christmas Music with Petr Eben Prize, Prague, Czech Republic - www.or-fea.cz
29 Nov-21 Dec : 3rd International Festival of choirs and orchestras in Baden, Germany - www.mrf-musicfestivals.com
29-30 : 3th JCA Men's Chorus Festival, Okayama City, Japan - www.jcanet.or.jp
30 Nov-6 Dec : 2nd International Festival of Chamber Choirs Tlaxcala Canta, Mexico - tlaxcalacanta.fic@hotmail.com