

“Volunteers Connecting our Choral World”

**WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON CHORAL MUSIC 11,
BARCELONA, SPAIN, 22 - 29 JULY 2017!**

The organization of the WSCM11 is steadily progressing in Barcelona. We're now happy to announce that the members of both executive and artistic committees have been designated:

WSCM11 Artistic Committee:

Representing IFCM: Ana Maria Raga (Venezuela), Ko Matsushita (Japan), Junita van Dijk (South Africa) and Philip Brunelle (USA).

Representing FCEC: Xavier Baulies, Raimon Romaní and Josep Vila.

WSCM11 Executive Committee:

Representing IFCM: Michael J. Anderson (USA), Håkan Wickström (Finland) and Rudolf de Beer (South Africa/Norway)

Representing FCEC: Montserrat Cadevall, Josep Antonio and Lluís Gómez

Welcome to all of them!

In a few weeks we'll be announcing the call for choirs and lecturers for the artistic program of the WSCM11 in Barcelona in 2017! Thrilling! Stay connected on www.ifcm.net



Picture: Auditori Barcelona

ANNOUNCING

IFCM ASIA PACIFIC WORLD CHORAL EXPO 2015 in Macau, 12 - 15 November, 2015



The IFCM Asia Pacific World Choral EXPO 2015 is a new and innovative event for all ages and skills levels of choristers, conductors and composers in the Asia Pacific region and beyond. This project is a collaboration between the International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM), the Asia Pacific Choral Council (APCC), Macau Choral Art Association, the China Culture Association, the China Chorus Association (CCA), the Guangdong Choral Association, and administered by the Macau Choral Art Association.

The event will run in four parallel parts: **Masterclass Tracks** – a Symposium style series of Masterclasses, Mentorships, Presentations and Consultancies for conductors, composers and singers, a **Competition** in two sections – Section A with specific repertoire requirements and Section B with free choice repertoire, numerous top level regional and international **Invited Choirs** giving Concerts and Presentations and a comprehensive **Exhibition** of wares from music retailers and publishers, choirs and choral organisations. If you are living in the Asia Pacific region and involved in choral music in any way, then this is **your** event so you need to get involved. Come and soak up all that is being offered in the beautiful city of Macau - only a short ferry ride from Hong Kong, so accessible to everyone in the region. Application forms and detailed information www.worldchoralexpo.com

WORLD YOUTH CHOIR NEWS

An OPEN CALL for World Youth Choir session HOSTS in 2016, 2018, 2019, and 2021 and beyond have been set up. The deadline to send your "letter of interest" and apply ([here](#)) is April 30th 2015 or at your earliest convenience. Read more on *How to apply for a potential session host* in our guidelines ([here](#)).

- Host a project for peace
- Put on a multicultural, youth musical showcase of the highest quality
- Organize an international choral academy
- Present an interactive platform for education and exchange
- Expand horizons for young, talented musicians
- Build new social and communal capabilities chorally while promoting your organizational capacities as well as social, cultural and historical achievements of the host nation.

We have made significant changes in our operational systems. From now on, we are available for co-operation projects/events organized throughout the whole year. The concepts of the World Youth Choir project have been adjusted, and the aims have been expanded. Different event packages, with **organizational-financial obligations significantly downsized**, are on offer to our potential hosts. From now on, you can select the most suitable event package for you to host! You can even create your own session concept and by combining different facts and figures in what's currently offered, shape up, influence and control the total organizational budget. Please visit our website ([here](#)) or download our NEW organizational requirements *Guidelines on how to organize a World Youth Choir session* ([here](#)). You can also contact us at manager@worldyouthchoir.org

Subscribe to our NEWSLETTER ([here](#)) and stay in the loop of our future activities.

CHORAL CONDUCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS (CWB) NEWS

A fourth session of the CWB took place in Libreville, Gabon, thanks to A Coeur Joie Gabon and the African Confederation for Choral Music (Yveline Damas, President). A Choral Music House is now operating on a full-time basis in Libreville and provided the CWB with several air-conditioned rooms that allowed a good quality work. The French Institute graciously provided their 600 seats concert hall for the presentation of the final concert. This fourth session was marked by an exceptional stability in the attendance of the last sessions' trainees. Real progress of both academic and practical ongoing in learning retention were noticed.



Among others, the trainees learned the rehearsal techniques and gestures (mostly taught individually at the music stand). Every evening, the training would focus on the vocal warming up with the choir in residence composed by singers and conducting trainees.

The Cultural Service of the French Embassy will again sponsor the next session organized from October 24 to 31 in Libreville.

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Obviously, at the end of the October session, two new instructors from this group of trainees will be able to teach on their own.

A third children's choir repertoire session conducted by Anne-Marie Cabut (*la Cigale de Lyon*) will be organized in parallel.

NEWS FROM IFCM FOUNDING MEMBERS

EUROPA CANTAT XIX PÉCS 2015 NEWS

February was a busy month in the preparation of the festival. The international Music Commission and the Regional Artistic Committee held an important meeting about the major programs of the festival: the participants were distributed in the long singing ateliers and the continuously updated daily programme offer of „Discovery Ateliers” and the [Conductors' and Composers' Programme](#) was presented. The selection of the applicants for the YEMP – Young Event Management Programme was done as well and 25 young talents were chosen from 15 countries to join the organizing team. For more details [check our website!](#)



ACDA News

The American Choral Directors Association will host **America Cantat VIII** in the sunny Bahamas, August, 21-31, 2016. Registration will soon open when full schedule and artistic and concert details will be presented by the artistic committee. ACDA is thrilled to partner with the Bahamas to host a festival unlike any other available throughout the world. All choirs are invited, and all choirs will find a place in this cultural, non-competitive event.

Watch for the coming opening of the website, along with full details and registration material.

Read full article at: <http://choralnet.org/view/451021>

More information at: <http://americacantat.org/AC8/>

The American Choral Directors Association will hold **seven divisional conferences** throughout February and March of 2016. These events will feature hundreds of choral concerts and interest session presentations.

The specific conferences include

- Central Division (Chicago, Illinois), February 24-27
- Eastern Division (Boston, Massachusetts), February 10-14
- North Central Division (Sioux Falls, South Dakota) February 17-20
- Northwestern Division (Seattle, Washington), March 2-6
- Southern Division (Chattanooga, Tennessee), March 9-12
- Southwestern Division (Kansas City, Missouri). March 8-12
- Western Division (Pasadena, California), February 23-28

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Applications are currently being accepted for performing choirs and interest session clinicians. Visit the [“Conferences”](#) page at acda.org for additional information.

The American Choral Directors Association will host its **second National Symposium on Choral Music**, with this event focusing upon the music of Latin America. Slated for June 12-13, 2015 in Austin, Texas, the Symposium will explore the Latin American both in the Colonial and modern periods. For additional information about registration and housing, visit the "[Conferences](#)" page at acda.org. Early registration ends June 1.

NORDISK KORFORUM News

The 16th Nordklang Festival will be organized in Turku, Finland from August 3 to 7, 2016. In order to get up-to-date information about the programme, the participants and how to register, please visit <http://www.nordklang.fi/> or on [the Facebook page](#)

IN BRIEF - NEWS FROM THE MEMBERS

CONDUCTING 21C MUSICAL LEADERSHIP FOR A NEW CENTURY

Yale and Stockholm courses open for application.

Conducting 21C aims to provide conductors with professional development by combining artistic excellence and social justice. Emerging and experienced conductors alike will develop powerfully creative, profoundly artistic, and compassionate approaches for musical leadership through master classes and workshops.



Location 1: Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, USA

- Date: 16-21 June 2015
- Workshop leaders: André de Quadros, Jeffrey Douma, Lone Larsen and Judy Braha.
- Choirs in residence: Voces Nordicae, Sweden and Yale Choral Artists, USA
- Apply before March 16.

Location 2: Stockholm, Sweden

- Date: 20-24 August 2015
- Workshop leaders: André de Quadros, Lone Larsen, Agneta Josephson
- Choirs in Residence: Manado State University Choir, Indonesia and Voces Nordicae, Sweden
- Apply before April 13.

Contact: info@conducting21c.com

Website: <http://www.conducting21c.com/>

In collaboration with IFCM, Yale International Choral Festival and ACDA.

THE ERIC ERICSON AWARD

is a competition for young choir conductors from 20 to 32 years of age, the first of which was held in 2003 followed by 2006 and 2009. The repertoire is chosen from western choral music, with particular focus on contemporary Swedish choral music. The winner will be awarded 100,000 Swedish crowns and also invited to conduct the Swedish Radio Choir in a program to be decided.

The competition will be held in Stockholm between February 18 and 21, 2016. In



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the final concert, the contestants will conduct the Swedish Radio Choir at the Berwald Concert Hall.

Apply before September 1st, 2015 on: ericsonchoralcentre.se

OBITUARY: GUSTAF SJÖKVIST

Swedish conductor colleague Gustaf Sjökvist passed away at the age of 71. He will be greatly missed by conductors, singers and musicians in Sweden and abroad. Gustaf for a very long time was active in the cathedral of Stockholm, Storkyrkan, and meant a lot for the Swedish choral life. For eight years he was the main conductor of the Swedish Radio Choir and after leaving this position in 1994, he formed his own chamber choir, Gustaf Sjökvist Chamber Choir. Gustaf also had an international career and was well known around the world. Maybe he is best known for his work with the Radio Choir of Bavaria. Since 2012 he served as the chairperson of the Royal Swedish Academy of Music (Kungliga Musikaliska Akademien).

CALL FOR DIRECTOR OF MUSIC FOR THE DRAKENSBURG BOYS CHOIR SCHOOL

The Drakensburg Boys Choir School (South Africa) is an independent boys' choir school with an emphasis on choral singing. The school has a Christian ethos and caters for boys from Grade 4 to Grade 9.

A unique opportunity has arisen to apply for this world renowned position at the DBCS as the Director of Music. This position not only involves choral leadership but also includes a considerable role on the school management team. [Read more](#)

THE GRAMMY AWARD FOR BEST CHORAL PERFORMANCE

Austin (Texas) choral group Conspirare has just won the Grammy Award for Best Choral Performance for "The Sacred Spirit of Russia," the 2014 release on Harmonia Mundi. The CD recorded in 2013 features Christmas liturgical from the Russian Orthodox Church. Conspirare founder and artistic director Craig Hella Johnson was in Los Angeles to accept the award. It was the sixth time Conspirare had been nominated for a Grammy. www.conspirare.org

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 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!*

MEMBERSHIP 2015 RENEWAL

Membership renewal invoices are on their way! Renewing your support to IFCM is deeply appreciated, renewing your membership is easy: <https://www.ifcm.net/renew2015/renew2015.php>

WHAT'S ON IN OUR CHORAL WORLD IN MARCH

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Mar/Apr : Seattle SINGS! USA - www.sechristtravel.com

4-8 : Chorfestspiele Bad Krozingen International Choir Competition and Festival, Germany - www.interkultur.com

5-10 : African Choral Festival, Ghana - www.music-contact.com

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- 5-9 : Roma Music Festival 2015, Italy - www.mrf-musicfestivals.com
- 6-8 : SheSings Festival 2015, Eugene, USA - www.womensacappella.org
- 7 Mar: VanMan Choral Summit, Vancouver, Canada - <https://chorleoni.org>
- 11-15 : International Choral Festival Canta en Primavera, Málaga, Spain - www.interkultur.com
- 12-16 : Festival of Peace and Brotherhood, Rome, Italy - www.music-contact.com
- 13-15 : Voices in Harmony A Cappella Festival, Lexington, USA - <http://voicesinharmony.net/>
- 14 Mar : 4th JCA National Youth Choir concert, Tokyo, Japan - www.jcanet.or.jp
- 19-23 : 8th Fukushima Vocal Ensemble Competition, Fukushima, Japan - www.pref.fukushima.jp/bunka/seigaku/en/
- 21-29 : 11th Palm Sunday International Choir Cycle Concerts, Cascais, Portugal - www.voxlaci.com
- 21-22 : International Competition for ChoirMaster, Paris, France - www.choeurdenfants.sitew.fr
- 22-24 : 1st Music Festa Florence, Italy - www.florencechoirfestival.com
- 22-26 : Golden Voices of Montserrat! International Contest, Montserrat Monastery, Catalonia, Spain - www.fiestalonia.net
- 24-25 : Share and Learn: Audience Development Workshop, Warsaw, Poland - <http://www.emc-imc.org/efm/>
- 25-29 : Young Prague Festival, Prague, Czech Republic - www.music-contact.com
- 28 Mar-1 Apr : Istra Music Festival 2015, Croatia - www.mrf-musicfestivals.com
- 29 Mar-2 Apr : 15th Budapest International Choir Festival & Competition, Hungary - www.meeting-music.com
- 29 Mar-2 Apr : 24th Zimriya World Assembly of Choirs, Nights' Halls, Old Acre, Israel - www.zimriya.org.il
- 30 Mar-12 Apr : SouthBank Centre Chorus Sing Together, London, United Kingdom - www.southbankcentre.co.uk
- 31 Mar 2015 23:59 (GMTsee regulation for details), 1st Japan International Choral Composition Competition 2015 (ICCC Japan 2015), Japan - www.icccj.org
- 31 Mar : 2nd International Competition of Choral Composition Ennio Morricone, Florence, Italy - www.florencechoirfestival.com

