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NEWS FROM IFCM

WORLD CHORAL DAY 2021

Hope and Healing

This year, the World Choral Day (WCD) will be celebrated not only on or around **12 December 2021**, but also during the entire month of December.

How to join?

- 1. Live Traditional concert.** If it is possible to hold traditional concerts in your country, please register your planned event on the website.
- 2. Live Virtual concert.** If it is not possible to hold traditional concerts in your country, it is still possible to join World Choral Day with either a fully- or partially-recorded concert wherein the WCD proclamation is read. You might even consider a live broadcast format. (*i.e., a performance with no audience, recorded in an empty concert hall or rehearsal space.*)
- 3. Virtual choir video.** If it is not possible to meet physically and sing together, you can create a virtual choir video in which the World Choral Day logo is added and the proclamation is read or inserted.
- 4. Video from a previous performance.** You may participate in World Choral Day 2021 by sending a recording from a previous performance (recorded from 1 January 2020 onwards). In order to participate with a previously-recorded video, you will need to edit the video and insert the World Choral Day logo and proclamation.
- 5. Individual Reciting the WCD Proclamation.** For individuals who wish to take part in this year's celebration, you may record yourself on video while reciting the World Choral Day proclamation in your own language!

[Download](#) the new WCD booklet for all you need to know about registering. The booklet also includes the WCD Proclamation in 35 languages.

#WorldChoralDay — #IFCMconnects

Watch and listen to IFCM board members and staff read the WCD Proclamation in their own language. Check them out [here](#).

Share these videos of the WCD Proclamation through your own social media networks. As well, we invite you to record the Proclamation in your own language and send it to us so that we can possibly feature you on the WCD FB page!

Submit your video [here](#).

WORLD CHORAL DAY 2021

HOPE & HEALING
#WorldChoralDay #IFCMconnects

DOWNLOAD THE
WCD 2021 BOOKLET
<https://bit.ly/WorldChoralDay>

JOIN THE
CELEBRATION
<https://bit.ly/WorldChoralDay2021>

www.worldchoralday.org



WORLD CHORAL EXPO 2022: REGISTER NOW ON THE NEW WCE WEBSITE**Lisbon, Portugal, 3-7 September 2022**

The [World Choral EXPO](#) (WCE) has a new website. Explore the website and discover exciting program of [WCE 2022](#) and [register now!](#)

You are invited as an individual, or together with your choir or vocal ensemble, to join the international choral community in the beautiful city of Lisbon and celebrate the joy, and privilege, of singing together again!



Register now and join this exceptional choral cultural exchange festival!

1. Conditions of Participation for Choirs and Vocal Ensembles

- Option to perform **one or two 30-minute concerts** organized by the WCE (free choice of repertoire). Of course, additional concerts in the city/region can be organized by the choir itself.
- **Common workshops** with other participating/invited choirs and the opportunity to meet, exchange, sing, and perform in some of the most extraordinary venues in the historical city of Lisbon.
- All travel, accommodation, and meal expenses during the WCE are the responsibility of the choirs and vocal ensembles.
- Participation fees:
 - Choirs (15 singers and more): **350 Euros** for the entire choir, conductor(s), accompanists, staff, and chaperons.
 - Vocal Ensembles (from 2 to 15 singers): **250 Euros** for the entire ensemble.

Special offer for choirs and vocal ensembles from Portugal: FREE participation!

Read more on the conditions of participation and special requirements [here](#).

Registration form for choirs and vocal ensembles can be found [here](#).

2. Conditions of Participation for Individuals

For conductors, singers, and choral enthusiasts who want to join all segments of our festival:

- Full access to the entire [WCE 2022 program](#)
- Participation fee: **150 Euros** per person
- All travel, accommodation, and meal expenses during the WCE are the responsibility of the individual participants.

Special offer for students:

- Participation fee: **100 Euros** per person. Proof of student status will be requested.

Special offer for individuals and students from Portugal: 50% discount!

Read more on the conditions of participation and special requirements [here](#). Registration form for individuals can be found [here](#).

WCE EXchange!

The response to the Call for Presentations was far greater than anticipated. An update on the roster of accepted presentations will be included in the January 2022 IFCMeNEWS! The [EXchange!](#) promises to be a professional opportunity that you do not want to miss.

As promised in our previous newsletter, each month the IFCMeNEWS will feature one or two of the choirs invited to the World Choral EXPO 2022.

[MAZE, THE NETHERLANDS](#)

Get ready for some a capella! MAZE is a vocal group located in Rotterdam which is comprised of 20 talented singers from across the Netherlands. Led by award-winning conductor Merel Martens, they have been singing a mix of original songs and extraordinary covers since 2016. Within the ensemble there is ample room for improvisation and artistic contribution from its members. MAZE functions under the principle of Vocal Leadership, a unique method of singing that helped MAZE win the BALK TOPfestival in 2017, a prestigious a capella gathering in the Netherlands. In 2018, MAZE took the top prize at the SingStrong's ACA-Idol Competition in New York. Later that same year, MAZE was named 'best choir of the Netherlands 2018' and, in 2019, the ensemble embarked on its first theatre tour. The vocal group is often invited as a guest performer with other artists and has performed with brass bands, pop singers, big bands, and a dance and theater group. MAZE is always up for a challenge; they think 'outside the box' and do things a bit differently. All that creativity leads to visually- and musically-interesting performances.



[SHALLAWAY YOUTH CHOIR, CANADA](#)

Shallaway Youth Choir is an internationally-recognized and celebrated organization that is dedicated to exploring, developing, and celebrating cultural expression through choral music. Shallaway's mandate is to foster independent musicianship and leadership, empowering young people to become the next generation of active leaders and artistic innovators in their communities. Through their commitment to artistic excellence and the preservation of their



rich folk culture, the choristers learn the value of independence, discipline, and confidence while also gaining a sense of pride and identity – as Newfoundlanders and Labradorians – and as global citizens. Shallaway Youth Choir consciously seeks to connect with other cultures in a developmental way and has established an active program of intercultural outreach and exchange. While Shallaway moves widely in the world, its core vision of community is a grounded and empathic one that embraces leadership and citizenship as dynamic co-creators of an open, supportive, yet questioning society. Shallaway believes that the very nature and setting of choral music offers the powerful possibility for transformative community building.



Don't forget to follow us on [WCE Facebook](#) or on <https://worldchoralEXPO.org>.



IFCM CHORAL COMPOSITION COMPETITION 2022

Only 6 WEEKS to compose your piece and submit it!

IFCM has organized four 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, innovative, and accessible choral repertoire.

IFCM announces its **Fifth 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 for applications is **15 January 2022**.

Sponsoring

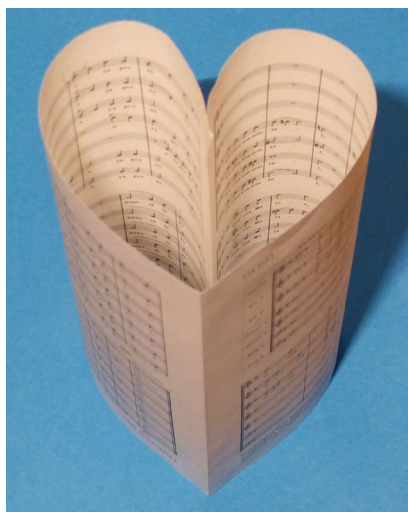


Let's sing together!

Create practice tracks automatically with lyrics
Share recordings and receive feedback in the app

ONE MONTH FREE TRIAL ON CANTAMUS.APP





NEWS FROM MUSICA INTERNATIONAL, THE GLOBAL VIRTUAL CHORAL LIBRARY

A favorite piece selected every month since 1998!

If you want to build a choral music program based on an idea, concept, or theme by using a series of criteria, the Musica International database is for you. With approximately 200,000 titles from around the world which are described in details according to multiple criteria, this database is an essential and powerful search engine and planning tool for all choral conductors. But what about discovering interesting repertoire without searching? Musica's "Favorite Piece of the Month" will fill you up! A new favorite appears every month on the Musica [homepage](#). Even better, you will find choral gems that match your wishes and your tastes by visiting the [archives](#) of this feature, browsing month by month back to February 1998. You can change the language of the page at the top right. Alternatively, you can access the recent 'Favorites' through the [Musica Facebook page](#).

Like everything in the Musica project, this feature is collaborative. Everybody has a favorite! Why not propose your favorite to become Musica's favorite for an upcoming month? Send YOUR favorite to office@musicanet.org.

NEWS FROM IFCM FOUNDING MEMBERS

EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION - EUROPA CANTAT (ECA-EC)

The European Choral Association elected a new Board and President

The European Choral Association (ECA) is happy to announce that **Dermot O'Callaghan**, Ireland, was elected President of ECA on 21 November 2021, in Lyon, France.

ECA General Assembly also elected a Board of 11 people

After an open and wide-ranging conversation within the new board on the needs of the association, a new Executive Board was elected:

- President: Dermot O'Callaghan (Ireland)
- 1st Vice-President and treasurer: Martine Spanjers (The Netherlands)
- 2nd Artistic Vice-President: Burak Onur Erdem (Turkey)
- 3rd Vice-President: Raul Talmar (Estonia)

Further members of the Board are: Tamara Adamov Petijevic (Serbia), Jeroen Beckers (Belgium), Côme Ferrand-Cooper (France), Xavier Devillers (Belgium), Marco Fornasier (Italy), Silvija Pročkytė (Lithuania), Josep Vila i Casanas (Spain) and Daphne Wassink (The Netherlands, co-opted as representative of the Friends of Choral Music in Europe).

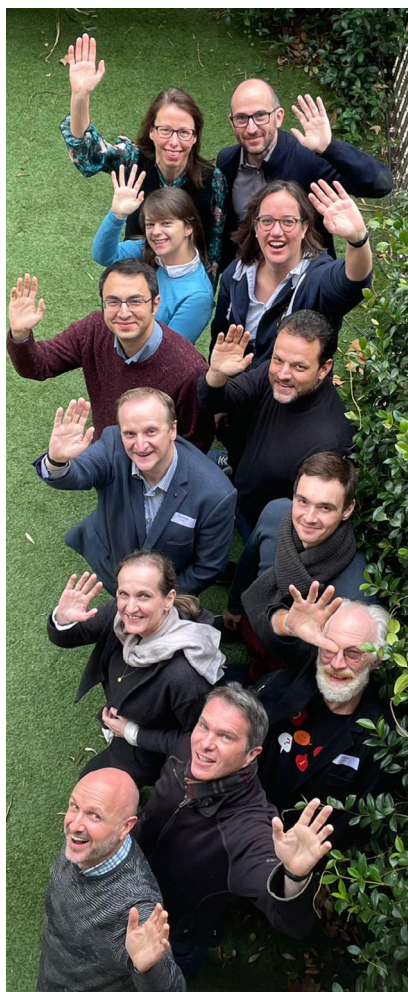
IGNITE, the new project of the European Choral Association

The European Choral Association has just received the confirmation of funding under the EU Creative Europe programme under the support to cultural networks strand. Congratulations from the IFCM community!

IGNITE, igniting an Inclusive and sustainable future for collective singing throughout Europe, is a project which will focus on collective singing at the heart of the revitalisation of post-pandemic Europe, specifically its effects on the health and wellbeing of the individual and society.

From December 2021 until November 2024, IGNITE will contribute to the European Green Deal, increasing diversity, inclusion, and equity in the sector by strengthening the network and increasing its representativeness. By empowering and training people in the sector, IGNITE aims to increase capacity to become resilient and sustainable, to be active internationally, to cooperate at the European level, and to make use of modern technology.

For more information, see www.europeanchoralassociation.org/ignite



EuroChoir, Switzerland, 15-25 July 2022

EuroChoir is a unique choral event organised every year in a different country which offers young singers the opportunity to get together for eight days to rehearse a challenging programme and improve their vocal skills under the guidance of a vocal trainer, presenting the results of their work in public concerts. This special choir aims to promote European choral music among young singers and to encourage cultural exchange within Europe.

The 2022 edition will take place in Switzerland, under the direction of Yuval Weinberg and Marco Amherd, with concerts planned in Basel, Bern, the Grisons (Graubünden), and Zurich. For more information, see www.eurochoir.org

Enjoy the thrill of EUROPA CANTAT Junior, two years in a row (2022 and 2023)



EUROPA CANTAT JUNIOR VILNIUS

SMART SINGING

15-24 July 2022

Mark your calendar and start looking forward to the perfect summer adventure in Lithuania

Experience a country that lives and breathes choral music, UNESCO-recognized Vilnius Old Town, ateliers by some of the best children's choir conductors in the world!

europacantatjunior.org/2022

Save the dates for ECJ Ghent: 5-13 July 2023!

Logos: EA (European Choral Association), Lithuanian National Culture Centre, KoOR & STEM, and a stylized 'JK' logo.

Joint Letter of Intent on Climate Action

In the context of COP.26, the UN Climate Change Conference, the European Choral Association and eight other international and European cultural networks and platforms have come together to take action on climate change.

This joint initiative emerged from the SHIFT project, co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. The letter of intent on climate action is an important step towards uniting forces to tackle the huge worldwide challenge of global warming. The aim is to develop and implement a framework consisting of environmental guidelines for cultural networks and a certification scheme. The partnering international and European cultural networks recognise the ecological footprint associated with operating a cultural network. They are committed to minimising this footprint, optimising environmentally sustainable practices, and acting as an example of good practice for their members, stakeholders, and other organisations, while also recognising the different contexts in which they are evolving. Read the full letter [here](#).

Special thanks to the Green Leisure Group and Creative Carbon Scotland for contributing their expertise to this process! Discover more about the SHIFT project on the project website: <https://shift-culture.eu/>

LEADING VOICES, EUROPEAN DAYS FOR VOCAL AND CHORAL LEADERS (27-31 JULY 2022)

Leading Voices confirms new session leaders!

Leading Voices, a major event for conductors and vocal leaders, updated its programme with more new session leaders! The event will take place next summer in Utrecht, Netherlands. It brings the latest developments in collective singing together in one European platform and gives the floor to inspiring forerunners and established artists while providing a space for learning, co-creation, and experimentation.

Some newly confirmed session leaders to look forward to meeting and working with include:

- Josep Vila i Casañas (Spain)
- Majella Hollywood (Ireland)
- Anders Edenroth (Sweden)
- Cara Tasher (USA)
- Jan Schumacher (Germany)
- Sinta Wullur (The Netherlands/Indonesia)

Go to www.leadingvoices.nl for more info about all the inspiring sessions and session leaders!



AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION (ACDA)

ACDA REGION CONFERENCES

Registration for all ACDA's 2022 region conferences is open! Follow this [link](#) to our region conference page, which provides links to information and registration for each event as well as national COVID-19 guidance for these conferences.

- **Eastern Region** (Boston, Massachusetts), 9-12 February 2022
- **Midwestern Region** (Chicago, Illinois), 16-19 February 2022
- **Southern Region** (Raleigh, North Carolina), 23-26 February 2022
- **Southwestern Region** (Little Rock, Arkansas), 28 February – 3 March 2022
- **Western Region** (Long Beach, California), 2-5 March 2022
- **Northwestern Region** (Spokane, Washington), 9-12 March 2022

ACDA NATIONAL EVENTS

[ACDA Children and Community Youth Choir Conductors' Retreat \(15-16 January 2022, Tucson, Arizona\)](#) Michelle McCauley will headline the retreat, presenting "Native American

singing styles of today and how it can fit into your curriculum." A half-day pre-conference event (14 January 2022) will be devoted to an intensive exploration of ADEI: Access, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Registration is open.

[International Symposium on Research in Choral Singing \(29-30 April 2022, synchronous virtual event\)](#)

NEWS FROM IFCM MEMBERS

OBITUARY: CARLO LEONARDI, ITALY

The IFCMeNEWS lost one of its faithful translators. Carlo Leonardi (Legnano, Italy) passed away on 12 November 2021. Carlo has translated the IFCMeNEWS into Italian for the past five years. He is also the father of IFCM former Project Manager, Francesco Leonardi. Carlo was President of the Associazione Musicale Jubilate and was very active in organizing choral music events in his hometown and the region of Lombardy. IFCM President, board and, staff members join together to express our deepest condolences to Francesco, his mother, and his family. Thank you and RIP Carlo.

GRIEG INTERNATIONAL CHOIR FESTIVAL AND NINA SOLO COMPETITION FOR YOUNG SINGERS

Bergen, Norway, 16-19 June 2022

An opportunity for choirs to participate in the [Grieg International Choir Competition](#) (competition, friendship concerts, and festival events) and for young singers to participate in [NINA Solo Competition - for young voices](#).

Jury members: Hirvo Surva (Estonia), Sofia Söderberg (Sweden), Katie Thomas (Great Britain), Jens Johansen (Denmark), Tove Ramlo Ystad (Norway).

The Grieg International Choir Competition is open to amateur choirs. Each choir may participate in one or two of the following categories: mixed choir, female voices, male voices, vocal ensembles (4-12 singers), youth choirs (up to 25 years), children's choirs (up to 16 years), sacred music, folk music, spiritual, pop, and jazz.

Contact: post@griegfestival.no

Website: www.griegfestival.no



COMPETITIONS – CONCERTS - EVENTS

**GRIEG INTERNATIONAL CHOIR FESTIVAL
& NINA SOLO COMPETITION – for young voices**

BERGEN/NORWAY, JUNE 16 – 19, 2022

Application date: March 10, 2022

www.griegfestival.no

NEWS FROM FEDERACIÓ CATALANA D'ENTITATS CORALES (FCEC)

Six days of workshops and concerts in the heart of Barcelona, surrounded by music and cultures from around the world!

Participating choirs will perform two concerts in addition to the closing concert which will take place at the Palau de la Música Catalana.

Workshops:

- Verdi's Opera Choirs: conductor Conxita Garcia (Catalonia)
- Nordic Sounds: conductor Hirvo Surva (Estonia)
- Mediterranean Songs: conductor Juan Pablo de Juan (Spain)

Application deadline: 15 January 2022.

Contact: fcec@fcec.cat

Website: <http://www.fcec.cat>

CALL FOR HIGHLY-QUALIFIED CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHOIRS – BASEL, SWITZERLAND

One more month to apply!

The 13th [European Festival of Youth Choirs Basel](#) will take place **16-21 May 2023**.

Application deadline: **31 January 2022**.



BASEL SWITZERLAND
16 – 21 05 2023

Europäisches
Jugendchor
Festival

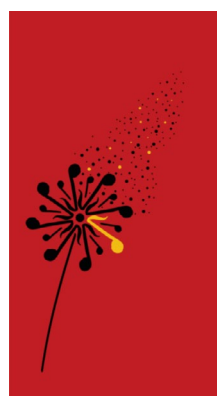
CALL FOR CHOIRS!

WWW.EJCF.CH

NEWS FROM CHORAL CANADA

PODIUM 2022 Choral Conference & Festival: Reimagine, Rebuild, Reconnect
19-23 May 2022, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Visit www.podium2022.ca for more details.



NEWS FROM THE FLORILÈGE VOCAL DE TOURS

50th [Florilège Vocal de Tours](#), France, 17-19 June 2022.

A competition that makes the city of Tours, France, the capital of choral singing during one weekend!

This festival is a member of the

[European Grand Prix for Choral Singing](#). **Applications are open** for choirs and vocal ensembles from all over the world.

New Application deadline: 1 December 2021

DECEMBER 2021

*Volunteers connecting
our choral world*



IFCMeNEWS

WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER 2021 AND JANUARY 2022 IN OUR CHORAL WORLD

28 Dec-2 Jan: Corsham Winter School, UK — <http://www.lacock.org>

2-5 Dec: International Festival of Advent and Christmas Music, Bratislava, Slovak Republic — <https://www.choral-music.sk>

3-5 Dec: 11th Krakow Advent and Christmas Choir Festival, Poland — <http://krakow.christmasfestival.pl>

7 Jan 2022: 1st Choral Composition Competition of Preveza, Greece — <http://www.armoniachoir.gr/festival/index.php>

10 Jan 2022: International Competition for Girls' Choir Compositions, Riga, Latvia — <http://www.rdks.lv/en/par-skolu/kori/meitenu-koris/>

15 Jan 2022: 18th International composer's competition MUSICA SACRA NOVA 2022, Germany — <https://musicasacranova.com>

15 Jan 2022: 5th IFCM International Choral Composition Competition — <https://www.ifcm.net/projects/choral-composition-competition>

20-24 Jan 2022: 3rd Sing'n'Pray Kobe, Japan — <https://www.interkultur.com/events/2022/kobe/>

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.