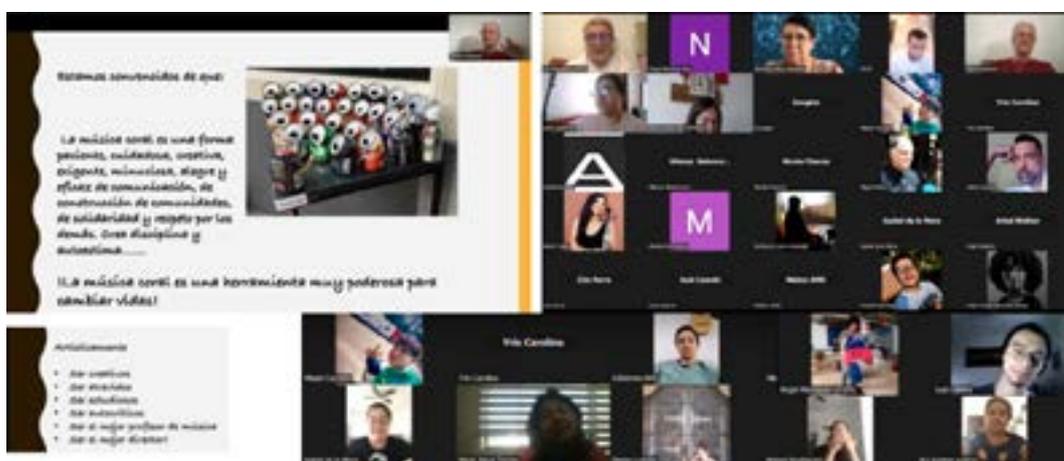


## NOVEMBER 2023 IFCMeNEWS

### LATIN-AMERICAN CONDUCTORS CAFÉ

On 29 October 2023, a Conductors Café, **Panorama Actual de la Música Coral** (current picture of choral music), was organized for IFCM members and non-members within the Latin-American region. The Zoom event was organized at the initiative of Ángel Martínez Rey, IFCM member from Venezuela, who also moderated the session. 47 choral conductors and other choral music lovers from 14 Latin-American countries participated in the session which provided a great opportunity to connect, exchange, and plan for the future.



### WORLD CHORAL DAY: THE DATE IS 10 DECEMBER 2023!

Why do we celebrate the World Choral Day (WCD)? When is the WCD? What is this year's WCD celebration theme? What is the WCD proclamation? I won't be able to sing with a choir to celebrate WCD, so how can I still take part? How can I register my choir/event for WCD? Can we still register our event, even if it's not happening on **10 December 2023**, the second Sunday of December? All these questions and more are answered on these pages:

<https://www.ifcm.net/projects/world-choral-day>

<https://www.facebook.com/worldchoralday>

[Register with this form](#)



### GREAT RESPONSE FROM COMPOSERS TO THE NEXT IFCM CHORAL COMPOSITION COMPETITION

IFCM's 6<sup>th</sup> International Choral Composition Competition 2023/2024 has generated an impressive response from composers all over the world. A total of 100 applications have been

received from more than 30 countries, with 76 entries in the *Mixed* category and 24 in the *World Choral Day* category. The global representation of composers reveals the extraordinary diversity within the international choral music industry. This competition provides an exceptional opportunity for these composers to showcase their unique talents.

The jury members have begun the process of reviewing the submissions and will convene in November to share their evaluations and determine the winners of the competition. The announcement of the winners of the 6th International Choral Competition 2023/2024 will be published by the end of November 2023. The competition has undoubtedly stirred excitement and anticipation within the global choral community.

As the IFCM International Choral Composition Competition continues to grow in popularity, it remains a testament to the artistic flair and creativity of choral music composers worldwide. The competition provides a platform which promotes emerging talent and fosters the growth of the choral music industry as a whole.



### CALL FOR YOUNG SINGERS IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION FOR APYC 2024!



APYC 2023, concert at the Blue Mansion, George Town Malaysia, cond. Tracy Wong

The next session of the Asia Pacific Youth Choir (APYC) will be held in Daegu, South Korea, 14-20 July 2024. The session will be under the leadership of:

- Music Director: **Jacob Youngmok Chang** (Republic of Korea), President of Korea International Choral Association, Former President of Daegu Art University
- Guest Conductor: **Mark Anthony Carpio** (Philippines), choral conductor, countertenor, choirmaster of the Philippine Madrigal Singers

**Conditions of participation:**

- Applicants must be between 18 to 28 years of age on 14 July 2024.
- A good working knowledge of English is required as all events will be conducted in English.
- Accommodation, meals, and all material needs are provided by the host organization.
- Participants are responsible for their own financial resources for the following:
  - Travel from home country to host country (Daegu, South Korea), and back to home country
  - Visas and other official requirements
  - Pocket money for personal expenses

Find all the details on how to apply and who to contact in the countries represented in the Asia Pacific region [HERE](#).

**Apply before 15 December 2023.** Download the [application form \(Excel\)](#) or the [application form \(PDF\)](#) and the [prepared score for the audition](#).

**MARÍA GUINAND**

**AWARDED AN HONORARY DOCTORATE**

On 31 October 2023, IFCM Vice-President María Guinand was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Universidad Metropolitana de Caracas for her exceptional contribution to the development of Venezuelan choral music and for her tireless educative work. A well-deserved award! Congratulations María!



**EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION**

**COLLECTIVE SINGING AS INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**Advocacy statement on the safeguarding of collective singing traditions**

With the European Union declaring 2018 as the European Year of Cultural Heritage, broader public awareness for the safeguarding of our collective singing heritage increased across Europe, and new initiatives and projects were born. Yet, despite the 20-year existence of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, there is still, and all too often, a focus on tangible heritage, whereas intangible heritage is not always fully recognized.



Since vocal music, which includes choral music and collective singing in general, has the largest number of intangible heritage traditions listed by UNESCO within the field of music, the European Choral Association decided to publish an advocacy statement calling on decision-makers and cultural heritage professionals to fully recognize the importance and role of intangible cultural heritage and to encourage measures of support, protection, and promotion.

The statement also calls on persons active in the education sector to integrate collective singing traditions in their work with all age groups.

Read the full statement [HERE](#).

## **EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERS' NETWORKING SESSION ON SING ME IN**

**Join the session online on 7 November 2023 at 16.00 CET**

We are thrilled to invite you to our upcoming Members Online Networking Session on Tuesday, 7 November 2023 at 16:00 CET. During this event, we will dive into the exciting developments in the world of collective singing and its role in the integration process of young migrants.

But, first, a bit of background: Remember [Sing me In](#)? It was a project coordinated by the European Choral Association (ECA), in collaboration with ten other organizations from nine European countries, which concluded successfully in 2018. However, since then, the world has seen shifts in immigration patterns with new countries appearing on the immigration map. To adapt to these changes, the ECA [Youth Committee](#) has decided to revisit the project.

What you can expect by attending the session:

- Discover inspiring projects that use collective singing as a way of facilitating the integration of young migrants in various ways
- Engage in a meaningful discussion on how you can implement similar initiatives within your own organizations
- Learn how you can support the inclusion of immigrants in your local choir, music school, or specific refugee-related projects

This session is open to everyone, and participation is free.

[Register](#) and stay tuned for more updates by following our [Facebook event page](#).

*This activity is organised in the framework of the [IGNITE](#) project co funded by the EU.*



## **EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERS' & FRIENDS' PROJECT PRESENTATION**

**Join the session online on 17 November 2023 at 09.00 CET**

After evaluating the 2022 online Project Presentation session and the 2022 in-person Membership Weekend, ECA has decided to go for a hybrid Project Presentation session in 2023. This means that those who are unable to attend our [Membership Weekend](#) in Vilnius, Lithuania (17-19 November 2023), can still join the Project Presentation session online on 17

November at 09.00 CET (10.00 EET, Lithuanian time). During this session, you will be able to get to know several interesting, innovative, and inspiring projects from our members, indirect members (members of member organisations or of the [Friends](#)), and target countries of our [Regional Development Strategy](#).

Everyone can attend. Participation is free. Register [HERE](#) to join the webinar online and share the [event on Facebook!](#)

*This activity is organised in the framework of the [IGNITE](#) project co funded by the EU.*



## CONCERTS-AUSTRIA

### MOZART MEETS BRUCKNER - *DEATH AND RESURRECTION*

**Vienna, Austria, 17-20 October 2024**

Mozart's *Requiem* is a choral masterpiece, renowned for its profound and hauntingly beautiful composition reflecting the genius of Mozart. [Concerts-Austria](#) is offering the chance to participate in a unique Mozart *Requiem* concert in Vienna, 17-20 October 2024. Participants from all over the world will rehearse under the baton of [Christoph Ehrenfellner](#). The concert will take place on 19 October 2024 in the famous St. Charles Church (Karlskirche) and will include two works by Anton Bruckner (*Ave Maria* and *Locus iste*) on the occasion of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bruckner's birth. This wonderful event in Vienna is open to choirs as well as individual singers.



For all information and registration materials, go to  
<https://www.concerts-austria.com/mozart-requiem>.

**14TH EUROPEAN YOUTH CHOIR FESTIVAL BASEL, SWITZERLAND, 28 MAY-1 JUNE 2025**  
**European platform for highest qualified children's and youth choirs**

Are you ready to meet other outstanding choirs from Europe? Are you specialized in a specific style of choir music such as contemporary, romantic or early music, barbershop, musical, gospel, folk songs? In May 2025, eighteen selected choirs will meet and perform in around 50 concerts. The colorful program with choir music from all styles and ages appeals to an audience of nearly 40,000 spectators. Guest families host all singers. The festival covers all costs of the invited choirs. If you feel that this festival could be a unique chance to show your qualifications, please apply for an invitation.

**Deadline for applications: 31/1/2024**

Further information on <https://www.ejcf.ch> or YouTube Channel "EJCFCBasel"

Contact: [info@ejcf.ch](mailto:info@ejcf.ch)



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.