



MAY 2024 IFCMeNEWS

IFCM invites you to a truly memorable tour experience in one of China's most breathtaking provinces!

IFCM is cooperating with the Qiandongnan People's Government of Guizhou Province and is calling for choirs interested in joining the International Folk Song Festival in Kaili, Guizhou Province, **20-25 July 2024**.

During five days, participants will share their cultures, make friends and meet colleagues, and spread the love of choral folk songs to people from around the world.

There are still a few opportunities for your choir and/or small groups of singers from larger vocal ensembles to **be selected and have all local costs covered!** If you are interested, please send the following material as soon as possible at office@ifcm.net: CV of the choir and conductor, photos, contact details, links to recordings.

[Download the complete information](#)



Co-host a Youth International Management Program with IFCM

This activity is part of the Choral TIES project coordinated by the European Choral Association and co-funded by the EU

If your association is a member of IFCM and is organizing an event this year for which you could use some support, the 2024 Youth International Management Program (YOUNG) may be of interest.

YOUNG is an IFCM initiative program designed to empower young leaders in the choral community by providing them with valuable knowledge and networking opportunities. IFCM



has already organized two successful YOUNG programs during the [World Choral EXPO](#) in Lisbon (2022) and the [World Symposium on Choral Music](#) in Istanbul (2023). In the frame of the Choral TIES project, the European Choral Association will co-organise the YOUNG program with IFCM and will be able to offer EU funding through the project.

[Download the leaflet.](#)

If you are interested, please [contact the IFCM office.](#)



Co-funded by the
European Union

World Youth Choir Concert Tour 2024: Secure your Tickets.

As part of the World Youth Choir 2024 concert tour, the choir will join the National Youth Orchestra of Germany — [Bundesjugendorchester](#) — for a program featuring Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* and a commissioned work by Tan Dun entitled *Nine - Ode to Compassion*.

The choral-orchestral ensemble will perform a total of eleven concerts in three countries (Germany, The Netherlands, and Italy) under the direction of Tan Dun or Jörn Hinnerk Andresen. The four soloists will be World Youth Choir alumni: Iris Hendrickx, Jo-Pei Weng, Xavier Moreno, and Johannes Schendel.

The choir will also present concerts with a cappella repertoire.

Please note that concert tickets are selling quickly. If you want to hear this outstanding concert, make sure to purchase your tickets as soon as possible!

Find out the information about the concert tour [here](#).



The African Confederation for Choral Music (ACCM) presents the first African Choral Night Virtual Concert

On 13 April 2024, the first African Choral Night virtual concert showcased the richness and diversity of African choral music. Choirs, ensembles, and vocal groups from Africa and its diaspora were brought together on the digital stage. Through this unique virtual experience, treasures of talent and authenticity were presented, offering an exceptional panorama of varied repertoire ranging from the traditional to the modern. Entitled *In the Moonlight*, this first edition of African Choral Night focused on traditional African repertoire through video performances by nine choirs from the four corners of the African continent. The concert was broadcast on the [ACCM YouTube channel](#).

On the stage:

Ô mon ba (Yoruba language), composer Steeve Covo, performed by Choeur Magnificat, Benin
Shemeza Umukama (Kirundi language), composer Fr Jean Bosco Wakana, performed by Saint Thomas Aquinas Choir, Burundi

We ovou omaye & Lost voices, cover of compositions by Patience Dabany and Vyckos Ekondo, performed by Samba Africa, Gabon

Mkiri Wodu Warukiye, composer Marietta Mamachi, arranger Geoffrey Mukoto, performed by Pambo Afrika Chorus, Kenya

Noël ni Noël (Kongo language), composer Roselyn Samba, performed by Choeur Le Rosaire, DR Congo

Yow la Yalla (Wolof language), composer Marc Sylva, performed by Chorale Daniel Brottier, Senegal

Ma folo moan (traditional lullaby in Beti) arranger Jean Alexis Bakond, performed by Mboa Youth Choir, Cameroon

Ke Mang (traditionnal Gospel songs), arranger Thabo Matshego, performed by Guava Vocal Group, South Africa

Kouang (traditional from West Cameroon), arranger Ken Wakia, performed by African Youth Choir



Berkshire Choral International Announces New Artistic Leadership Team

Berkshire Choral International (BCI) has appointed its new artistic leadership team: **Anthony Trecek-King** (IFCM Board Member) will assume the new role of Artistic Director, providing leadership to the organization for strategic direction and long-term artistic vision. Having served as a frequent BCI faculty member over the past decade, **Sean Taylor** will expand his role at BCI, becoming the Director of Music.



Anthony Trecek-King,
Artistic Director Designate

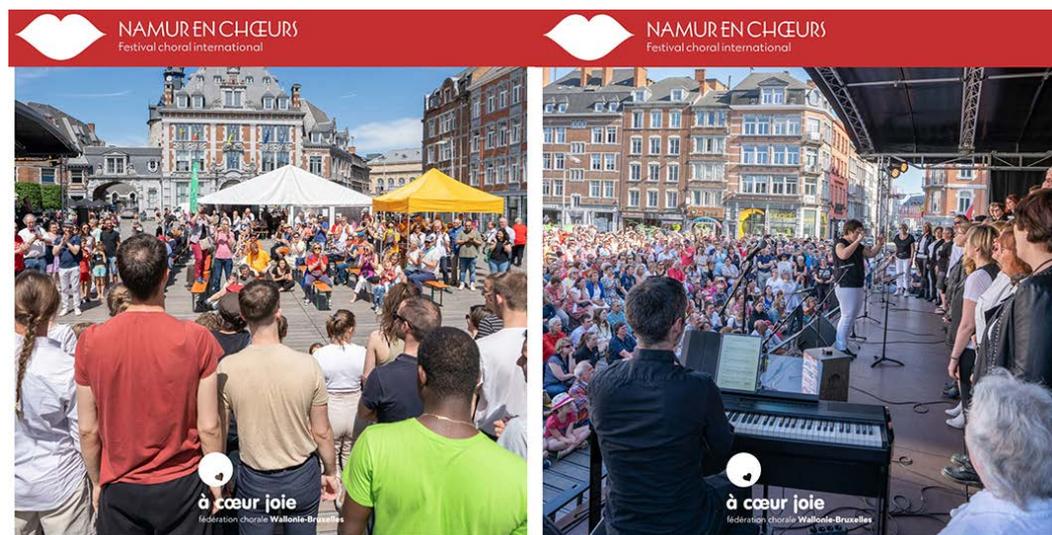


Berkshire Choral International expands the horizons of singers through their participation in exhilarating performances, enriching travel and cultural exploration, lifelong music education, and connection to an inspiring community of choral artists.

[Read more](#)

Namur en Chœurs, Namur, Belgium, 1-2 June 2024

Organized by the [Choral Federation Wallonia-Brussels - A Coeur Joie Belgium](#), [Namur en Chœurs](#) will make the city of Namur sing for a whole weekend with 100 concerts throughout the city center. A completely covered reception center with an indoor stage will provide a space in which groups can create their own entertainment. The festival will end with an open singing session and a closing concert performance by the Belgian female vocal ensemble Cantus Firmus, conducted by H el ene Richardeau.



Advertise with Choral Canada

Anacrusis: **Spring/Summer 2024**

Choral Canada offers advertisement spaces in the Spring/Summer 2024 edition of its journal [Anacrusis](#). The booking/artwork deadline has been extended to May 15, 2024. To reserve a space, please contact Choral Canada at media@choralcanada.org.

PODIUM 2024

PODIUM is Choral Canada's national biennial professional gathering of the Canadian choral community. PODIUM 2024 will be held in Montreal, Quebec, from 16-19 May 2024. If you are interested in sponsoring a concert, reception, or special event, please visit [PODIUM 2024](#) and review the [Sponsorship and Advertising packages](#) for available options.



European Choral Association Online webinar

Are you paid fairly? Recommendations on fair pay at international collective singing events

Tuesday 7 May 2024, 5pm CEST, online

The European Choral Association is a member of the [International Music Council \(IMC\)](#) and subscribes to the [Five Music Rights](#) developed by IMC. The 5th Right is the right for all musical artists "to obtain just recognition and fair remuneration for their work". All too often, this right has not been respected fully in the choral sector.

The European Choral Association, therefore, decided to research what could be 'fair pay' for choral conductors and vocal leaders working at international events; conductors of auditioned international ensembles; workshop leaders, masterclass leaders or lecturers; as well as for composers who are commissioned to compose a choral work.

In this webinar, Martine Spenjers (The Netherlands) will present the recommendations that were formulated by the European Choral Association as a result of the research and study. Additionally, the session will explore the fair remuneration perspective of Platform [Arbeidsmarkt Culturele en Creatieve Toekomst \(ACCT\)](#), the networking organisation for the Dutch cultural and creative sector. ACCT's director Sjoerd Feitsma (The Netherlands) will share insights about the organization's work and commitment to tackling this issue and ACCT's efforts toward improving working conditions for the professionals in the sector. Finally, Côme Ferrand Cooper (FR) will share the experience of [A Coeur Joie France](#), the French Association for choral music, which is willing to apply our Fair Pay recommendations in the next edition of the international festival Choralies in 2025.

Register [here](#) and join the webinar!

This activity is organised in the framework of the IGNITE project co funded by the EU



ECA EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION

ARE YOU PAID FAIRLY?
RECOMMENDATIONS ON FAIR PAY AT INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE SINGING EVENTS

Tuesday 7 May 2024 | 5 pm CEST | Online

 Martine Spenjers

 Sjoerd Feitsma

 Côme Ferrand Cooper

an initiative of  

Mark your calendar for Leading Voices 2025 in Tallin, Estonia!

[Leading Voices](#) had its [first edition](#) on 27-31 July 2022 in Utrecht (The Netherlands), offering a European platform for meeting professional peers, learning from colleagues, and being inspired by artistic concepts and choirs. It was a place to co-create, exchange opinions, and network with choral leaders. As well, Leading Voices provided the opportunity to learn more about repertoire, conducting techniques, educational methods, choral management, and much more.

The next edition of this unique event for professionals in the choral sector will take place on **6-10 July 2025 in Tallinn (Estonia)**.

Further information about the event will be communicated later. Follow our channels so that you do not miss any updates!

Local organiser(s): [Estonian Choral Association](#) in cooperation with the [Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre \(EAMT\)](#)

Contact: kooriyhing@kooriyhing.ee

Japan Choral Association: Swedish Youth Choir visits Japan for the first time and interacts with Japanese youth choirs

The Swedish Youth Choir (SYC) and its conductor, Maria Goundorina, arrived in Tokyo, Japan, in the morning of 2 April 2024. Although they had just been on an overnight flight, the choir had a rehearsal that evening during which they interacted through choral singing with the Japan Choral Association's Youth Special Choir. On the following day, 3 April, a joint concert was held at the Saitama Arts Theatre Concert Hall. Each choir performed their own exceptional repertoire, and the concert ended with a joint performance. As anticipated, both choirs charmed the audience which included the Swedish Ambassador, Pereric Högberg, and the President of the **Japan Choral Association (JCA)**, Saeko Hasegawa.

[Read more](#)



American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)

2025 ACDA National Convention, Dallas, Texas, USA, 18-22 March 2025

The 2025 ACDA National Conference will highlight our rich choral heritage, celebrate the music and expertise of our present-day choral colleagues, and look with excitement to the next generation.



Headliners and Invited Choirs

- The Dallas Symphony Orchestra and the Dallas Symphony Chorus
- Tuks Camerata
- Batavia Madrigal Singers
- Thomanerchor of Leipzig, Germany

- Santa Fe Desert Chorale
- Jake Runestad's *Earth Symphony*, conducted by Jake Runestad with the Baylor University Symphony Orchestra, Baylor University A Cappella Choir, University of Texas-Arlington A Cappella Choir, University of Texas-San Antonio Chamber Singers
- TMEA All-State Large School Mixed Choir
- Welcome to Dallas Concert featuring: The Greater Dallas Choral Society for Children and Youth; St. John's Music Ministry; Vocal Majority; and the Turtle Creek Chorale

Survey on texts sung by choirs

IFCM member Anastasia Agafonova (France) is a first year PhD student in Linguistics at the University of Strasbourg (France). She invites you to participate in the survey that will form the basis of her thesis: <https://sondagesv3.unistra.fr/index.php/961467?lang=en>.

The aim is to document your current and past perceptions and experiences of texts sung by choirs. This survey is anonymous. It should take 10-15 minutes to complete.

Thank you in advance for your kind contribution to help Anastasia!



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.