



■ Choral activities

■ Training courses

■ Festivals and more

# 2025

PROGRAMME | JAHRESPROGRAMM



EUROPEAN  
CHORAL  
ASSOCIATION



@EuropeanChoralAssociation



@ECA\_EC



@europeanchoralassociation



@eca-ec



@EuropeanChoralAssociation

## European Choral Association

c/o Haus der Kultur

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E-Mail: [info@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org](mailto:info@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org)

[www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org](http://www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org)

Dear friends,

In this brochure, you will find international activities of the European Choral Association and under its label. All these activities are open to choirs/vocal ensembles, individual singers, vocal leaders/conductors, creators/composers, educators/teachers, managers and/or other choral lovers from Europe and beyond.

We hope to have the chance to meet you at one of these events and we would be happy to exchange our experiences towards music, projects and the future of collective singing in Europe! Indirect members (members of our member organisations and of the Friends of the European Choral Association) benefit from reduced prices in most events.

For more detailed information on all the events, reach out to the organisers or find more detailed information on our website: [www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org](http://www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org)

Currently, the association is supported by the German Federal Ministry for Family, Seniors, Women and Youth and the city of Bonn and co-funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union.

The content of this brochure does not reflect the official opinion of the European Union. Responsibility for the information and views expressed in the brochure lies entirely with the author(s). Photos belong to the European Choral Association and organisers.

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für Familie, Senioren, Frauen  
und Jugend

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For singers



For choirs



For conductors/vocal leaders



For composers



For choral managers



Cooperation Events of ECA



Events Under ECA Label

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# ABOUT US



@EuropeanChoralAssociation

We are a network of organisations in the field of collective singing in Europe. Through our membership we directly represent more than 2,5 million singers, conductors/vocal leaders, composers and managers in over 40 European countries, and reach out to more than 37 million people in continental Europe active in the field of collective singing.

## Our values

We are a European non-profit organisation aimed at contributing to the mutual understanding among the European nations, their music, their languages, and their cultural life.

We base our vision and mission on the following core values:

- Inclusivity
- Diversity
- Development
- Empowerment
- Sustainability

As a democratic organisation we respect the values as described in the Convention of the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expression 2009, as well as in the UN Sustainable Development goals, and in the Five Music Rights formulated by the European/International Music Council.

The activities and the application to membership of the association are open to everyone, without any restriction based on political and religious opinion, gender, sexual orientation, abilities, cultural background or citizenship.

## Our vision

Our vision is a world where everybody experiences the benefits of singing.

## Our mission

Our mission is to be the leading pan-European non-profit organisation dedicated to life-long learning and cultural exchange through collective singing.

Since 1955, our aims are to promote singing as an art form and as a tool to connect people of all ages, with a focus on children and young people, to foster cooperation and understanding between cultures, nations and individuals across social and political borders by promoting, supporting, developing and organising activities and events, and to represent the collective singing sector.

We develop the sector, together with our members, through our activities, by training and empowering singers of all ages, vocal leaders/conductors, educators/teachers, music-creators/composers, students and managers as well as organisations. We reach out to potential singers and audiences as well as those active in other arts activities and other sectors.

## We are members of

- International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM) | [www.ifcm.net](http://www.ifcm.net)
- European / International Music Council | [www.emc-imc.org](http://www.emc-imc.org) / [www.imc-cim.org](http://www.imc-cim.org)
- Musica International | [www.musicanet.org](http://www.musicanet.org)
- Culture Action Europe | [www.cultureactioneurope.org](http://www.cultureactioneurope.org)
- International Choral Festival Network | [www.choralfestivalnetwork.org](http://www.choralfestivalnetwork.org)



### General Secretariat

Weberstr. 59a, 53113 Bonn, Germany  
Tel: +49 228 9125663, Fax: +49 228 9125658  
[info@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org](mailto:info@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org)  
[www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org](http://www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org)

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| President:             | Dermot O'Callaghan (IE)   |
| Vice-Presidents:       | Martine Spanjers (NL), Burak Onur Erdem (TR),<br>Raul Talmar (EE) |
| Treasurer:             | Martine Spanjers (NL)   |
| Secretary General:     | Sonja Greiner (DE)  |
| Office Manager:        | Sylvia Kerutt (DE)  |
| Communication Manager: | Beatrice Bonfé (IT)   |
| Regional Development:  | Joži Vovk (SI)  |
| Project Consultant:    | Sophie Dowden (UK)  |

## FRIENDS OF THE EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION

We are a community of individuals, and of choirs, and other legal bodies who wish to support the work of the European Choral Association through our membership and through fundraising activities.

The Friends incorporate the Noël Minet Fund, which specifically supports young musicians who would like to come to the events of the European Choral Association.

### Why do we have the Friends?

In 2021 the European Choral Association decided to change its membership structure to be an umbrella organisation for other associations. However, since the European Choral Association has a long tradition of individuals and choirs that are personally close to the association and/or would like to support its work, it was important to keep this connection open. Now, individuals and choirs are invited to become a Friend of the European Choral Association!

The Friends of the European Choral Association are a separate organisation, however there is a strong connection: the board of the Friends reserves spots for board members of the European Choral Association, and vice versa on the board of the European Choral Association there is also one spot reserved for a representative of the Friends. In this way individuals and choirs are officially represented in the board and can influence and contribute to the strategies of the European Choral Association. The Friends have been in existence since 2011 with its first purpose being to support the European Choral Association financially with fundraising activities.

**Contact:** [info@friendsofecca.org](mailto:info@friendsofecca.org)  
**Further information on:** [www.friendsofecca.org](http://www.friendsofecca.org)

# Friends of the European Choral Association

The Friends of the European Choral Association are a community of individuals, and of choirs and other legal bodies who wish to support our work through their membership and through fundraising activities.

After the recent change of our membership structure into an umbrella organisation for associations only, we want to keep the connection open with individuals and choirs that are personally close to us and/or would like to support our work.

That's why individuals and choirs are now invited to become Friends of the European Choral Association!

---

## JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

as individuals, choirs and other legal bodies!

## BECOME A FRIEND

- ♪ Individual members: 50,00 € per year
- ♪ Choirs and other legal bodies: 100,00 € per year

Learn more and become a Friend!

Contact us: [info@friendsofec.org](mailto:info@friendsofec.org)

More Infos: <https://europeanchoralassociation.org/friendsofec/>



SCAN ME



# INTRODUCTION

## EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION

### Types of events offered in cooperation with and under the label of the European Choral Association

All events promoted by the European Choral Association including those published in this brochure are based on the following principles:

- events for choirs/vocal ensembles and singers, vocal leaders/conductors, creators/composers, educators/teachers and managers, organised by European Choral Association or in partnership are mostly **non-competitive**. However, there can be competitions for professionals (such as conductors' competitions and composition competitions) or educational offers in relation to competitions, especially if the organisers are members of the Choral Festival Network.
- all events have an **educational aspect** (which can be a training course, workshops, choir-to-choir concerts, Open Singing or other elements which help participants improve their level of knowledge).
- all events are **international**, welcoming participants from outside the host country and providing information and activities in English for an important part of the programme.

There are three basic types of events published under the label of the European Choral Association:

#### 1. Cooperation Events of the European Choral Association

These events are designed by European Choral Association and travel between different countries. They have a typical structure which remains the same with some aspects adapted each time. The European Choral Association is involved in the artistic design and the most important decision-making processes and the participation fees include reduced fees for indirect members of the European Choral Association as well as for participants from specific country groups (the European Choral Association's fee system based on a solidarity principle):

- EUROPA CANTAT festival
- Europa Cantat *junior*
- Leading Voices
- European Youth Choir (fka EuroChoir)
- World Youth Choir
- Workshops in connection with Membership weekends of the European Choral Association
- Activities offered in the frame of specific EU-funded projects such as capacity-building workshops, webinars, grant schemes etc.





## 2. Events under the Label of the European Choral Association



Events for choirs and singers, vocal leaders/ conductors, creators/composers, educators/ teachers and/or choral lovers, with differing and flexible structure and programmes. The artistic programme is developed in partnership with the European Choral Association and the participation fees are based on the European Choral Association system (see above).

## 3. Events from the International Choral Sector



Different types of international choral events organised by partner organisations or organisations in which the European Choral Association is a member, and which follow the three principles described above. The concept, structure and artistic programme are developed by the local organisers alone and the European Choral Association has no responsibility for the quality of these events.

If you are interested in hosting a cooperation event or organise an event under the label of the European Choral Association please contact our General Secretariat at:  
[communication@europeanchoralassociation.org](mailto:communication@europeanchoralassociation.org)

If you are interested in purchasing advertising space or promotional packages, please visit:  
[www.europeanchoralassociation.org/adverts](http://www.europeanchoralassociation.org/adverts)



# INTRODUCTION



FR

## Gamme d'activités

Vous voulez rencontrer d'autres chanteurs, chefs de chœur, compositeurs ou managers de tout âges ? Vous cherchez de nouvelles sources d'inspiration et voulez chanter avec des gens venus de toute l'Europe et au-delà ?

Vous pouvez choisir parmi une grande gamme d'activités pour chœurs, groupes vocaux, choristes, chefs de chœur, compositeurs et managers, dans un esprit interculturel et d'apprentissage mutuel. Nous publions dans cette brochure trois types d'activités éducatives, internationales sous le label d'European Choral Association :



### Activités de coopération de la European Choral Association

(Festival EUROPA CANTAT, Europa Cantat *junior*, Leading Voices, EuroChoir, Chœur Mondial des Jeunes, conférences, etc.) avec des frais de participation réduits pour les membres indirects d'ECA-EC et certains groupes de pays (système European Choral Association basé sur la solidarité)



**Activités sous le label de la European Choral Association** (avec système European Choral Association pour les frais de participation)



**Activités internationales soutenues par la European Choral Association**

[www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org](http://www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org)

DE

## Bandbreite von Aktivitäten

Suchen Sie nach Inspiration, oder möchten Sie Sänger\*innen, Chorleiter\*innen, Komponist\*innen und Manager\*innen aller Altersstufen treffen? Möchten Sie gemeinsam mit Menschen aus ganz Europa und darüber hinaus singen?

Sie können aus einer großen Bandbreite von Aktivitäten für Chöre, Vokalensembles, Sänger/innen, Chorleiter\*innen, Komponist\*innen und Manager\*innen auswählen, die ein interkulturelles Umfeld bieten und gegenseitiges Lernen ermöglichen. In dieser Broschüre präsentieren wir unter dem Label von European Choral Association drei Arten von internationalen Veranstaltungen mit pädagogischem Schwerpunkt an:



**Kooperationsveranstaltungen der European Choral Association** (EUROPA CANTAT Festival, Europa Cantat *junior*, Leading Voices, EuroChoir, Weltjugendchor, Konferenzen usw.) mit reduzierten Teilnahmegebühren für indirekte Mitglieder der European Choral Association und bestimmter Ländergruppen (European Choral Association Gebührensystem mit Solidaritätsprinzip)



**Aktivitäten unter dem Label der European Choral Association** (mit European Choral Association Gebührensystem)



**Aktivitäten aus dem internationalen Chorsektor**

[www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org](http://www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org)

# CONDUCTORS



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONDUCTORS AND VOCAL LEADERS



### Dear conductors and vocal leaders,

In 2025 there will be a rich choice of activities for you!

We are offering a rich programme for conductors and vocal leaders at some of the cooperation events and events under the label of the European Choral Association which include training courses, conferences and conventions for conductors in different countries.

|   |                 |               |      |
|---|-----------------|---------------|------|
| Walter Strauss Choral Conducting Masterclass                      | Ankara, Türkiye | 19-25/01/2025 | p.17 |
| Leading Voices  | Tallin, Estonia | 06-10/07/2025 | p.19 |
| "Start-to-Conduct" course at the International Singing Week Ghent | Ghent, Belgium  | 12-18/07/2025 | p.20 |
| European Academy for Choral Conductors                            | Fano, Italy     | 24-31/08/2025 | p.23 |
| Study Tour to Lebanon   | Lebanon         | 09/2025 (tbc) | p.24 |

There are also **financial support schemes** for conductors and composers such as the Noël Minet Fund Scholarships (p.15).

# **A GOLDMINE** for the choral repertoire



**200 000 scores**  
*described in detail with media links*  
*(videos, texts, translations...)*

**33 000 composers**  
*(biographies)*

*and*  
**more...**

**[www.musicanet.org](http://www.musicanet.org)**

Are you a member of the European Choral Association?  
Benefit from a privileged full access in the "members only"  
section of <https://europeanchoralassociation.org/>  
*(also available on the website of some national choral federations)*

# EU-FUNDED PROJECTS

## EUROPEAN COOPERATION PROJECTS

### SWAN

#### Singing with Additional Needs

The SWAN project (Singing with Additional Needs) draws on best practices taking place in different European countries to include people with additional needs in collective singing. These additional needs may arise due to disabilities and/or physical or psychological health issues. The project takes a holistic approach, recognising the complexity and intersectionality of people's additional needs and the diversity of skills and approaches needed for everyone to be able to enjoy the physical, psychological, social and educational benefits of singing (#BenefitsOfSinging campaign).



#### The project's objectives are:

- to collect, scale and promote data and best practices in collective singing for people with additional needs
- to facilitate transnational opportunities for collective singing professionals to engage with the best practices of other countries
- to develop and make use of digital tools to support people with additional needs in participating in collective singing and to make knowledge internationally accessible

The project includes such activities as the development of digital tools and a best practices database, sharing research, experimentation with and evaluation of certain best practices, networking and knowledge-sharing (hybrid and physical workshops, round-tables, conferences).

#### Concrete outputs include:

- Computer scripts and an e-book for singers with visual impairments
- Reports on research, experimentation and outcomes
- A guide for conductors leading a choir for cancer patients
- Recordings of project events
- A database of best practices

The project expects to benefit hundreds of amateur and professional singers with additional needs, choral conductors/vocal leaders, (potential) organisers of initiatives, with an ongoing benefit to thousands more with the resources and outputs created in the frame of the project. Additionally, we foresee an increase in the quality of inclusion of people with additional needs in collective singing as well as in the quantity of opportunities.

The SWAN project is coordinated by **Norsk Sangerforum** (NO), with partners the **European Choral Association** (DE), **Kanker in Beeld** (NL) and **Sing Ireland** (IE). Sing Ireland will also co-operate with the Choral Culture Association (TR).

SWAN is co-funded by the European Union.

**Further information on:** [www.swanproject.eu](http://www.swanproject.eu)

## CHORAL TIES

### Cross-border Training on International and European level

Choral TIES, coordinated by the European Choral Association offers Cross-border Training on International and European level for professionals in the field of Collective Singing. In addition to physical, hybrid and online training for choral conductors /vocal leaders and managers, it promotes youth participation and aims to provide training adapted to different needs and possibilities, to train the trainers and other multipliers, and to introduce a new online training tool.



### Objectives of Choral TIES include:

1. making use of new technology and digital tools for capacity building, relating to the EU's priority of "A Europe fit for Digital Age" & "New Technology"
2. strengthening international cooperation in the field of collective singing, especially with EU neighbours relating to the EU's priority of "A stronger Europe in the World" & an "International Dimension"
3. contributing to the European Green Deal through online and hybrid training formats and sustainable travel

### These objectives will be reached through

1. Activities: webinars, hybrid and physical trainings, an international youth network, cross-border workshops and study tours to selected countries
2. Tangible project results:
  - guidelines on how to organise training activities
  - the digital training tool "conductors coach" in several languages
  - audiovisual documentation
  - streamed hybrid and online courses
  - disseminated by the partners beyond the project period

The activities will directly benefit hundreds of professionals within the European Union, in other European countries and beyond, and thousands indirectly. As a result we expect to see a higher level among professionals in the field of collective singing and long-term a higher level of choirs, ensembles and events.

Choral TIES is coordinated by the **European Choral Association** (DE) and brings together the partners **Carus-Verlag** (DE), the **Croatian Cultural Association** (HR) and the **Estonian Choral Association** (EE). Some of the activities will be promoted in cooperation with the **International Federation for Choral Music – IFCM**.

Choral TIES is co-funded by the European Union.

**Further information on:** [www.choralties.eu](http://www.choralties.eu)

# EU-FUNDED PROJECTS

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In 2024 the European Choral Association submitted an application for the next round of network funding under the EU Creative Europe Programme with the second part of the project IGNITE - IGNiting an Inclusive and sustainable future for collective singing, "IGNITE 2". The project, building on the achievements of the first part, would run from February 2025 to January 2029. The outcome of the application will be known in summer/autumn 2024.

Should the application be successful, the programme of the European Choral Association in 2025 will include additional activities such as workshops, webinars and financial support schemes which will be published on the website of the association in September or October 2024.

## RESOURCES FROM PAST EU-FUNDED PROJECTS



Take a moment to look back on the guidelines, handbooks and studies of previous EU-funded projects of the European Choral Association!

EPIC Data Analysis on the Impact of Auditioned Youth Music Ensembles (2021)

[www.europeanchoralassociation.org/epic](http://www.europeanchoralassociation.org/epic)

SHIFT Handbook on Inclusion for cultural organisations looking to improve their work on diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging (2021)

[www.shift-culture.eu](http://www.shift-culture.eu)

Sing Me In guides on how to use collective singing as a tool to help the integration of people from different cultures and backgrounds (2018)

[www.singmein.eu](http://www.singmein.eu)

Singing Europe on participation in collective singing across Europe (spoiler alert: overall, it's 4,5% of the European population, or 37 Million collective singers!) (2015)

[www.singingeurope.org](http://www.singingeurope.org)

All available on the European Choral Association website:

[www.europeanchoralassociation.org/resources/guidelines-and-handbooks](http://www.europeanchoralassociation.org/resources/guidelines-and-handbooks)



# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

## NOËL MINET FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

**For applicants under 30 with limited economic resources coming from a European Country**

There will be a focus on the target countries of the Regional Development Strategy of the European Choral Association, though people from other countries can also apply.



**In 2025, the scholarship offers a grant to applicants wishing to attend one of the following events:**

|  |                  |               |      |
|--|------------------|---------------|------|
| Walter Strauss Choral Conducting Masterclass | Ankara, Türkiye  | 19-25/01/2025 | p.17 |
| Leading Voices                               | Tallinn, Estonia | 06-10/07/2025 | p.19 |
| European Academy for Choral Conductors       | Fano, Italy      | 24-31/08/2025 | p.23 |

**The scholarship amount generally ranges from 300 to 500 EUR.**

**Applicants must fill in an application form with:**

- Reasons for applying with explanation of their economic situation
- Information if they have applied for or will receive other funds
- Total budget with participation fees, travel, accommodation, meals and scores
- CV
- 2 recommendations
- plans on how to share the new knowledge and experience with their local community afterwards

**Deadlines for application:** For events happening from January to June 2025: **20/11/2024**  
For events happening from July to December 2025: **30/04/2025**

**Contact:** [jozi.vovk@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org](mailto:jozi.vovk@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org)

**Further information on:** [www.europeanchoralassociation.org/noel-minet-fund-scholarship](http://www.europeanchoralassociation.org/noel-minet-fund-scholarship)

# EVENTS | NOVEMBER 2024

## MEMBERSHIP WEEKEND OF THE EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION



**Leuven, Belgium | 14-17/11/2024**

**Aim group:**

Representatives of member organisations as well as indirect members of the European Choral Association (including members of the Friends) and those interested in the Association's work and topics

**Organisers:**

European Choral Association in cooperation with Koor&Stem



**Meet and network** with representatives of choral organisations, managers and conductors from all over Europe and be part of the European choral scene!

**Debate** the future orientation of the association during the Membership Day gathering to work on hot topics of the sector and provide structured feedback to the General Assembly and the Board.

**Learn more** about our work with respect to the following topics:

- Youth involvement
- Diversity and inclusion in the Association
- Environmental strategy and policies of the Association

**Discuss** the following topics:

- "Pyramid" of auditioned youth choirs
- Future events of the Association
- Results of survey for members organisation and wishes for the future

**Attend** a workshop on:

- Financial sustainability
- Contemporary choral music from Flanders

**Participate** in the General Assembly, discussing and approving the activity and financial report of the last years, the budget and the strategy for the coming years.

Finally, **join our special choral concerts!**

We are looking forward to meeting you in Leuven!

**Deadline for registration:** 30/09/2024

**Contact:** [info@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org](mailto:info@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org)

**Further information on:** [www.europeanchoralassociation.org/membership-weekend-2024](http://www.europeanchoralassociation.org/membership-weekend-2024)



## LOOKING AHEAD TO MEMBERSHIP WEEKEND 2025

**Girona, Spain | November 2025 – dates to be announced**

in cooperation with SCIC - Secretariat de Corals Infantils de Catalunya

# EVENTS | JANUARY 2025

## WALTER STRAUSS CHORAL CONDUCTING MASTERCLASS



Ankara, Türkiye | 19-25/01/2025

**Aim group:**

**Organisers:**

**Conductors**

**Turkish State Choir & Choral Culture Association**

Don't miss the 9th Walter Strauss Choral Conducting Masterclass in January 2025 in Ankara, Türkiye! Led by renowned Slovenian conductor Sebastjan Vrhovnik, this week-long event offers young conductors the unique opportunity to work with a full-time professional choir. The 9th version of the Walter Strauss Choral Conducting Masterclass promises another enriching experience for choral conductors.

Scheduled from January 19 to January 25, 2025, this edition will be led by the esteemed Slovenian conductor, Sebastjan Vrhovnik. Continuing its tradition of providing an intensive week-long training program, the masterclass offers a valuable opportunity for conductors, conducting students, and music educators worldwide to gain expertise in advanced choral conducting. Starting from 2024, Burak Onur Erdem, the conductor of the Turkish State Choir, will lead a choral conducting workshop for beginner and intermediate level conductors. This workshop will run parallel to the masterclass, featuring both intersecting and separate sessions.

Past editions of the masterclass have featured renowned names such as Paulo Lourenço (PT), Lorenzo Donati (IT), Ragnar Rasmussen (NO), Josep Vila i Casanas (ES), Jan Schumacher (DE), Georg Grün (DE), and Gary Graden (SE). The event will take place in the newly renovated Historical Symphony Hall, with the participation of the Turkish State Choir, Turkey's 70-voice national professional ensemble.

**Deadline for registration:**

**Contact:**

**Further information on:**

**01/11/2024**

**cokseslikoro@gmail.com**

**devletcokseslikorosu.ktb.gov.tr**



# EVENTS | APRIL 2025

## FESTIVAL DI PRIMAVERA – 20<sup>TH</sup> EDITION



### Italy | April 2025

**Aim group:**

**Organisers:**

**School, children and youth choirs**

**FENIARCO (National Federation of Choirs in Italy)**



The Festival di Primavera is one the most important European festivals addressed to school, children's and youth choirs.

Every choir can attend one atelier on a specific repertoire with international lecturers.

The main purpose of the festival is to allow singers and conductors to learn together, participating in ateliers, concerts, open singing and other exciting choral adventures.

Every participating choir will have the chance to meet and sing with other singers from all over Italy and Europe, and to spend its free time to tour our wonderful Italian territories: an extraordinary experience to share with hundreds of kids and teenagers!

Ateliers and lecturers will be announced in September 2024.

Conductors, teachers and singers are all invited at the Festival di Primavera 2025. Feniarco waits for you in April to taste the youth Italian singing spring!

**Deadline for applications:**

**15/01/2025**

**Contact:**

**[festivaldiprimavera@feniarco.it](mailto:festivaldiprimavera@feniarco.it)**

**Further information on:**

**[www.feniarco.it/en](http://www.feniarco.it/en)**



# EVENTS | JULY 2025



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## LEADING VOICES

**Tallinn, Estonia | 6-10/07/2025**

- Aim group:** Choral conductors/vocal leaders, composers/arrangers, vocal coaches, music educators/teachers, professional singers and managers of all levels and generations
- Organisers:** Estonian Choral Association and Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, in cooperation with the European Choral Association

We are looking forward to the 2nd edition of Leading Voices after its first edition in Utrecht in 2022. During five days you will have the possibility to meet your peers, actively explore, experience, and discuss the future of choral music through different formats.

The event will open with the **Estonian Song Celebration**, featuring more than 20.000 people singing together on the traditional shell stage.

### Further offers will include :

- Masterclasses starting 2 days before the evening
- Young Event Management Programme (YEMP) with training on the job
- A rich programme of workshops, labs, lectures, repertoire sessions, project presentations
- Concerts showing the richness and quality of Estonian choral music
- Performances of invited choirs and vocal ensembles from across the world
- Open Singing

The full programme will be announced in October 2024. Subscribe to the newsletter for all updates.

There will be sessions in Estonian as part of the Choral TIES project, co-funded by the European Union (see p.13).

### Deadline for applications:

- Early bird discount for Leading Voices: until **30/11/2024**
- Deadline for Young Event Management Programme (YEMP): **15/01/2025**
- Deadline for a guaranteed place: **30/03/2025**

**Contact:** [info@leadingvoices.ee](mailto:info@leadingvoices.ee)

**Further information on:** [www.leadingvoices.ee](http://www.leadingvoices.ee)



LEADING VOICES 6-10 JULY 2025 TALLINN ESTONIA



EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION



ESTONIAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION



ESTONIAN ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND THEATRE

Choral TIES

Co-funded by the European Union



# EVENTS | JULY 2025

## INTERNATIONAL SINGING WEEK GHENT

Ghent, Belgium | 12-18/07/2025

**Aim group:**

Choirs (adults, youth, and children), individual singers, conductors

**Organisers:**

Koor&Stem vzw and VFJK (Flemish Federation of Young Choirs)

In July 2025 Ghent (BE) will once again be a meeting place for choirs, singers of all ages, as well as young conductors. Share your love for singing at the International Singing Week, with expert international conductors. Our venues are in the historical centre of the city.

The International Singing Week will feature:

**Five choir ateliers:**

1. Children, 8-12y, with Elisenda Carrasco (ES)
2. Youth equal voices, 10-18y, with Elise Bradley (NZ)
3. Youth mixed voices, 14-25y, with Mathias Charton (FR)
4. Adults SSAA, 18y plus, with Birgitte Naeslund Madsen (DK)
5. Mixed voices SATB, 25y plus, with Damijan Močnik (SI)

**Open Singing with Tom Johnson (BE)**

**Extra: "Start-to-Conduct" course (16-25y) with Tom Johnson (BE)**

A beginners course for young singers/musicians thinking about becoming a choir conductor. In the supportive and inspiring International Singing Week Ghent, you can learn from experts and explore the many aspects of choir leadership.

**Start of registrations:**

15/09/2024

**Deadline:**

31/01/2025

**Contact:**

[singingweekghent@koorenstem.be](mailto:singingweekghent@koorenstem.be)

**Further information on:**

[www.singingweekghent.be](http://www.singingweekghent.be)





# EVENTS | JULY 2025



© WorldYouthChoir

## EUROPEAN YOUTH CHOIR (FKA EUROCHOIR)



**Valencia (Spain) | 16-28/07/2025 (tbc)**

**Aim group:**

Individual singers

**Organisers:**

Federació de Cors de la Comunitat Valenciana in cooperation with the European Choral Association



Further details will be published from October 2024 on the website of the European Choral Association - subscribe to our newsletter or follow us on social media to not miss this.

**Contact:**

[presidente@fecocova.es](mailto:presidente@fecocova.es)

**Further information on:**

[www.europeanchoralassociation.org/](http://www.europeanchoralassociation.org/)  
[www.fecocova.es](http://www.fecocova.es)



## WORLD YOUTH CHOIR SUMMER SESSION 2025



**Catalonia, other parts of Spain & France | 15-31/07/2025 (tbc)**

**Aim group:**

Individual singers

**Organisers:**

World Youth Choir Foundation (with European Choral Association, IFCM and JMI) in cooperation with FCEC - Federació Catalana d'Entitats Corals



More information available at [www.worldyouthchoir.org](http://www.worldyouthchoir.org) from September 2024

**Contact:**

[manager@worldyouthchoir.org](mailto:manager@worldyouthchoir.org)

**Further information on:**

[www.worldyouthchoir.org](http://www.worldyouthchoir.org)



# EVENTS | AUGUST 2025

## CHORALIES



**Vaison-la-Romaine, France | 30/07-07/08/2025**

**Aim group:**

Choirs (adults, youth, and children), individual singers, conductors

**Organisers:**

À Cœur Joie France



**Choralies, the French "rendez-vous" for choral lovers!**

Experience a festival like no other, celebrating the joy of choral singing in a charming city in the sunny South of France. The Choralies offers 40 workshops led by renowned conductors, welcoming both beginners and experienced singers from all over Europe. These workshops, lasting from one to eight days, cover a wide range of repertoires and styles.

Bring your friends! Every afternoon, choirs can perform in shared concerts all over the city. Youth choirs get special deals too. As the sun sets, the antique theatre of Vaison-la-Romaine comes alive with top-notch international choral concerts, kicking off with Open Singing where 4,000 voices unite under the stars.

This festival is a hub for choral enthusiasts, with fun meetings and conferences for singers and conductors. Join us in this vibrant celebration—400 volunteers are ready to share their passion for choral singing and ensure you have a fantastic time!

**Deadline for applications:**

**to be announced**  
(applications starts from autumn 2024)

**Contact:**

**[secreariat@choralies.org](mailto:secreariat@choralies.org)**

**Further information on:**

**[www.choralies.fr](http://www.choralies.fr)**



# EVENTS | AUGUST 2025



## EUROPEAN ACADEMY FOR CHORAL CONDUCTORS – 13<sup>TH</sup> EDITION



**Fano, Italy | 24-31/08/2025**

**Aim group:**

**Organisers:**

**Conductors**

**FENIARCO (National Federation of Choirs in Italy) in collaboration with ARCOM (Marche Regional Choral Association)**



The Academy of Fano is a biennial event that has become by now a benchmark for choral conductor training. It is addressed to experience choral conductors from all over the world.

The Academy is directed by an internationally renowned conductor: in the past editions the participants had the chance to work with Brady Allred, Frieder Bernius, Nicole Corti, Filippo Maria Bressan, Gary Graden, Ragnar Rasmussen and Virginia Bono.

The masterclass will focus on a specific repertoire and will take advantage of a high level pilot-choir during the whole week. A final concert is planned on Saturday conducted by the best participants of the masterclass.

It is possible to register as active participant or listener. The working language will be English. Repertoire and lecturer will be announced in September 2024.

**Deadline for registration:**

**Contact:**

**Further information on:**

**31/05/2025**

**[info@feniarco.it](mailto:info@feniarco.it)**

**[www.feniarco.it/en](http://www.feniarco.it/en)**

# EVENTS | SEPTEMBER 2025

## STUDY TOUR TO LEBANON



### Lebanon | September 2025 (exact dates to be confirmed)

#### Aim group:

Conductors/vocal leaders, managers and others who want to discover choral/vocal music in Lebanon

#### Organisers:

Fayha National Choir in cooperation with the European Choral Association, promoted by IFCM



You will hear choral arrangements of Arab music, maronite sacred music, and many other music styles in rehearsals, workshops and performances, visiting different choirs and ensembles across the country, and discover the beauty of the country.

In view of the political situation in the Middle East, the final decision about the study tour will be taken later. Please subscribe to our newsletter and follow us on social media to stay updated.

This study tour is part of the Choral TIES project, co-funded by the European Union (see.p.13).

#### Contact:

[contact@fayhanationalchoir.com](mailto:contact@fayhanationalchoir.com)

#### Further information on:

[www.europeanchoralassociation.org](http://www.europeanchoralassociation.org)



Co-funded by the European Union





# EVENTS | OCTOBER 2025

## RelaxSing Costa Barcelona

23. – 27.10.2025

*Save the date!*



### RELAXSING COSTA BARCELONA

**Santa Susanna, Spain | 23-27/10/2025 (tbc)**

(With the option of extending the stay, arriving earlier or leaving later)

**Aim group:**

**Organisers:**

Choirs (adults), Choirs (youth), Individual singers  
ELAN Touristik / IC Chorreisen



*Elan*  
Touristik

Spend time at Costa Barcelona with your choir or alone, perform with your own repertoire, join ateliers if you want, spend an evening with all festival participants, have enough time to relax and discover the sandy coasts or lively Barcelona.

**Contact:**

**Further information on:**

[info@relaxsing.org](mailto:info@relaxsing.org)

[www.relaxsing.org](http://www.relaxsing.org)



# IFCM EVENTS & PROJECTS



**7th  
INTERNATIONAL  
CHORAL  
COMPOSITION  
COMPETITION**



**INTERNATIONAL  
CHORAL MAGAZINE**

ISSN 0896-0969



Celebrated every  
**2nd Sunday of December**  
08 December 2024



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World Symposium on Choral Music**

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[www.ifcm.net](http://www.ifcm.net)  
#IFCMconnects



**Volunteers Connecting our Choral World**



# CHORAL FESTIVAL NETWORK



## EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION is a proud member of



CantaRode International Choral Festival & Competition – Kerkrade, Netherlands | City of Derry International Choir Festival – Derry, Ireland | Cork International Choral Festival – Cork, Ireland | Festivals under the label of EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION – Bonn, Germany: Leading Voices 2025 – Tallinn, Estonia, Europa Cantat junior 2026 – Girona, Catalonia, Spain | European Youth Choir Festival Basel – Basel, Switzerland | European Music Festival for Young People – Pelt (Neerpelt), Belgium | Golden Gate International Choral Festival – Oakland, California USA | Harmonie Festival – Lindenholzhausen, Germany | Festivals under the label of IFCM – International Federation of Choral Music – Lisboa, Portugal: World Choral Expo – Lisboa, Portugal, World Symposium of Choral Music – changing places | International Baltic Sea Choir Competition – Jurmala, Latvia | International Chamber Choir Competition Marktoberdorf – Marktoberdorf, Germany | International Choral Festival Flanders-Genk – Genk, Belgium | International Choral Competition Ave Verum – Baden, Austria | International Choral Competition Gallus Maribor – Maribor, Slovenia | International Choral Festival of Preveza – Preveza, Greece | International Choral Music Festival Barcelona – Barcelona, Spain | International Festival Universitas Cantat – Poznań, Poland | Japan Vocal Music Festival – Yokohama, Japan | Montana International Choral Festival – Missoula, Montana USA | Musica Sacra International – Marktoberdorf, Germany | San Juan Canta International Choir Festival and Competition – San Juan, Argentina | Sborove slavnosti \* Czech Choir Festival – Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic | Tallinn International Choral Festival – Tallinn, Estonia | Tampere Vocal Music Festival – Tampere, Finland | Tokyo International Choir Competition – Tokyo, Japan | Tolosa Choral Contest – Tolosa, Spain



# DISCOVERY EVENTS

## Events in the target countries of the Regional Development Strategy

As part of our regional development strategy in the frame of the IGNITE project, we have decided to promote events from target countries of Central-Eastern and South-Eastern Europe that have been registered by the organisers through our internal call for proposals. The concept, structure and artistic programme are developed by the local organiser alone and the European Choral Association has no responsibility for the quality of these events. By publishing these events, the European Choral Association aims to help them achieve a higher level of international visibility in order to raise awareness for choral life in these countries.



### SLOVAKIA CANTAT 2025

#### Bratislava, Slovakia | 24-27/04/2025

**Aim group:** Choirs (adult, youth, children) and conductors  
**Organisers:** Bratislava Music Agency in cooperation with the City of Bratislava  
**Deadline for applications:** 15/12/2024  
**Contact:** [info@choral-music.sk](mailto:info@choral-music.sk)  
**Further information on:** [www.choral-music.sk](http://www.choral-music.sk)



### 14TH WORLD CHOIR FESTIVAL ON MUSICAL & COMPETITION



#### Thessaloniki, Greece | 09-11/05/2025

**Aim group:** Choirs (adult, youth, children) and conductors  
**Organisers:** Cultural-Spiritual Association "KORAIS" and "KORAIS" Choir  
**Deadline for applications:** 20/03/2025  
**Contact:** [choirkorais94@gmail.com](mailto:choirkorais94@gmail.com)  
**Further information on:** [www.xorodiakorais.com](http://www.xorodiakorais.com)



### INTERNATIONAL CHOIR FESTIVAL AND COMPETITION ŽILINA VOCE MAGNA



#### Žilina, Slovakia | mid June 2025

**Aim group:** Choirs (adult, youth, children)  
**Organisers:** Mixed Choir of Žilina  
**Deadline for applications:** TBA, check the website  
**Contact:** [info@vocemagna.sk](mailto:info@vocemagna.sk)  
**Further information on:** [www.vocemagna.sk](http://www.vocemagna.sk)



## MUSICA ORBIS PRAGUE FESTIVAL



Prague, Czech Republic | 03-07/07/2025

**Aim group:** Choirs (adult, youth, children)  
**Organisers:** The Prague Concert Co.  
**Deadline for applications:** 30/04/2025  
**Contact:** [info@musicaorbis.com](mailto:info@musicaorbis.com)  
**Further information on:** [www.musicaorbis.com/prague-festival-2025/](http://www.musicaorbis.com/prague-festival-2025/)



## INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF CHAMBER CHOIRS AND VOCAL ENSEMBLES



Kragujevac, Serbia | 17-22/08/2025

**Aim group:** Choirs (adult, youth, children), conductors and composers  
**Organisers:** Music Centre Kragujevac, City of Kragujevac, Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia  
**Deadline for applications:** 31/01/2025  
**Contact:** [muzickicentarkg@gmail.com](mailto:muzickicentarkg@gmail.com)  
**Further information on:** [www.muzickicentar.rs/festival](http://www.muzickicentar.rs/festival)



## BOHEMIA CANTAT LIBEREC



Liberec, Czech Republic | 21-24/08/2025

**Aim group:** Choirs (adult, youth, children), individual singers and conductors  
**Organisers:** Zazpívejme si z. s.  
**Deadline for applications:** 20/08/2025  
**Contact:** [jirizenkl@bohemiacantat.cz](mailto:jirizenkl@bohemiacantat.cz)  
**Further information on:** [www.bohemiacantat.cz](http://www.bohemiacantat.cz)



## INTERNATIONAL CHOIR FESTIVAL HERCEG NOVI



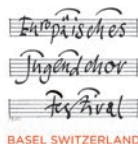
Herceg Novi, Montenegro | 02-05/10/2025

**Aim group:** Choirs (adult, youth, children) and conductors  
**Organisers:** Montenegrin Choral Association  
**Deadline for applications:** 08/15/2025  
**Contact:** [crnogorskahorskaasocijacija@gmail.com](mailto:crnogorskahorskaasocijacija@gmail.com)  
**Further information on:** [www.choirfestivalhcn.com/en/](http://www.choirfestivalhcn.com/en/)



## 14<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN YOUTH CHOIR FESTIVAL

**BASEL, SWITZERLAND | 28/05 – 1/06/2025**



**Aim group:**

Conductors, singers, choir lovers

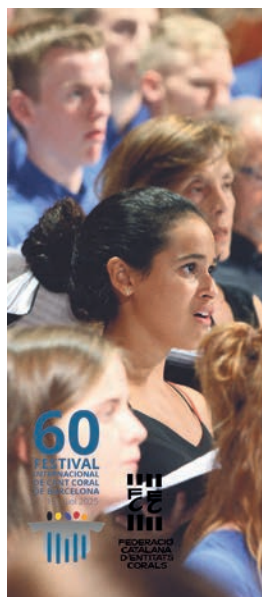
Visit the most renowned platform for highly qualified children's and youth choirs in Europe. Every two years in May (Ascension) 12 outstanding choirs from European countries, a guest choir from a non-European country and six selected choirs from Switzerland thrill an audience of almost 40,000 choir lovers.

The festival offers more than 50 events such as concerts in particularly beautiful venues and on large open-air stages, new concert design, concerts by Swiss children's- and youth choirs, meeting opportunities and workshops for conductors and singers, choir boat on the river Rhine, open singings, country portraits and much more. Be part of it!

**15<sup>th</sup> festival edition:** 04 – 09/05/2027

**Registration for choirs:** 01/11/25 – 31/01/2026

**Further information:** [www.ejcf.ch](http://www.ejcf.ch)



## INTERNATIONAL CHORAL FESTIVAL BARCELONA

7-13 July 2025

For choirs (adults, youth, and children) and individual singers

Every summer, Barcelona becomes a meeting point for choirs and singers from all over the world, which come to enjoy the city and to share their music with others:

- workshops led by world-renown conductors
- free time to tour the city
- opportunity to sing in the historic church Església del Pi
- final concert in the modernist concert hall Palau de la Música

**Invited conductors for 2025 (to be confirmed) will be:**  
Frieder Bernius, Bernie Sherlock and Pau Bordsa

**Registration deadline: 15/11/2024**

Contact: [fcec@fcec.cat](mailto:fcec@fcec.cat) or [www.fcec.cat/festival-internacional-eng](http://www.fcec.cat/festival-internacional-eng)

Organisers: Federació Catalana d'Entitats Corals

# INFORMATION

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION & FAQ

### How can I apply for an event?

Please contact the organisers directly, check the contact on each page.

### How do I know what I have to pay?

Information on fees is published on the website of each corresponding event. For cooperation events of the European Choral Association and events under the label of the European Choral Association there are **reduced fees** for:

- Indirect members of the European Choral Association: members of a member association of the European Choral Association and members of the "Friends of the European Choral Association"
- Participants from country groups 2 and 3 (solidarity principle)

#### Country group 1:

AT, BH, BE, BN, CA, DK, FI, FR, DE, HK, IE, IL, IT, JP, LI, LU, MT, NZ, NO, SG, KR, ES, SE, CH, NL, UK, UAE, US

#### Country group 2:

AR, AW, CN, CO, HR, CY, CZ, EE, GR, HU, KW, LV, LB, LT, PE, PL, PT, SA, SK, SI, ZA, TW

#### Country group 3:

AL, AM, BY, BA, BG, GE, KZ, MK, MD, ME, RO, RU, RS, TR, UA

For countries outside Europe the rule is that countries which belong to group 1 according to HDI (index used by IFCM- [www.ifcm.net/membership-fees](http://www.ifcm.net/membership-fees)) are in country group 1, countries belonging to HDI groups 2 and 3 are in country group 2. Country group 3 is reserved for European countries.

If you are not sure which country group you belong to, write to [sylvia.kerutt@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org](mailto:sylvia.kerutt@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org)

### How can I join the European Choral Association? Become a Friend!

Since 2022 it is no longer possible to become an individual member or join the European Choral Association as a family or a choir. On the other hand choirs and individuals can join the Friends of the European Choral Association and will then be considered as "indirect members" of the European Choral Association (see page 5 for details). Anybody who is a member of a member organisation of the European Choral Association in categories A1 and A2 can also profit from redu-

ced fees for indirect members - so if there is such an association in your country and you are not a member, yet, you could consider joining choral organisations or institutions interesting in joining, please contact us for further information. You can also contact us:

#### European Choral Association

Haus der Kultur, Weberstr. 59a, 53113 Bonn, Germany

Tel. +49 228 912 56 63

[info@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org](mailto:info@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org)

### Can I cancel my participation after applying?

In case of a short-term cancellation by the participant (whatever the reason) a general service charge must usually be paid to the organisers if costs have already occurred. By signing the registration this condition is accepted.

### Informations pratiques

Pour vous inscrire merci de contacter les organisateurs. Vous trouverez les frais de participation sur le site des organisateurs. Pour les activités de coopération de la European Choral Association ou les activités sous le label de la European Choral Association, il y a des frais réduits pour les membres indirects de la European Choral Association, y inclut les membres des "Friends of the European Choral Association" et pour des participants venants des pays appartenants aux groupes 2 et 3. Si vous devez annuler votre participation, à partir d'un certain moment vous ne serez plus remboursés. Pour la plupart des activités le logement est inclut ou peut être réservé par les organisateurs sur place.

### Praktische Informationen

Bitte kontaktieren Sie die Veranstalter, um sich anzumelden. Die Teilnahmegebühren finden sich auf der Website der Veranstalter. Für Kooperations-Veranstaltungen der European Choral Association oder Aktivitäten unter dem Label der European Choral Association gibt es ermäßigte Teilnahmegebühren für indirekte Mitglieder der European Choral Association (inklusive Mitglieder der "Friends of the European Choral Association") und für Teilnehmer\*Innen aus Ländern der Gruppen 2 und 3. Falls Sie Ihre Teilnahme absagen müssen, kann die Teilnahmegebühr nach einem bestimmten Zeitpunkt nicht mehr erstattet werden. Bei den meisten Aktivitäten ist die Unterkunft inklusive oder kann über die Veranstalter gebucht werden.

FR

DE

# CALENDAR

## 2024

|          |               |                         |             |
|----------|---------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| November | 14-17/11/2024 | Membership Weekend 2024 | Leuven (BE) |
|----------|---------------|-------------------------|-------------|

## 2025

|           |                     |  |                        |
|-----------|---------------------|--|------------------------|
| January   | 19-25/01/2025       | Walter Strauss Choral Conducting Masterclass | Ankara (TR)            |
| April     | tbc                 | Festival di Primavera                        | Italy (IT)             |
| July      | 06-10/07/2025       | Leading Voices                               | Tallinn (EE)           |
|           | 12-18/07/2025       | International Singing Week Ghent             | Ghent (BE)             |
|           | 15-31/07/2025 (tbc) | World Youth Choir                            | Spain & France         |
|           | 16-28/07/2025 (tbc) | European Youth Choir                         | Valencia (ES)          |
| August    | 30/07-07/08/2025    | Choralies                                    | Vaison-la-Romaine (FR) |
|           | 24-31/08/2025       | European Academy for Choral Conductors       | Fano (IT)              |
| September | tbc                 | Study tour to Lebanon                        | Lebanon (LB)           |
| October   | 23-27/10/2025 (tbc) | RelaxSing Costa Barcelona                    | Santa Susanna (ES)     |
| November  | tbc                 | Membership Weekend 2025                      | Girona (ES)            |

## 2026

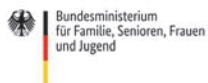
|      |               |                           |             |
|------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| July | 11-19/07/2026 | Europa Cantat junior 2026 | Girona (ES) |
|------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------|

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