

JANUARY 2024 IFCMeNEWS

Message from Emily Kuo Vong, IFCM President

"It is amazing that we have already stepped into 2024 which is another new start full of hope and opportunities! I would like to express my best wishes to everyone, wishing you a wonderful New Year filled with love, health, and happiness! Thank you, dear friends! Your energy is a great support for IFCM's development! I hope we have a great 2024 together to write a new chapter in the world choral community!"



IFCMENEWS SURVEY

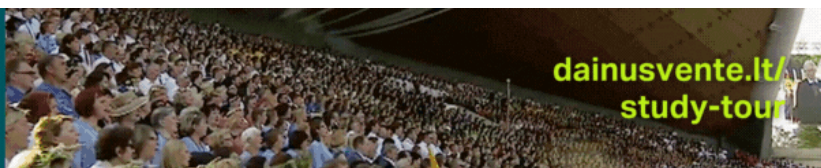
The IFCMeNEWS has been published since 2007 under different formats and frequencies. Do you read it every month? Is it the kind of publication you're expecting from IFCM? Your feedback is important to us. [Please fill this survey](#).

ARE YOU HAPPY WITH IFCM?

Dear members and IFCMeNEWS readers, let us hear what you're saying and feeling!

By [answering to this questionnaire](#), you are contributing to the development of your federation. Your answers will help us to better meet your expectations.

**Study Tour to the 100 Anniversary
of the Lithuanian Song Celebration**
2 - 7 July 2024



CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE BEFORE RENEWING: IT MIGHT BE LOWER THIS YEAR!

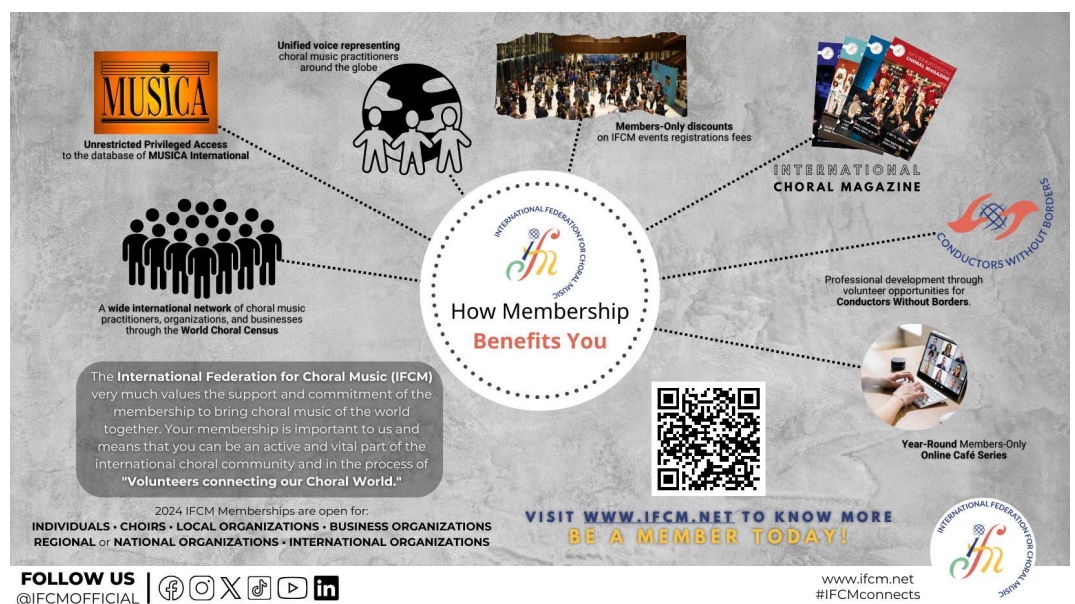
Check also the list of benefits: There might be some new ones!

The IFCM membership fees vary according to three country groups. These lists of countries were established with reference to each country's Gross Domestic Product and Gross National Income as measured by the United Nations. A non-monetary development indicator was also used to determine the country groupings. The IFCM Board carefully reviewed these lists and a motion was passed to accept the three country groups, keenly aware that the past few years have been challenging for the choral world and its supporters.

Check your country's group [here](#).

New benefits have been added since the end of 2022.

- Musica International, a multilingual collaborative database of choral repertoire which provides extensive descriptions of nearly 200,000 international choral scores, is accessible to all IFCM members via the IFCM website.
- International Online Cafés organized on Zoom every month are accessible to IFCM members only. IFCM members who were unable to attend any of the Online Cafés are able to view them at any time.
- Discount at specific events organized by IFCM Founding Member, the European Choral Association.



ONLINE CAFÉ FOR IFCM MEMBERS: PLAN A CHORAL YEAR... WITH IFCM 28 JANUARY 2024 4PM CET

A new year always brings new opportunities, new beginnings, and usually some new resolutions. What if your 2024 new year's resolution was to attend as many choral events as you can this year?

This Online Café will help you decide which events might meet your personal/professional goals and expectations. All organizational members of IFCM have been invited to join IFCM and its regional offices, the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), the European Choral Association (ECA), the Japan Choral Association (JCA), the African Confederation for Choral Music, and Voce in Tempore for a presentation of the best choral and educational activities around the world in 2024.

Whether you are planning to attend a festival, a competition, workshops, seminars, and masterclasses, within the wide range of activities presented during this Café, you will find the perfect locations, dates, and events that will fulfill your wishes.

REGISTER HERE

To attend this Online Café, you will need to be a member of IFCM, so please make sure that your **2024 IFCM membership has been renewed**. Just login into your account on <https://www.ifcm.net/> and renew online or contact the office.



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR CHORAL MUSIC

IFCM MEMBERS' ONLINE CAFE SERIES

PLAN A CHORAL YEAR WITH IFCM

28 JAN 2024 | 9AM (CST) | 4PM (CET) | 11PM (UTC+8)
SUNDAY ONLY VIA ZOOM

With Representatives from (as of 26 November 2023)

- American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)
- European Choral Association (ECA)
- Japan Choral Association (JCA)
- Confédération Africaine de Musique Chorale (CAMC)
- Voce in Tempore

Moderated by
PELIN KUÇUKERDOĞAN
Chairperson, YOUNG IFCM Youth Committee

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CHORAL COMPOSITION COMPETITION: THE WINNERS ARE...

In March 2023, IFCM launched its Sixth International Choral Composition Competition to promote new works in choral music and to encourage innovation in choral writing that fits the needs of a 21st-century choir. The criteria emphasized compositions that combine originality, imagination, and creativity within the context of contemporary global themes.

With great pleasure, the winners are:

- Paolo Orlandi, Italy, with *The Arrow and the Song* (Winner in the World Choral Day category)
- Marie Herrington, USA, with *A Jelly Fish* (Winner in the Mixed and/or Equal Voices category)

Special recognitions:

- Peter Walters, UK, with *Light*
- Motshwane Pege, South Africa, with *And I Will Dwell with The Lord*

On behalf of IFCM and the jury members, we express our sincere congratulations to the winners and our deepest gratitude to all composers who submitted compositions.

EXCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCOVER CHINA AND SING IN BEIJING

Founded in 1992, the China International Chorus Festival (CICF) is one of the largest and most



prestigious international chorus festival gatherings in China and the Asia-Pacific region. Held every two years, the past 16 CICFs have been proved a great success with more than 120,000 participants over the past 30 years. The festival has reached an online audience of over one hundred million viewers and has significantly influenced the development of choral music in China.

The 17th CICF is scheduled to be held in Beijing 15-19 July 2024. It will feature a wide range of choral activities: opening and closing ceremonies, choral forums, choir evaluation, high-level concerts featuring both Chinese and international choirs, master classes (workshops), and public welfare activities.

IFCM is happy to collaborate with CICF 2024 and invites all choirs of any type, vocal ensembles, and vocal groups from around the world to join this amazing festival.

Participating choirs will receive the following with the registration fee of US\$500 per person:

- The possibility to participate in the international competition (12-minute program)
- 60-minute rehearsal
- 20-minute concert
- The possibility to sing one or two songs at special concerts
- All accommodation, meals, local transportation, and tickets for guided tourist excursions are provided by the organizers. International costs such as flight tickets, visas, and insurances are the responsibility of choir.

Please find a full description of program [here](#).

If you are interested in registering your choir for CICF, please write directly to office@ifcm.net or secretarygeneral@ifcm.net, and we will guide you through the next steps.

CHORAL TIES PROJECT (EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION) IS LAUNCHED!

The [ChoralTIES project](#), coordinated by the European Choral Association and co-funded by the European Union, kicked off at the beginning of December!

The ChoralTIES project will offer **Cross-border Training on International and European level for professionals in the field of Collective Singing** and runs from 1 December 2023 to 31 May 2026.

Joined by partners [Carus](#) (Germany), the [Croatian Cultural Association](#) (Croatia) and the [Estonian Choral Association](#) (Estonia), the first project meeting was held in December 2023 in Frankfurt. Moreover, some of the activities will be promoted in cooperation with the [International Federation of Choral Music - IFCM](#).

Learn more about the project in this [press release](#) and visit the website choralties.eu for further updates!



EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION: WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES

In the framework of the EU-funded project IGNITE, the European Choral Association designed **guidelines for website accessibility** to empower everyone involved in the web development process with the knowledge and tools necessary to make the **first steps towards accessible and inclusive websites**.

By producing these guidelines, the European Choral Association aims to contribute to a more



STUDY TOUR TO GEORGIA AND ARMENIA

14-20 SEPTEMBER 2024 | GEORGIA &/or
20-26 SEPTEMBER 2024 | ARMENIA

for conductors and vocal leaders
europeanchoralassociation.org



inclusive digital landscape where everyone, regardless of their background or abilities, can navigate, interact, and engage with content seamlessly. Check out the guideline [HERE](#) and join this exciting journey!



2024 WORLD YOUTH CHOIR SESSION, WEIKERSHEIM, GERMANY, 18 AUGUST – 8 SEPTEMBER 2024

The [World Youth Choir](#) auditions have been an incredible journey, covering over 30 locations worldwide. We've received over 160 applications from around the globe!

The passion and dedication of recruiters and candidates alike were truly inspiring. This month, the jury will select singers for the 2024 session in Germany. We can't wait to hear all your auditions and bring together a global choir! [Stay tuned](#) for more session information.



JAPAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION IS HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE...

Saeko Hasegawa, President of the [Japan Choral Association](#), Former IFCM Vice-President and IFCM Board member (2002-2023), was awarded the Medal with Blue Ribbon by the Japanese government. This medal is awarded to individuals who have made a big difference in areas of public interest and welfare. It was awarded to Ms. Hasegawa for the many years of her contributing to the development of choral music in Japan and around the world. Congratulations Saeko!

OFFER FROM THE AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION (ACDA)

2024 Summer Festival and Workshop Listings

Are you hosting a Summer Festival or Workshop in 2024? List it for FREE in the 2024 March/April *Choral Journal*. The *Choral Journal* has been the international journal of the American Choral Directors Association since 1959. It provides members with practical and scholarly information about choral music and its performance. Feature articles are anonymously peer-reviewed by the editorial board and column articles are refereed by column editors. Click here to read more about [Choral Journal](#).

Submit your event to the ACDA's annual free summer workshop and festival listing [HERE](#) before **15 January 2024**.



IFCM WELCOMES THREE NEW MEMBERS IN THE CATEGORY LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS:

COREARTE ACCIÓN CULTURAL, CATALONIA, SPAIN

Since 2007, [Corearte Acción Cultural](#) has stood out as a leader in promoting choral and orchestral events worldwide. Symbolizing its growth, the Festival Corearte Barcelona has witnessed the participation of over 260 choirs from diverse backgrounds during its 19-year history. The organization takes pride in collaborating with distinguished conductors to perform choral works in historical spaces such as the Montserrat Abbey or the Basilica del Pi which provide a unique dimension to each concert. In addition to activities in Barcelona, Corearte Acción Cultural organizes tours and festivals in Tenerife, Madrid, Colombia, Italy, and Portugal. Discover more at www.corearte.com.es/en.

We believe that 'we only understand life by singing'.

Corearte Barcelona

6 · 12 October 2024

Discover the wonders of Barcelona, a city filled with architectural marvels and cultural gems that will leave you in awe.

Concerts, tours, workshops & friends



The Choir Festival Barcelona is our flagship event, now in its 19th edition.

We are waiting for you to live the Corearte experience and enjoy this beautiful city and its music.



Sing in Montserrat Abbey, Vilafranca del Penedes, Basilica del Pi, among others.

Sign Up now!

www.corearte.com.es/en

Other events 2024

Portugal & Spain

Musical tour - 6 · 15 May
Madrid, Ávila, Lisbon, Porto, Galicia

Corearte Tenerife

Canary Island, 25 · 30 June

Corearte Colombia

Manizales, 10 · 15 September

More details in our website:
www.corearte.com.es/en



INCHORAL, AUSTRIA

InChoral aims to promote art, culture, particularly in the field of amateur music, choral singing, as well as contemporary music. With their international platform and through their educational activities, InChoral creates the opportunity for musical encounters to learn from each other and thus encourage children, young people, and all those “young at heart” to reach self-fulfillment through music. InChoral organizes various events and has been serving musicians, conductors, singers, choirs, and educators for many years. Their new evaluation system for competitions, created by their artistic director Gábor Hollerung, is unique and provides realistic feedback of their performances to the participating choirs. This new generation of choir competitions organized by InChoral International Choral Festival focuses on cultural exchange, getting acquainted with one another and sharing musical experience, and merited success.

Contact:

- International InChoral Office: info@inchoral.org
- President Piroska Horváth: piroska@inchoral.org



THE INTERNATIONALER VOLKSKULTURKREIS, GERMANY

The **Internationaler Volkskulturkreis** is a non-profit association that promotes encounters between people of different nationalities and cultures, especially between China and Europe. Through various events such as festivals, competitions, seminars, and workshops, they organize choir and orchestra experiences. The association also supports projects in the field of education, such as school visits. They believe that experiences which encourage cross-cultural exchanges break down cultural boundaries and are a foundation for peaceful and constructive global existence. In addition to various exchange programs, Internationaler Volkskulturkreis also offers events and master classes in China.

Contact: info@volkskulturkreis.de



LIST OF FESTIVALS WITH APPLICATION DEADLINES IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2024

International composer's competition MUSICA SACRA NOVA 2024, Germany, 15 Jan 2024.
21st Venezia in Musica, International Choir Competition and Festival, Venice and Caorle, Italy, 27 Apr-1 May 2024. Apply before 10 January 2024.
International Festival of Choral Singing Nancy Voix du Monde, Nancy, France, 8-12 May 2024. Apply before February 1, 2024.
23th Statys Šimkus Choir Competition, Klaipeda, Lithuania, 16-19 May 2024. Apply before January 15, 2024.
42nd International Choral Festival of Karditsa, Greece, 16-26 May 2024. Apply before January 31, 2024.
Musica Sacra International Festival, Marktoberdorf, Germany, 17-21 May 2024. Apply before 28 Feb 2024.
14th European Festival of Youth Choirs, Basel, Switzerland, 28 May-1 June 2025. Apply before Jan 31, 2024.
3rd Sing Berlin! International Choir Festival & Competition, Germany, 7-11 June 2024. Early birds apply before 15 December 2023. Others apply before 15 February 2024.
Alta Pusteria International Choir Festival, Alto Adige-Südtirol, Italy/Austria, 12-16 June 2024. Apply before February 15, 2024.
International Choral Festival Costa Rica for Peace, San Jose, Costa Rica, 19-22 June 2024. Apply before February 28, 2024.
33rd International Franz Schubert Choir Competition & Festival, Vienna, Austria, 21-25 June 2024. Early birds apply before 15 January 2024.
Corearte Choral Summer Camp, Puerto de la Cruz Tenerife, Spain, 25-30 June 2024. Apply before 15 February 2024
International Choral Celebration and Laurea Mundi Budapest, Hungary, 30 June-4 July 2022. Apply before February 15, 2024.
58th International Choral Competition, Spittal an der Drau, Austria, 4-7 July 2024. Apply before January 31, 2024.
Chanakkale International Choir Festival and Competition, Canakkale, Türkiye, 9-14 July 2024. Apply before 17 February 2024
13th Musica Eterna Roma International Choir Festival and Competition, Italy, 17-21 July 2024. Early birds apply before 15 December 2023. Others apply before 15 February 2024
39th Takarazuka International Chamber Chorus Contest, Takarazuka City, Hyogo, Japan, 20-21 July 2024. Apply before Jan 31, 2024
Tokyo International Choir Competition, Japan, 26-28 July 2024. Apply before 28 February 2024
Arctic Boys Choir Festival, Bodø, Norway, 7-11 Aug 2024. Apply before February 1, 2024
5th Beira Interior International Choir Festival and Competition, Fundão, Portugal, 2-6 Oct 2024. Early birds apply before 29 February 2024

You too have a festival to promote? Don't hesitate to contact the office.

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.