



## June 2024 IFCMeNEWS – YOUNG IFCM Invites you!

**YOUNG IFCM invites you to the Online Cafe:**

**How to involve more youth into your organisations – Q&A session**

**Sunday, 30 June 2024, 4PM CEST, Zoom, everyone can join!**

Join the next IFCM Online Cafe to discuss youth involvement in choral organizations. Topics covered will include youth recruitment, engagement, and the future of youth involvement. We will engage with choral leaders to discuss strategies focused on youth-friendly programming, leadership opportunities for youth, and mentorship. The future of youth involvement in choral organizations looks promising with adaptability, diverse repertoires, and fostering a sense of belonging to sustain youth interest and participation. **Stay tuned** to know more about the guest speakers!

### Next Season of IFCM Online Cafes: tell us what you have in mind

The International Federation for Choral Music has been holding four online cafés since they started end of last year, and we've loved meeting many of you online! The next café is going to be organized by the amazing YOUNG IFCM on June 30, 2024.

We are now getting ready for the next season, and we thought it would be great to ask you what you would like to see us cover in the next cafes and who you would like to welcome as guests.

**Participate in the survey before June 15, 2024.**



### Did you miss the IFCM Members Cafe on Repertoire?

The recording of the IFCM Members Online Cafe "On the Discovery of New Repertoire, Part 2" (28 April 2024) is now available.

IFCM Board member **Darius Lim** welcomed composers **Ana María Raga** (Venezuela) and **Peter Walker** (UK). Ana María is one of six composers whose work was premiered during the 2023 World Symposium on Choral Music in Istanbul, Türkiye. Peter received a special recognition for his piece "Light" in the 2023-2024 IFCM Composition Competition. Ana Maria and Peter shared and talked about a few of their works; it was a delight to hear each composer speak about their own creative journey.

[Read more](#)



### Schola Cantorum Foundation of Venezuela: New Training Program

In recent days, the **Schola Cantorum Foundation of Venezuela** has launched a new program, called ¡Cantemos!, through which it continues to fulfill its mission of training in values and musical education of young directors, students and singers.

This first stop was on the Margarita Island, four days of workshops and concerts in different locations on the island, promoting a new boost to choral activity in the region.



The next destinations will take us to the Venezuelan Andes area and the central area of the country.

Let's sing! It is possible, thanks to the sponsorship of Mercantil Banco Universal and the sponsorship of the [Conductors Without Borders](#) program of the International Federation for Choral Music.

Watch the [video of the first session](#) on the Margarita Island, Venezuela.

### World Youth Choir Alumni Session 2024: Secure your tickets

The World Youth Choir will gather in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, from 28 June to 5 July 2024 for an Alumni Session as part of the [HarbourVOICES International Festival](#) of Collective Singing Traditions. You can learn about the 32 alumni singers from 24 countries participating in this session [here](#).

Under the artistic direction of **Cecilia Rydinger** (Sweden), the choir will perform a program featuring celebrated classical choral works as well as musical traditions from Scandinavian and Canadian Indigenous contexts.

**Jacob Collier** has been announced as the festival's headliner. The World Youth Choir singers will have the exciting opportunity to join a workshop/rehearsal led by Jacob Collier, which we believe will be a fantastic experience for all involved!

Here is where you can find the World Youth Choir during the festival:

- July 2 / 8:00 PM - Gala Concert at Mary Brown's Centre
- July 3 / 8:00 PM - Evening Concert at Basilica Cathedral of St. John the Baptist
- July 4 / 4:00 PM - Afternoon Concert at Basilica Cathedral of St. John the Baptist
- July 4 / 7:00 PM - HarbourSING!

More information on the [tickets](#) and the [locations](#).



### European Choral Association Online Webinars

**Have you missed the last webinars of the European Choral Association? Check them out!**

**Webinar: [Are you paid fairly?](#)**

**Recommendations on fair pay at international collective singing events**



The European Choral Association (ECA) is a member of the International Music Council (IMC) and subscribes to the [Five Music Rights](#) developed by IMC. The 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

ECA, therefore, decided to research what could be 'fair pay' for professionals working in our artistic community: choral conductors and vocal leaders working at international events; conductors of auditioned international ensembles; workshop leaders, masterclass leaders, or lecturers; and composers commissioned to compose a choral work.

In this webinar, **Martine Spenjers** (The Netherlands) presents the recommendations that were formulated by ECA as a result of its research and study. Additionally, the session explores 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) shares 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.

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

### **Webinar: Choose your repertoire wisely**

#### **Tips and tricks for repertoire building and concert programming**

Are you looking for new repertoire ideas, struggling with building the perfect programme for all occasions, or working with singers from migrant communities? Discover Musica International choral repertoire database and the *Sing Me In* repertoire booklet and get inspired by this webinar's speakers.

In Part I, **Burak Onur Erdem** (Türkiye), principal conductor and artistic director of the Turkish State Choir, guides us through the essential aspects of effective programming: developing/building the choral repertoire and choosing appropriate program for performances and competitions.

In Part II, we learn about the online library of one of the world's richest database of choral repertoire – Musica International – with **Pierre-Luc Pfrimmer** (France). Part III concludes with **Alba Roorda Martinez** (The Netherlands/Spain) and **Joana Costa** (Portugal), members of the European Choral Association Youth Committee, introducing us to the revised *Sing Me In* songbook, an inspiring project aiming to support the integration of young migrants into the community through collective singing. While the *Sing Me In* project was completed in 2018, the world has seen shifts in immigration patterns in the intervening years. To adapt to these changes, the ECA Youth Committee decided to revisit the project and update the Repertoire Guide with the songs from the countries of immigrants' origin.

***This activity took place in the frame of [Choral Ties](#), co-funded by the [Creative Europe Programme of the EU](#).***



Co-funded by the  
European Union

### **American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)**

#### **Women Conductors of College Men's Choirs – Redefining the "Brotherhood"**

The *International Journal of Research in Choral Singing* (IJRCS) is ACDA's scholarly publication that welcomes research studies that apply rigorous, systematically grounded methodologies,



either quantitative or qualitative, to investigate phenomena of potential interest to all who sing in, work with, or are otherwise interested in choral ensembles. Here is the abstract from an article written by Meg Stohlmann titled: "Women conductors of college men's choirs – redefining the 'Brotherhood'"

### ABSTRACT

Collegiate men's choirs have unique and storied traditions dating back to the Civil War and the founding of many prominent colleges in the United States (Albinder & Jones, 2008). Historically, these ensembles created a place for fraternity, brotherhood, and social outlets for young men (Jones, 2010). Consequently, there are few documented instances of women conducting collegiate men's choirs (VanWeelden, 2003). The purpose of this study was to explore the experiences of women conductors of college men's choirs. This research was guided by the following questions:

- How did women choral conductors describe their motivations for working with college men's choirs?
- How did these conductors describe the rehearsal environment in their college men's choir?
- And finally, how did these conductors define the challenges of working with male singers?

The following areas provided focus for themes that emerged from the conductor interviews: their motivations, the rehearsal environment, and the challenges associated with a lack of opportunity and quality literature.

Visit <https://acda.org/archives/6165> to read this article.

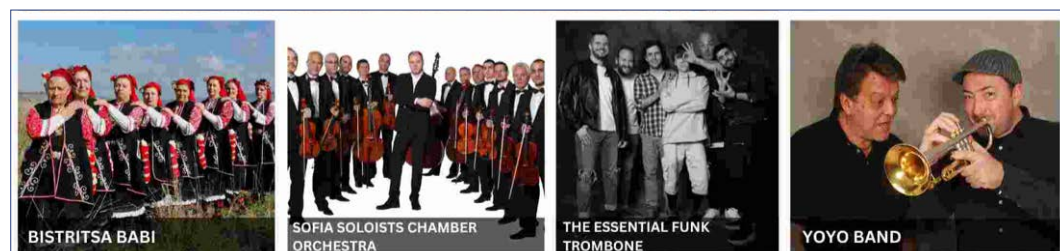
### Carus Verlag: World's first conducting app and new choral conducting book

A clear conducting technique, the ability to lead lively rehearsals, and a sound knowledge of vocal training are all essential attributes for any successful choral conductor. **Carus-Verlag** offers the ideal toolkit for all aspiring choral conductors. This new rehearsal resource for choir conductors includes a handbook with a practical guide written by conductors Anne Kohler, Jan Schumacher, and Klaus Brecht as well as the world's first conducting app, *Conductor's Coach*. These tools enable students of choral conducting (in fact, any conductor, music teacher, or interested amateur choral conductor) to develop and refine their conducting techniques and work methods, resulting in more confident leadership in front of any singing group! The app and manual are available in German; English versions are in preparation [HERE](#).



### European Forum on Music 2024, 5-7 June 2024, Sofia, Bulgaria

The 12th **European Forum on Music** will take place at the Toplocentrala Centre for Contemporary Arts, Sofia, Bulgaria, 5-7 June 2024, in cooperation with the Bulgarian Music Association and



under the patronage of the Mayor of Sofia Mr. Vasil Terziev. The overarching topic of the forum is 'Equity in Music'.

[\*\*Read more\*\*](#)

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.