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## 2017 CALL FOR IFCM BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

The International Federation for Choral Music calls for candidates to fill positions on the IFCM Board of Directors and at the Presidency for terms beginning in August 2017. All candidate applications must be sent through these links before March 1, 2017:

- <http://ifcm.net/home-elections/>
- <http://ifcm.net/run-to-be-part-of-the-new-board/>
- <http://ifcm.net/run-to-be-the-new-president/>

## DEAR MEMBERS, RENEW YOUR SUPPORT TO IFCM IN 2017



Your membership renewal form has been sent.

Don't miss it and renew easily on: <https://ifcm.net/membership-l-form/>

You can also support IFCM by donating [HERE](#)

**THANK YOU!**

**VISIT THE IFCM AND WSCM11 TEAM DURING THE ACDA CONVENTION IN MINNEAPOLIS, USA, MARCH 8-11, 2017: BOOTH 446**

## NEWS FROM THE 11<sup>TH</sup> WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON CHORAL MUSIC

BARCELONA, 22 - 29 JULY 2017

An extraordinary event for every choral singer, conductor, composer or audience member from around the world.

Register now: [www.wscm11.cat](http://www.wscm11.cat)

And now let's finish the presentation of the guest choirs. In the next newsletter we will present the "Circle Concerts" giving more details of this amazing and unique musical event!

### S:T JACOBS VOCAL ENSEMBLE – Sweden



and in collaboration with other musicians.

S:t Jacobs Vocal Ensemble is a mixed choir consisting of 40 singers ages 20 to 32 from Stockholm. The majority of their concerts and activities are held in the church of St Jacob (Saint James) and in the Stockholm Cathedral. The choir gives special and diverse performances on stage that are firmly focused in the Swedish choral tradition. They believe that classical choral singing can develop in a modern and interesting direction without losing its unique qualities. Since it was founded, the choir has been conducted by Mikael Wedar, highly experienced in teaching choral singing – e.g. at Stockholm's Musikgymnasium. S:t Jacobs Vocal Ensemble has weekly rehearsals, participates in Sunday services a number of times a year, gives concerts both in its own right

### ESTUDIO CORAL MERIDIES – Argentina

The Estudio Coral Meridies was formed in 2004 by Virginia Bono as an independent amateur artistic ensemble. Since its creation, Meridies (Latin word for "South") has set as its goal as the intensive study of not just the vast choral repertoire but rather focusing on performing and premiering choral works by contemporary Argentinean and South American composers. Meridies has received recognition from both the public and from specialists for its rich sound, musicality and exquisite interpretations. For their good work and high level, the choir has become one of the most representative choirs of South-America and ambassador of its culture. Estudio Coral Meridies has recorded 3 CDs of Argentinian music and the choir has



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been recognized with numerous awards and distinctions.

## ST. STANISLAV GIRLS' CHOIR LJUBLJANA – Slovenia

St. Stanislav's Girls' Choir is one of the five choirs at the Diocesan Classical Gymnasium in Ljubljana (Slovenia). Singers are between the ages of 16 and 19. Since this is the school choir, each year one third of the choir changes. The choir fosters a very versatile repertoire from classical choral masterpieces of various periods, Slovenian contemporary compositions, vocal pop, and Slovenian folk songs and dances. They pride themselves on premiere performances of choral pieces written especially for them by contemporary Slovenian composers such as Damijan Močnik and Ambrož Čopi. They have received a number of gold plaques, first place awards and special honors in national and international competitions.



## WISHFUL SINGING – Netherlands



Wishful Singing is a top-ranking international a cappella ensemble consisting of five young female singers from the Netherlands. Their repertoire covers all variety of styles. Whether performing a tranquil Renaissance harmony or a funky arrangement of a classic pop song, this quintet engages their audience through their powerful expression, and flawless vocal blend with humor and theatrical elements. The members of Wishful Singing aim to share their expertise and love of music by offering workshops to other choirs and ensembles and are actively involved in music education and recently developed an educational program that is designed to be spread over a number of years of primary school education. Wishful Singing members include Anne-Christine Wemekamp (S1), Maria Goetze (S2), Marjolein Verburg (Mz), Annemiek van der Ven (A1), Marjolein Stots (A2).

**With these four choirs, we finish the presentation of the 24 selected choirs of the WSCM11. But, do you remember them all? Refresh your memory by watching their special invitation to you on our [YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#)**

## CONDUCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS (CWB) DECEMBER 2016 SESSION IN LOME, TOGO

The second CWB session was organized in Lome, Togo, from December 13 to 18, 2016, thanks to the Togolese Association of Choral Composers (Sylvain Gameti, President), A Cœur Joie International (ACJI) and the International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM). The instructor was Thierry Thiébaud, ACJI President and IFCM Board member. This session was intended to evaluate the participants to establish courses which match the needs of the region and will be part of a three years training program, including a special program to teach local instructors as it is the case in DR Congo, Ivory Coast, Gabon and Senegal. 15 trainees and 35 singers attended this December session. Read the whole report (in French) [HERE](#).

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### CONDUCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS (CWB) JANUARY 2017 SESSION IN LIBREVILLE, GABON

The seventh CWB session was organized in Libreville, Gabon, from January 9 to 14, 2017, thanks to the local choral federation and its President Yveline Damas. Unfortunately due to the political circumstances at the end of last year in Gabon and other financial factors, only one instructor could be hired to supervise the session, which modified the framework of teaching. 16 trainees including 14 of the last session in March participated in the session. Seven of them have the pedagogical and musical potential to become local instructors. Some projects in collaboration with the French Institute of Libreville have been discussed. Among them, a singing program for children, a performance for choir and orchestra (Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Pachelbel's *Magnificat*), and the 8th CWB training session in May or June. Read the whole report (in French) [HERE](#)

CWB Session in Libreville, Gabon (9-14 January 2017)



Read more on the CWB missions on <http://ifcm.net/cwb-2/>

### WORLD YOUTH CHOIR – RECRUITMENT STARTS FOR SESSION 2017

We are happy to announce that, after the success of the EUROPA CANTAT XIX Festival in 2015, the World Youth Choir session for 2017 (July 4-25) will be held in Pécs, Hungary with a following tour in Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia and Hungary. Auditions for the session has been open from the beginning of December and will last until February 17, 2017.

The selected singers for 2017 will have the chance to perform both classical and folk arrangements directed by conductors Zoltan Pad (Hungary) and Ken Wakia (Kenya).

We are looking for young, talented, experienced singers from all over the world, interested in improving their skills of choral singing. If you are a passionate and experienced high level choral singer or soloist aged between 17 and 26, have basic or professional music education, are excited to meet new friends from all around the world, eager to learn in a multicultural environment, ready to spend nearly one month with great people, don't hesitate to apply for the 2017 session.

Please visit the [www.worldyouthchoir.org](http://www.worldyouthchoir.org) website in order to find further details on your national recruiters and on how to prepare your audition.

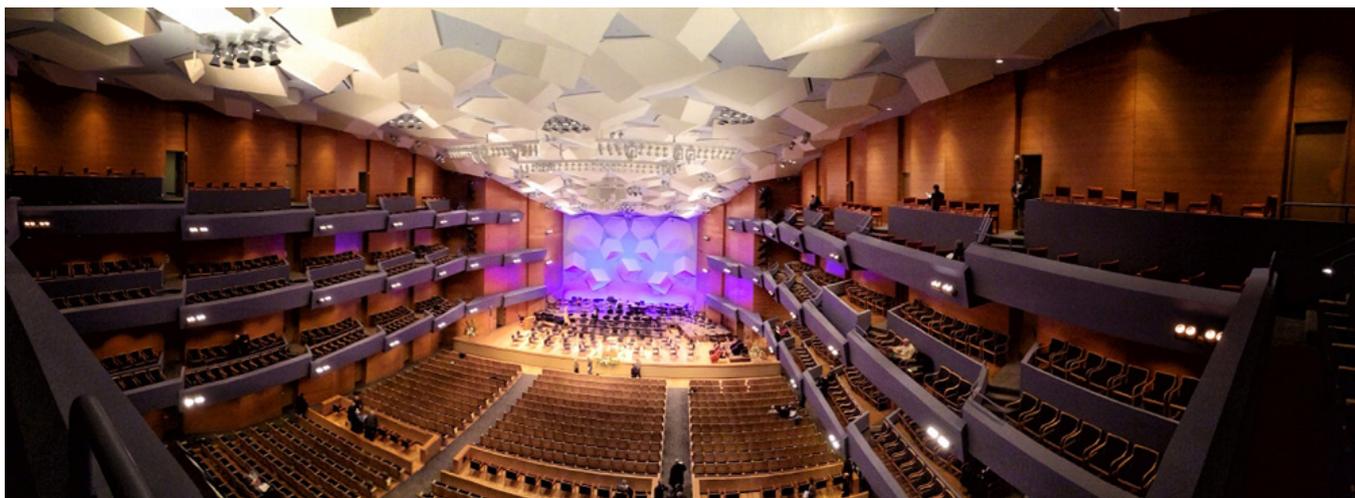
## NEWS FROM IFCM FOUNDING MEMBERS

### AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION — ACDA

#### ACDA's 2017 National Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA — March 8-11, 2017

Join us for ACDA's 2017 national conference, "A Life of Song." The lineup includes a huge range of concerts and performers, as well as a Gospel Brunch, Jazz Night, Complaine Service, International Choir Concert, Unity Concert, student conducting masterclass & competition, and much, much more. Information and registration: <https://acda.org/conferences.asp>

Minneapolis Orchestra Hall



### A COEUR JOIE FRANCE AND THE EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION - EUROPA CANTAT (ECA-EC) PRESENT:

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Europa Cantat Junior Festival, Lyon, France – July 13-20, 2017

This famous festival for children and youth choirs will take place in Lyon, France for the first time. Lyon is the town where the French choral federation A Coeur Joie is based. Choral music has a special place in the cultural life of the city, with many children and adult choirs of all kinds. Concerts, ateliers and nice activities are waiting for you!

More information: <http://europacantatjunior.fr/en/>

### EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION - EUROPA CANTAT (ECA-EC)



#### Choral activities in 2017!

Discover the 2017 activities for vocal groups, choirs, singers, conductors, composers and choral managers that will take place **all over Europe and surroundings**: from Spain to Georgia, from Norway to Lebanon.

Always international and educational, our activities are a great opportunity for **meeting people** from other cultures and **learning from each other**.

Check the 2017 program [HERE](#)

You can also stay updated by subscribing to our [monthly newsletter](#) or following us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

### EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION - EUROPA CANTAT (ECA-EC) AND THE CATALAN FEDERATION OF CHORAL ASSOCIATION (FCEC)

#### Festival Setmana Cantat (Singing Week) Tarragona 2017, 14-21 July 2017

Four workshops conducted by well-known maestros of international prestige: Brady Allred (USA): America, America; Michael Gohl (Switzerland): The Sound of Singing World, Today; Bernie Sherlock (Ireland): A Celtic Flavour and Josep Vila (Catalonia): The Light of Sacred Music (workshop for women voices). Final concert with participating choirs conducted by Xavier Puig i Ortiz (Catalonia). Artistic director: Josep Prats. Info at [info@setmanacantat.org](mailto:info@setmanacantat.org) or [www.setmanacantat.org](http://www.setmanacantat.org)

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IN BRIEF – MEMBER NEWS

## VALE VELJO TORMIS

Composer Veljo Tormis, who was one of the most important Estonian composers has died at the age of 86. Tormis was internationally regarded as one of the greatest choral music writers in the modern era, and one of the most important composers of the 20th century in Estonia.

Tormis's contribution to the Estonian choral tradition and to choral music worldwide is invaluable. One can say he created a choral tradition of his own, the unique "Tormis' style". From his student days until his retirement from composition in 2000, Tormis composed over 500 individual choral songs, as well as other vocal and instrumental pieces, 35 film scores and an opera. He is survived by his wife, Lea, and one son, Tõnu. RIP (extracted from <http://estonianworld.com/culture/veljo-tormis-composer-obituary/>)



## CONDUCTING 21C - MUSICAL LEADERSHIP FOR A NEW CENTURY, Stockholm, Sweden, 15-20 June 2017

The C21C aims to provide conductors with professional development by combining artistic excellence and social justice. Emerging and experienced conductors alike will develop powerfully creative, profoundly artistic, and compassionate approaches for musical leadership through master classes and workshops.

Workshop Leaders: André de Quadros, Lone Larsen, Agneta Josephson

Choir in residence: Manado State University Choir, Indonesia

Apply by February 15, 2017

Info: [www.conducting21c.com](http://www.conducting21c.com)

Conducting 21C workshop, Stockholm, Sweden



## LEBANESE INTERNATIONAL CHOIR FESTIVAL (LICF)

Following the success of the first Lebanese International Choir Festival organized in 2015 by Fayha Choir and Polyfollia International, the **2<sup>nd</sup> Lebanese International Choir Festival (LICF II) will take place on May 15-21, 2017.**

This is the first step toward promoting and developing choral singing and the composition of music (primarily Arabic music) for choirs in Lebanon and the Arab world through **choir networking** on an international scale. Furthermore, LICF II will host the 6<sup>th</sup> **Mediterranean Choral Forum** for the first time in the Arab region.

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This festive choral event will not only be an opportunity to showcase your choir and its skills, but also a unique occasion to meet and exchange with other choirs and vocal ensembles of Lebanon, various international choirs and vocal ensembles from Europe and surrounding Arab countries, conductors, composers, singers, international choral experts and managers that will come together to discover new methods, share their expertise, stimulate new networks and explore choral music in the Mediterranean region.

To apply visit <http://licfestival.org/index.php/application> where you may also download the conditions for LICF II or simply visit <http://licfestival.org/Conditions/Conditions.pdf> to read the conditions online. Apply before **March 15, 2017**.

### SING IN NORWAY NEXT SUMMER! • IV CORALUA TRONDHEIM • INTERNATIONAL CHORAL FESTIVAL (8-14 July 2017)

For children's, female and mixed adult choirs (also individual singers). Workshops with Sanna Valvanne (Finland/USA), Basilio Astúlez (Spain), Bob Chilcott (England) and Bodil Egseth (Norway) and Singing Tour to perform in different venues. **Apply before March 31, 2017**.

Email: [Trondheim@coralua.com](mailto:Trondheim@coralua.com) — Website: [www.coralua.com](http://www.coralua.com)

### ADVERTISE YOUR CHORAL EVENT TO THE WORLD on the ICB, the IFCMeNEWS, [www.ifcm.net](http://www.ifcm.net), <http://icb.ifcm.net/>

Advertisement spaces are now available on [www.ifcm.net](http://www.ifcm.net) and [ICB.ifcm.net](http://icb.ifcm.net/) as well as in the monthly IFCMeNEWS and in the quarterly ICB and eICB. Rates and dimensions are on the [Reserve A Space form](#)

Take advantage of the excellent usage statistics of our websites and media to promote your choral events!

### WHAT'S ON IN OUR CHORAL WORLD IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2017

1-5 Feb : Fest der Kulturen 2017 Grand Prix of Nations, Berlin, Germany - [www.interkultur.com](http://www.interkultur.com)

9-11 Feb : European Spring International Music Festival, Suttgart, Germany - [www.musikverein.at](http://www.musikverein.at)

9-10 Feb : Music Education Expo, London, United Kingdom - [www.musiceducationexpo.co.uk/](http://www.musiceducationexpo.co.uk/)

16-20 Feb : Sing'n'Joy Princeton 2017 The American International Choral Festival, USA - [www.interkultur.com](http://www.interkultur.com)

20-23 : 1st Jeju International Choir Festival, Jeju Island, Korea (Rep. of) - [jkim@chunsong.org](mailto:jkim@chunsong.org)

21 Feb : Ínin 2017 on the Path of Peoples, Your Voice for One Earth Choir, Global project on Seven Continents - [www.OneEarthChoir.net](http://www.OneEarthChoir.net)

23-26 Feb : 7th International Sacred Music Festival Kaunas Musica Religiosa, Kaunas, Lithuania - [www.kaunascantat.lt](http://www.kaunascantat.lt)

2-5 Mar : 23th International Choir Festival of Paris, France - [www.musicandfriends.lu](http://www.musicandfriends.lu)

2-18 Mar : 9th International Meeting of School Choirs, Karditsa, Greece - <http://festivalofkarditsa.blogspot.gr/>

8-12 Mar : Roma Music Festival 2017, Italy - [www.mrf-musicfestivals.com](http://www.mrf-musicfestivals.com)

8-11 Mar : ACDA National Conference 2017, Minneapolis, USA - <http://acda.org>

10-12 Mar : 6th International Gdansk Choir Festival, Poland - [www.gdanskfestival.pl](http://www.gdanskfestival.pl)

13 Mar : Catalunya Prizes for Choral Compositions 2017, Barcelona, Spain -

<http://www.fcec.cat/noticies/PremisCatalunya2016/PremCat.html>

16-18 Mar : Windy City Choral Festival with Z. Randall Stroope, Chicago, USA - [www.windycitychoralfestival.org](http://www.windycitychoralfestival.org)

16-20 Mar : Festival of Peace and Brotherhood, Castelli Romani, Italy - [www.romechoralfestival.org](http://www.romechoralfestival.org)

17-21 Mar : 10th Fukushima Vocal Ensemble Competition, Fukushima, Japan - [www.vocalensemble.jp/en/](http://www.vocalensemble.jp/en/)

19-23 Mar : Golden Voices of Montserrat! International Contest, Montserrat Monastery, Catalonia, Spain - [www.fiestalonia.net](http://www.fiestalonia.net)

19-24 Mar : Corsham Voice Workshop, United Kingdom - [www.lacock.org](http://www.lacock.org)

22-26 Mar : Young Prague Festival, Prague, Czech Republic - [www.music-contact.com](http://www.music-contact.com)

23-26 Mar : ON STAGE with Interkultur in Nice, France - <http://onstage.interkultur.com/>

24-27 Mar : Discover Puerto Rico and its Choral Music, Ponce, Puerto Rico - [www.music-contact.com](http://www.music-contact.com)

Enjoy IFCM social medias: 121,528 people were recently engaged in the videos of the WSCM11 guest choirs. These videos received 37,676 viewers. More than 2,000 people connected to the ICB articles through Twitter and Facebook.

