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Emily Kuo Vong

NEWS FROM IFCM

IFCM GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ELECTIONS 2020

The [International Federation for Choral Music](#) (IFCM) held its first online General Assembly on 3 December 2020. Prior to the General Assembly, the Election of the new Board of Directors was fully organized online (1-15 November 2020). We can proudly say that this event has a historical significance in our association since this is the first time we have had the opportunity to connect virtually with our members from all over the world.

The Election of the new Board of Directors was organized through an online voting system. An Election Committee was appointed to overlook and ensure fair and democratic results. The results were announced during the General Assembly and, the very next day, the new Board named their Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Governance Advisor.

The Board of Directors 2020-2023

- Emily Kuo Vong, President
- Ki Adams (Canada), Vice-President
- Jan Schumacher (Germany), Vice-President
- Yveline Damas (Gabon), Vice-President
- María Guinand (Venezuela), Vice-President
- Yoshihiro Egawa (Japan), Vice-President
- Dominique Lecheval (France), Treasurer
- Thierry Thiebaut (France),
representative of Founding Member *A Coeur Joie International (ACJI)*
- Lynne Gackle (USA),
representative of Founding Member *American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)*
- Burak Onur Erdem (Turkey),
representative of Founding Member *European Choral Association-Europa Cantat (ECA-EC)*
- Saeko Hasegawa (Japan),
representative of Founding Member *Japan Choral Association (JCA)*
- Niels Graesholm (Denmark),
representative of Founding Member *Nordisk Korforum (NKK)*



- John Rosser (New Zealand), Board member
- Gábor Móczár (Hungary), Board member
- Victoria Liedbergius (Norway), Board member
- Ana Patricia Carbajal (Mexico), Board member
- Tim Sharp (USA), co-opted Board member
- Roula Abou Baker (Lebanon), co-opted Board member
- Sonja Greiner (Germany), Governance Advisor



IFCM HAS A NEW COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER AND ICB MANAGING EDITOR

The International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM) is an organization that functions, for the most part, thanks to the generous volunteer time of all its board members and collaborators. IFCM also has two permanent full-time positions and two freelance part-time positions which provide essential stability and support for the organization.

A review of the freelance positions ([International Choral Bulletin \[ICB\]](#) Editor and Communications Officer) was proposed initially in 2018, and the freelance employees at the time were notified shortly after. The process was fully activated in early March 2020 when a search committee was established and tasked with the completion of the review. An international open call for applications was launched on 30 July 2020 on the IFCM website. By the deadline of 30 September 2020, ten applications for the position of Communications Officer and six for the position of ICB Editor were received.

Based on this process and an understanding that their mandate was to select the candidates who best fit the goals and needs of the organization, the search committee made a recommendation for each position to the Board of Directors. After a vote by the Board of Directors, we are happy to announce the selection of [João Silva](#) as the new Communications Officer and [Isabelle Métrope](#) as the new ICB Editor. We welcome them into our team of international colleagues, and we look forward to a successful and fruitful collaboration with them.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to our outgoing ICB Editor, **Andrea Angelini**, and Communication Officer, **Sámuel Kószegi**. Under Andrea's leadership, the ICB was successfully restructured in a number of ways. Its printed format and overall design were revitalized, and its articles were constantly infused with new content



from around the world. Andrea was also in charge of leading the Choral Composition Competition, an IFCM project which drew international attention at a rapid pace. Under Samuel's leadership, IFCM's online presence and social media profile grew enormously, and the global footprint of the World Choral Day became much more robust. For these and many other contributions, we would like to offer our utmost and sincerest of recognitions to Andrea and Samuel, and we wish for them to remain close friends of this organization. (Here below Isabelle Métrope (left) and João Silva (right))



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NEWS FROM IFCM FOUNDING MEMBERS

EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION - EUROPA CANTAT (ECA-EC)

The **21st Europa Cantat Festival**, that is taking place in charming capital of Slovenia, Ljubljana, has opened the registration for everyone who wants to join this amazing event. You can register until February 15, 2021.

You will be able to attend (at least) one concert or special project of your choice per day (limited number of seats available) and participate in an open-air singing event. Attending the festival will also guarantee you a copy of the Festival Songbook and Programme Booklet containing all the information you need for that amazing singing week.

Don't waste any more time and seize the opportunity to join this magnificent musical event of 2021!



The poster features a green circular logo on the left with the text "sing with Slovenia" in white and red. To the right, the text "Registration is OPEN!" is displayed in large white letters on a green background. Below the logo, the text "EUROPA CANTAT FESTIVAL 2021 LJUBLJANA SLOVENIA 16-25 JULY" is written in red and green. The background is white with a green and red horizontal bar at the top.

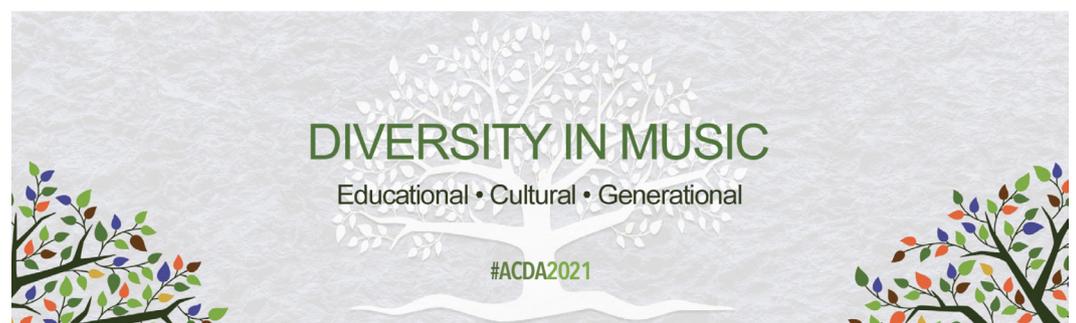
AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION (ACDA)

Early Registration ends 27 January 2021!

[ACDA Virtual National Conference - "Diversity in Music"](#) – 18-20 March 2021. Don't miss the best prices - registration costs will rise on 28 January 2021. The conference is shaping up to be our most accessible conference yet, with content available to all registrants on demand after the event!

- Performing choirs include the St. John Church Music Ministry, the BBC Singers, the Formosa Singers, Coro Entrevoce, the King's Singers, and many more.
- Interest sessions include a wide range of topics, from diversifying repertoire to rebuilding and reimagining choirs in a post-COVID world to vocal pedagogy.

For more, visit <https://acda.org/conferences/>



The banner features a large, stylized tree with colorful leaves in shades of blue, green, and red. The text "DIVERSITY IN MUSIC" is written in large green letters, with "Educational • Cultural • Generational" below it. The hashtag "#ACDA2021" is centered at the bottom. The background is a light, textured grey.

[Resources for Choral Professionals During the Pandemic](#). ACDA has created a page of information, ideas, and tools especially for choral conductors and educators. Most are free, and the page is updated regularly.

- Keep up with the latest research on aerosol emissions and the safest singing and choral practices.



NEWS FROM À CŒUR JOIE INTERNATIONAL

CHORALP, 10th International Choral Meeting

Briançon, France, 24-31 July 2021

Open to all singers over 18 years of age (individual participants) or above 15 years of age for those in established choirs, this is a unique week of meeting singers and choirs around two exceptional workshops:

- *King David* (Arthur Honegger, 1921) for soli, mixed choir, and orchestra conducted by Valérie Fayet (France)
- *Vespers* (Sergei Rachmaninov, 1915) - excerpts conducted by Marie-Claude Remy (Belgium)

Participating choirs will have the opportunity to perform their own repertoire at one or two evening concerts.

Optional accommodations in comfortable residences are available close to the rehearsal locations.

See [website](#) for more details.

NEWS FROM IFCM MEMBERS

NEWS FROM LA FENIARCO

Fosco Corti International Competition for Conductors 2021

Turin, Italy, 25-27 June 2021

This [competition](#), organized by the [Italian Federation of Regional Choir Associations](#) (FENIARCO) is open to all the choir conductors born after 1st November 1980. The international jury is made up of 5 music personalities: Daniel Reuss (The Netherlands), Georg Grün (Germany), Urša Lah (Slovenia), Lorenzo Donati (Italy) and Marco Faelli (Italy). **Apply before January 31, 2021.**

Contact: FENIARCO at info@feniarco.it



NEWS FROM THE CORK INTERNATIONAL CHORAL FESTIVAL

Calling all choirs! Let's make a great video together

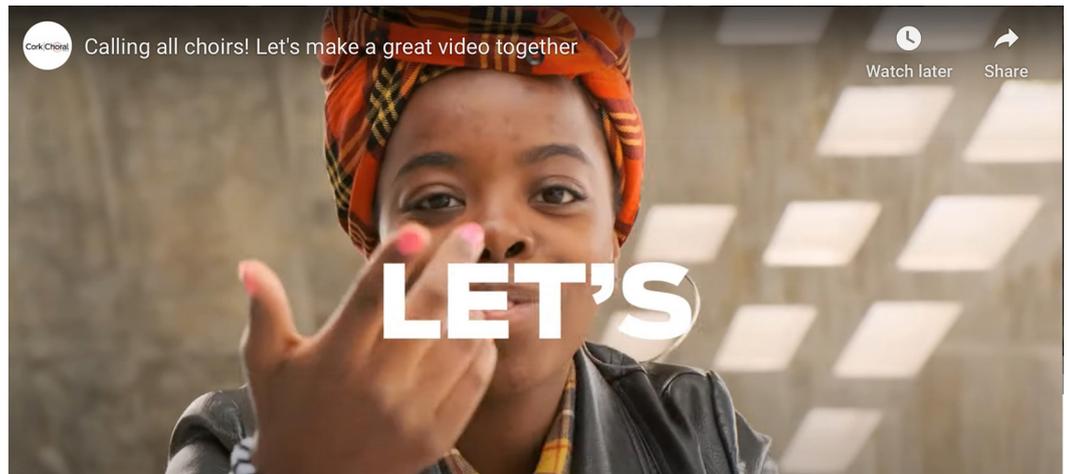
Join us with your choir in the making of the launch video of the [2021 Cork International Choral Festival!](#)

Are you looking to do something different and fun with your fellow choir members? Thanks to the collaboration with the award-winning Irish vocal band Ardú and the

talented team of CADA Performing Arts, the Cork International Choral Festival is bringing choirs from across the world together in an exciting, first-of-its-kind crowd-sourced music video!

Participating in the video is simple and free, and it is possible to take part even if your choir cannot gather in person. Most of all, we want you to have fun with us!

If you are interested in participating, please complete this [form](#) by 15 January 2021.



2021 Seán Ó Riada Composition Competition Launched

Composition Competition for Composers born or resident in Ireland.

[Application deadline](#): 29 January 2021.

NEW - International A Cappella Video Competition

The Cork International Choral Festival is excited to announce the expansion of our international competition programme. For the first time, this year we are launching a new [International A Cappella Video Competition](#) in which choirs from around the world can enter without needing to travel abroad!

Participation in the competition implies acceptance of all the rules and regulations included the [2021 International Syllabus](#).

[Application deadline](#): 28 February 2021.

20th EUROTREFF 2021, Wolfenbüttel, Germany, 8-12 September 2021

Application deadline extended to 15 January 15 2021.

Concerts and ateliers for children's choirs, girls' choirs, and mixed youth choirs. Ateliers for children's choirs with József Nemes (Hungary), Christiane Fischer (Austria), and Basilio Astulez (Spain); ateliers for mixed youth choirs with Tristan Meister (Germany) and Merzi Rajala (Finland); and ateliers for girls' choirs with Carlo Pavese (Italy) and Helle Høyer Vedel (Denmark).

For information, see [Arbeitskreis Musik in der JugendAMJ](#) or contact info@amj-musik.de.

WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2021 IN OUR CHORAL WORLD

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.