

NEWS FROM IFCM

WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON CHORAL MUSIC IN ISTANBUL (25-30 April 2023)

It won't be long until registration opens for individual and group participants at the WSCM2023 in Istanbul! Keep your eyes on www.wscmistanbul2023.com as the roster of invited choirs, vocal ensembles, and presenters will be published in early October.

Following the announcement that it will host this fantastic symposium, the Turkish **Choral Culture Association** has been busy with preparations for this much anticipated event. Hosting WSCM2023 in Istanbul has been officially endorsed by the Deputy Minister for Culture and Tourism (Türkiye), who has secured the newly-opened, state-of-the-art Atatürk Cultural Center for the majority of WSCM2023 events, including the exhibition for publishers, organizations, and businesses. Additionally, the best locations have been confirmed for afternoon concerts and pop-up events, including churches, modern arts centres, and historical palatial buildings, all situated within the cultural heart of Istanbul and easy walking distance from each other.

Participating individuals and groups, as well as invited choirs, vocal ensembles, and presenters, will be delighted to know that WSCM2023 will be located in the culinary heart of Istanbul, where visitors will have unlimited choices as to where to eat and drink in-between the WSCM2023 events.

IFCM members of the WSCM2023 Artistic Committee were in Istanbul during the second weekend of September to visit and confirm all venues. Following location visits for acoustic suitability and seating capacity, meetings were held to discuss and plan what will be an exciting and entertaining artistic and professional development program during the five-day WSCM2023.

Subscribe for WSCM2023 email updates at <https://www.wscmistanbul2023.com> and follow WSCM2023 on social media ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)).



Turkish Deputy Minister of Culture, Mrs. Özgül Özkan Yavuz, and President of the Turkish Choral Culture Association, conductor of the Turkish State Choir and IFCM Board Member, Dr. Burak Onur Erdem, at the Cultural Center of Belém in Lisbon on September 7, 2022.



WORLD CHORAL EXPO 2022 IN LISBON & OEIRAS, PORTUGAL

From 3-7 September 2022, the choral world met in Portugal and recreated the magic almost lost during these past two years. The offer was huge: inspiring workshops for singers and conductors, 45 presentations in The Singing Network's EXchange! program, conducting masterclass with Frieder Bernius and Kammerchor Stuttgart, an amazing sunset welcome party in the historic Forte de São Julião da Barra, outstanding gala evening concerts, afternoon performances in which invited and participating choirs shared the same stage, and a full-day *Colorful Voices* program for youth choirs which culminated with a moving evening concert. Approximately 2000 participants came from more than 20 countries around the world; some were attending their first choral gathering for the first time in more than two years!

IFCM expresses all its gratitude for the successful organization of the World Choral EXPO 2022 to the Municipality of Oeiras for their support and to IFCM President, Emily Kuo Vong; IFCM Secretary General, Iva Radulović; and dynamic local volunteer, Joana da Costa.



World Choral EXPO participating choirs under the direction of Filipa Palhares © Irvinne Redor / IFCM



YOUNG participants at the Palacete dos Condes de Monte Real © Irvinne Redor / IFCM

WORLD CHORAL EXPO YOUNG

IFCM also extends its appreciation to the incredible team of YOUNG. **YOUNG** is a new International Cultural Management Program launched by IFCM earlier this year. During their first weekend in Lisbon, ten young managers, who were selected in May 2022, attended roundtables and seminars and learned about the multiple and varied aspects of preparing and managing a cultural event.

Our YOUNG participants were key to the successful realization of the World Choral EXPO 2022. There is no doubt that these young IFCM members will also play a vital role for the future of choral music around the world. A big thank you to all of them: Frida Zarrán Vallesi (Argentina), Anna Palcsó (Hungary), Aleksandra Āboliņa (Latvia), Jovana Kuzmanović (Serbia), Farzad Omidi (Iran), Pauline Therese Arejola (Philippines), Anna Bobrikova (Finland), Tisa Mrhar (Slovenia), Valerie Konings (Belgium), Pichatorn Sopachitwattana (Thailand).

IFCM 2022 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

After a successful online voting which resulted in multiple changes in the IFCM Bylaws and Membership Policy document*, more than 50 IFCM members attended the 2022 General Assembly (4 September 2022) at Palacete dos Condes de Monte Real (Lisbon, Portugal) where they had the possibility to listen to reports on IFCM's projects and activities, ask questions, and make suggestions.



IFCM 2022 General Assembly at the Palacete dos Condes de Monte Real © Irvinne Redor / IFCM

On this occasion, President Emily Kuo Vong announced the decision of the IFCM Board to bestow two Posthumous Life Achievement Recognitions:

- **Xiao Bai** was the Vice-President of the China Chorus Association and was one of the choral people who initially helped IFCM to step into China. As a composer and conductor with many international choral awards, he influenced many people in the Chinese choral community to promote IFCM and helped IFCM organize important choral events in the region. Xiao Bai was the Guest Conductor for the first version of the Asia Pacific Youth Choir (APYC).
- **Maya Shavit**, former IFCM Board Member (2005-2011), dedicated her work and time to our federation even after her term on the board. She was a role model for the best kind of



musician and human being – kind, passionate, generous, idealistic, visionary, and unshakably committed to building a compassionate world centred on justice.

President Emily Kuo Vong also announced the decision of the IFCM Board to present an Honorary Membership to two IFCM Past Presidents: **Michael J. Anderson** (USA) and **Lupwishi Mbuyamba** (Mozambique).

*IFCM members voted in favor of important changes in the Bylaws and Membership Policy document. These changes, effective at the next IFCM General Assembly (2023), will have an impact on IFCM's voting system and elections. Please stay tuned to know more about these changes in the next IFCMeNEWS and online.

IFCM 40th ANNIVERSARY

Following the 2022 General Assembly, members were invited by President Emily Kuo Vong to attend the official reception of IFCM's 40th Anniversary which began with a cameo concert by Mosaïca (Jordan) and was followed by a lunch in the beautiful dining rooms of the Palacete.



Happy Birthday IFCM! © Irvinne Redor / IFCM

An exhibition on the 40-year history of IFCM was displayed in the Palacete, presenting items, documents, and leaflets tracing the numerous projects organized since 1982. A looped series of photos from each decade was shown on a big screen. These images are also part of an online photo album created for the occasion: <https://www.40-years-of-ifcm.worldchoralexpo.org>.

As part of the celebrations of IFCM's 40th anniversary, one of the plenary sessions in the Exchange! explored the past four decades through a lens of "Quo vadis" (*Where are we going?*). Moderated by IFCM Board Member María Guinand (Venezuela), panelists included IFCM board members and IFCM members: Emily Kuo Vong (Portugal), Noël Minet (Belgium), Jutta Tagger (France), Sonja Greiner (Germany), Jean-Claude Wilkens (France), Tomoko Yokoyama (Japan), Thierry Thiébaud (France), Roula Abou Baker (Lebanon), Victoria Liedbergius (Norway), John Rosser (New Zealand), Frida Zarrán Vallesi (Argentina). The following topics were considered:



History: How was the choral world before IFCM existed? What were the motivations to found IFCM?

Achievements: How is the choral world after 40 years of IFCM existence? What have been the contributions of IFCM?

The Future: How do we foresee the next decades of IFCM? Where can we fit? What are the challenges? Are we needed anymore?

WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON CHORAL MUSIC 2026

Update on the Call to Host the WSCM 2026 launched in May 2022

Without a doubt, the past two years have revealed a significant change in the organization of large-scale choral events. Planning such events years in advance and securing them with the necessary funds has become increasingly uncertain and more challenging.

During its last meeting on 3 September 2022, the IFCM Board decided to reschedule the Call to Host the WSCM 2026, reducing the organizational period to two and a half years.

The new timeline:

28 February 2023: Closing date for initial Proposal Applications. These proposals do not need to provide detailed numbers and facts but should include realistic and evident funding possibilities and expectations.

25-30 April 2023: Possible meetings with interested bidders during the WSCM2023 in Istanbul.

WSCM 2026 Proposal Applications:

Submit your proposals to office@ifcm.net.

"So that the peoples of America sing in a brotherly embrace"

AMERICA CANTAT 10

La Plata,
Argentina

Octubre 11-15,
2023



info: www.aamcant.org.ar | from October 2022.

AMERICA CANTAT 10

The America Cantat 10 festival will take place in the City of La Plata, Argentina (capital of the Province of Buenos Aires), 11-15 October 2023. We will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the first version of America Cantat which was held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, in 1992.

The America Cantat was repeated in Mar del Plata in 1996 and then traveled to Venezuela in 2000, Mexico in 2004, Cuba in 2007, Brazil in 2010, Colombia in 2013, Bahamas in 2016, and Panama in 2019. Due to the pandemic, this festival had to be postponed until 2023.

It will be an unforgettable birthday celebration. Don't miss it!

Update available soon [here](#).

AFRICA CANTAT

Africa Cantat 2 is launched!

As a non-competitive, international festival for choirs, singers, conductors, composers, managers, **Africa Cantat** aims to bring together singers from Africa and all continents, to promote African choral music heritage, and to embrace other continent's choral traditions.

Participants can choose from ateliers with renowned conductors from Africa and beyond, daily open singing, or the programme for conductors and composers.





Participating choirs can present their own repertoire in concerts.
Optional accommodation and meals on the festival site or nearby are offered.
Come and sing in Cameroon, an "Africa in miniature".
Africa is awaiting you in Yaounde. Join us!

<https://www.africacantat.org>

CREATING FUTURES IN CHORAL MUSIC

IFCM Membership Campaign 2022

We are happy to report that our membership campaign Creating Futures in Choral Music is increasing steadily. Many new, young members have already received their 2022-2023 IFCM membership cards and will soon be contacted regarding IFCM's online activities.

A big thank you to the initial sponsors who kicked off the campaign. Let's not stop here! You, too, can contribute to the future of choral music by presenting an anniversary gift to celebrate IFCM's 40th Anniversary. Sponsor one or more new, young member(s)! Complete the form [here](#).

For conductors, singers, composers, managers, administrators, or choral music enthusiasts who want to be a part of and benefit from this program, please stay tuned as an update will soon be published on [this page](#).

NEWS FROM IFCM FOUNDING MEMBERS

EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION - EUROPA CANTAT (ECA-EC)

Reopening LEADING VOICES registration online platform

In July 2022, the first edition of Leading Voices, European Days for Vocal and Choral Leaders took place in Utrecht, the Netherlands. Hundreds of choral professionals from over 30 countries took part in this event that turned out to be a big success.

Did you miss the event and still want to attend lectures and round tables? It is possible to register for the online platform <https://online.leadingvoices.nl/> and watch the available sessions until 31 October 2022. (If you were already registered for LEADING VOICES, you will receive a reminder with your login code shortly.)



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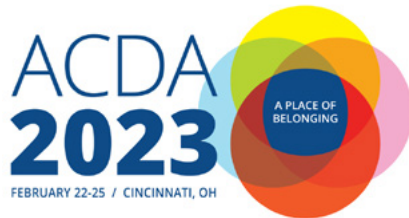
Volunteers connecting
our choral world



IFCMeNEWS

For only 15 Euros, you can view 43 recorded sessions presented by various session leaders. Check out the programme at <https://leadingvoices.nl/programme/>. All sessions with the label 'also online' are accessible via the online platform.

Go to <https://eventix.shop/7v7bybtr> to register for online access.



AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION (ACDA)

2023 ACDA National Conference - *A Place of Belonging*

22-25 February 2023, Cincinnati, Ohio

Applications for the **Student Conducting Masterclass** and **Poster Sessions** will be accepted beginning 3 October 2022.

Registration opens this month as well!

See the lists of selected [Performing Choirs](#) and [Insight Choirs](#).

NEWS FROM IFCM MEMBERS

OBITUARY: AIDA SIMANJUNTAK SWENSON

IFCM is deeply saddened about the passing of our dear friend and long-time member, Aida Swenson. Aida was one of Indonesia's strongest forces in choral music development.

Founder and conductor of the Indonesian Children's & Youth Choir Cordana, Aida gathered many international recognitions and awards. Graduated from the Westminster Choir College (USA), Aida conducted numerous workshops and adjudicated national and international events. She spent many years traveling throughout the provinces of Indonesia creating and leading choirs, giving masterclasses, and training choral conductors. Her professional endeavors led her to work with numerous organizations supporting choral music.

Aida was a member of the Committee of the IFCM Asia Pacific Choral Symposium in 2001 and a member of the Asia Pacific Choral Council. With her choir, she delighted audiences from around the world at the 2008 World Symposium on Choral Music in Copenhagen, for which they received the IFCM Ambassador Award. Most recently, Aida and her choir performed at the 2019 World Choral EXPO in Portugal.



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR CHORAL MUSIC monthly electronic newsletter

<https://www.ifcm.net>

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Aida was a pillar of change, progress, and energy in her ability to achieve an unassailable quality of choral singing in Indonesia and around the world. She will be missed dearly. May her soul rest in peace.



JOIN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL KATHAUMIXW ON JULY 4-8, 2023

Imagine a place where nature abounds, and music fills the air. Imagine a place that is warm, not only in climate, but in atmosphere. Imagine a place where language poses no boundaries, a place where people of different cultures and countries come together to share the common language of song.

That is **Kathaumixw**.

The International Choral Kathaumixw is a 5-day choral festival filled with concerts, common song singing, choral & vocal solo competitions, conductor's seminars and social events. The festival is a place where all can learn from each other and from world renowned choral personalities.

Apply today! www.kathaumixw.org

Application deadline November 15, 2022

20TH EUROTREFF, WOLFENBÜTTEL (GERMANY), 6-10 SEPTEMBER 2023

More than 700 young singers from all over Europe will meet again at the 20th **EUROTREFF**, in Wolfenbüttel, Germany, 6-10 September 2023, to create wonderful and unique memories through music.

The Eurotreff workshop leaders are: children's choir - József Nemes (Hungary), Christiane Fischer (Austria), and Basilio Astulez (Spain); mixed youth choirs - Tristan Meister (Germany) and Merzi Rajala (Finland); and girls' choirs - Carlo Pavese (Italy) and Birgitte Næslund Madsen (Denmark). Share your musical and cultural roots at the EUROTREFF 2023 and set off together into a musical adventure! Until 15.12.2022 you still have the chance to **apply** with your choir and be part of it!



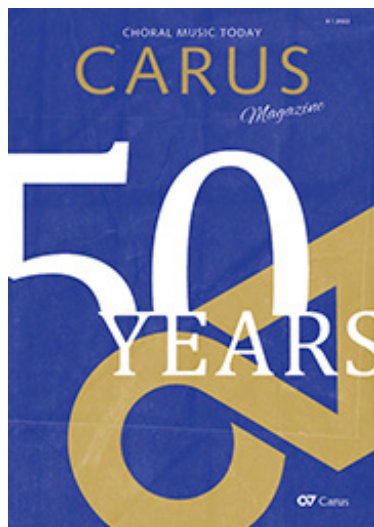
Eurotreff 2019 © Jonathan Loyche

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*Volunteers connecting
our choral world*



IFCMeNEWS



NEWS FROM CARUS-VERLAG

New CARUS magazine 1/2022

Carus-Verlag is taking its anniversary as an opportunity to tell you about what drives the publishing house: its history, people, and highlights from over the years. Following a two-year break due to the pandemic, a new issue of CARUS Magazine has been published. Enjoy reading!

[Read online](#)

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.