



February 2025 IFCMeNEWS More Online Cafés Coming Soon

Renew your membership and support to IFCM in 2025

What the YOUNG IFCM says about it. [Watch](#) their video.



IFCM Online Cafés: Season 2025

First online café 2025 (25 January): Participating in festivals, competitions and choral events with your choirs

Benefit from the experience of long-standing participants and prize-winners at choral festivals and competitions.



IFCM guests for the first online café 2025, **Betsy Cook Weber** (USA), **Helene Stureborg** (Sweden), and **Jonathan Velasco** (Philippines) explored this topic and gave valuable insights from their experiences.

How to choose the event? When to start planning for it? How to choose the repertoire? How to deal with the organisational and budgetary issues?

It was a truly inspiring exchange highlighting similarities and differences between countries and cultures but showing the same passion for excellence.

Click [here](#) to see the online café after logging in.

Online café on 22 March 2025 at 2PM CET: Participating in festivals, competitions and choral events with your choirs

The same topic will be developed with three different guests from different regions of the world in this online café on 22 March. [Stay tuned](#) to find out about the next guests. The registration link will soon be available.

Have your say!

As IFCM online cafés are becoming more and more popular, let us know what you would like to see/discuss next and who you would like us to welcome as guests by filling this [survey](#). Thank you!



YOUNG, Youth International Cultural Management Programme 2025

After the great success of the two previous [YOUNG programmes](#) (World Choral EXPO 2022 and WSCM 2023 in Istanbul), IFCM launched a call for young leaders to take part in the third YOUNG programme in the framework of the 45th International Congress of Pueri Cantores, Munich, Germany (16-20 July 2025).

IFCM has received 37 applications from 19 different countries. The selection committee, made up of members of the International Federation Pueri Cantores, the European Choral Association and IFCM (IFCM YOUNG), will meet to select the candidates that will best fit the festival's programme. Their names will be announced in the next IFCMeNEWS.



Call for Choirs to Apply for Conductors Beyond Borders Peer-to-Peer Exchange Programme

The Conductors Beyond Borders Peer-to-Peer Exchange Programme is a component of the Choral TIES project coordinated by the [European Choral Association](#), co-funded by the [European Union](#), and organised in cooperation with IFCM. This programme provides limited

financial support in the form of a grant to cover international travel expenses.

There are three possible options for participation:

- A European conductor may be invited by a choir from a different continent to work on a specific programme for a specific period.
- A conductor from the European Union may be invited by a choir outside the European Union to work on a specific programme for a specific period.
- A conductor from the European Union may invite a conductor from outside the European Union (in Europe or from another continent) to work on a specific programme for a specific period.

This programme is designed to facilitate the internationalization of careers.

Before applying, please read the [complete guidelines here](#).

Apply on https://bit.ly/Peer-to-Peer_CBB_Programme_Apply



ECA EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION

CONDUCTORS BEYOND BORDERS PEER-TO-PEER CONDUCTORS TRAINING

A financial support programme contributing to the travel expenses of:

- a conductor from the EU invited to work in a European country outside the EU
- a European conductor invited to work with a choir from a different continent
- a European conductor inviting a colleague from another continent to work with their choir(s)

A programme contributing to the internationalisation of careers.
https://bit.ly/Peer-to-Peer_CBB_Programme_Apply

In cooperation with

Choral TIES Co-funded by the European Union INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR CHORAL MUSIC CONDUCTORS BEYOND BORDERS

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Musica International seeks for its 'father/mother' to represent it in America

You are passionate about choral music? If you are using Musica international regularly to prepare (themed) concerts of choral music, you know the benefit that we are bringing to the choral world (Reminder: Musica is the most complete database for choral music in the world, for which the International Federation for Choral Music was a founding member!)

Why don't you step up and offer your service as a volunteer privileged contact for the USA, or the entire Americas?

Your involvement in Music can be a marvelous opportunity to give value to your expertise, bringing an added value to your profession. You would be in contact with the active choral people in your country; attend events in Musica's name; set contacts with federations, choral conductors, composers, publishers, and others; and more You would, of course, have more than a privileged access to all the information of the Musica database!

If you're interested, please contact us at communication@musicanet.org, and we will be pleased to answer your questions or your observations and, hopefully, to have you taking part in the Musica community of collaborators!

World Youth Choir Session 2025: the selection is done

On 23-26 January 2025, the International Jury of the World Youth Choir (WYC), together with the conductor of the [2025 session \(Daniel Reuss\)](#) and the session manager, met to review all audition submissions and select the singers who will take part in the session hosted by the [Federació Catalana d'Entitats Corals \(FCEC\)](#) in July 2025.

The WYC Foundation Board also met to discuss the future of the programme, evaluate ongoing projects, and finalise plans for the upcoming session.

One of the WYC's Patrons, [Jeunesses Musicales International \(JMI\)](#) hosted the meetings and offered warm hospitality at their headquarters in Brussels.

The results of the selection will be announced soon. Stay tuned for updates on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



WYC Foundation launches newsletter

In February 2025, the WYC Foundation will launch its inaugural newsletter for WYC alumni. Our goals for the newsletter are to strengthen the community of WYC singers, share news about recent/upcoming WYC sessions, and explore potential opportunities through which WYC alumni can contribute to the sustainability and ongoing work of the WYC Foundation. If you are an WYC alumna or alumnus (1989-2024) and do not receive the newsletter, please [contact](#) WYC Session Manager with your updated contact information.

European Choral Association (ECA): two important registration deadlines

Leading Voices, 6-10 July 2025.

From 6-10 July 2025, Tallinn will host [Leading Voices](#), an event of the [European Choral Association](#) organised in cooperation with the [Estonian Choral Association](#) and the [Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre](#). The Music Commission of the event has now made a choice from more than 150 proposals, from which about 50 sessions will be in the programme of Leading Voices in July 2025.

Register now to actively explore, experience, and discuss the future of choral music through labs, lectures, workshops, lessons, and live concerts with inspiring choirs from all around the world.

Registrations are open until 1 March 2025.

Accommodation at special prices through [BaltoScandia Tours!](#)

ECA recommends you book your hotels through them as soon as you have completed your registration for Leading Voices. Group accommodation is also possible via this service.



YEMP 6: Young Event Management Programme 2025

YEMP is a programme for young people aged 18-30 to gain real-world experience and kick-start their careers in event management.

The young YEMPers, fully included in the organising team of **Leading Voices**, will have the opportunity to develop their skills by taking on roles in various offices of the event, with the guidance of two mentors.

Apply [here](#) before 5 February 2025.



Apply for **YEMP 6** at **Leading Voices**
until **5 February, 2025!**

Choral Federation Wallonie-Bruxelles A Coeur Joie celebrating a week of Belgian Music

On 27 January to 2 February 2025, the **Choral Federation Wallonie-Bruxelles** celebrated the 5th edition of the Belgian Music Week with daily posts on their **Facebook page** showing performances of songs composed and arranged by Belgian composers.

This anniversary edition highlighted both Belgium's exceptional musical diversity and the challenges facing the music sector. Find out more about the many initiatives organised as part of this event **[here](#)**.



Sur le pont d'Avignon - French children's song arranged by Vic Nees, performed live by the Ghent University Choir, conducted by Joris Derder.

FICF — Florence International Choir & Orchestra Festival

Florence, Italy, 22-25 July 2025

The unique and original **Florence Choir Festival**, also open to orchestras and bands, will take place in the wonderful city of Florence, Italy. The participating choirs of this 12th FICF festival will perform in some of the most prestigious venues such as the Basilicas of Santa Croce and Santa Trinita and the Church of Ognissanti.

Registration is now open.



Music Celebrations International presents three of its festivals

Dublin Choral Festival, Ireland, 17-21 June 2026

Lend your voices to sing in a combined mixed-voice choir in Ireland's Fair City. The festival chorus will perform thrilling choral literature under the direction of Artistic Director Marques L. A. Garrett— Associate Professor of Choral Studies at the University of North Texas.



Rome Choral Festival, Italy, 21-26 June 2026

The Rome International Choral Festival is one of Rome's premier annual summer music events. The annual festival will feature Mass participation at one of Rome's major basilicas and a formal finale concert at Rome's famed Basilica di Santa Maria degli Angeli e dei Martiri. The festival chorus will include mixed-voice singers and choirs from across North America that will come together to rehearse and perform en masse under the direction of Z. Randall Stroope.



Salzburg Choral Festival, Jubilate Mozart! Austria, 24-28 June 2026

This festival will feature a large chorus consisting of mixed voice choirs performing under the direction of Edith Copley. Three days of festival rehearsals and mingling side-by-side with

singers from a variety of backgrounds will lead festival participants to a grand finale concert in the historic city of Salzburg. János Czifra, Domkapellmeister of the Salzburger Dom, will conduct Mozart's *Mass in C Major, "Coronation,"* KV 317, accompanied by the Salzburger Domorchester.



Concerts-Austria: Misatango in Paris, 22-26 April 2025, a few seats left!

The [Misatango Festival](#) offers individuals and choirs the opportunity to sing *Misa a Buenos Aires* (Misatango) together with the Argentinian composer Martín Palmeri and choirs from all over the world in one of the most wonderful venues in Paris 2025.

Both composer Martín Palmeri and conductor Saul Zaks were born in Buenos Aires and have been friends for a long time; both are renowned artists and have been awarded prizes and accolades for their work. Together with Martín and Saul, participants will rehearse and perform for the audience in Paris.

Misa a Buenos Aires is a contemporary Roman mass in an authentic Argentine tango style – a perfect mix of music and spirituality.

Contact: info@misatango.com — <https://www.misatango.com> — [Facebook](#)



Call for applications to an International Choral Conducting Masterclass organized by Cité de la Voix

The 'Cité de la Voix', the National Centre of Vocal Art, Vézelay, France, has initiated training programs for young singers and choral directors. On 24-27 June 2025, for the fourth time, the International Choral Conducting Masterclass will be organised in collaboration with [Les Métaboles ensemble](#) and will be directed by [Léo Warynski](#) and [Simon Carrington](#).



Léo Warynski



Simon Carrington

The academy offers six conducting internships and a maximum of 2 positions for auditors (attending the full course).

- Candidates should be either professional or students training to be conductors at the undergraduate or graduate level.
- The age limit is 35

Apply **before 10 February 2025**. More information on the submission material is available at: elsa.goujon-gregori@lacedelavoix.net

We invite you to visit the [Calendar of Choral Activities](#) published by the European Choral Association — Europa Cantat and the American Choral Directors Association ACDA's Network [ChoralNet](#) to check on the choral events planned in the coming months.

