



World  
Choir  
Games

2012  
cincinnati usa



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[www.2012worldchoirgames.com](http://www.2012worldchoirgames.com)

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## 2012 World Choir Games opens in 300 days

*150 choirs from 24 countries already have registered*

**CINCINNATI (OH)** – The 2012 World Choir Games is now 300 days away with progress being made daily toward what will be the biggest international event in Cincinnati USA’s history.

The “Olympics of choral music,” held every two years, will take place in Cincinnati USA from July 4–14, 2012. It’s the first time the event is being held in the United States. The World Choir Games, the largest choral competition in the world, is the signature event of INTERKULTUR, a Germany-based organization that produces elite international choral events all over the globe.

Already, 150 choirs from 24 countries have signed up for the 2012 Games. There are choirs from 17 U.S. states registered so far, including about 40 choirs from the Greater Cincinnati area.

“We do not usually have so many choirs registered this far in advance of the World Choir Games,” said Jelena Dannhauer, project manager for INTERKULTUR who is currently in Cincinnati USA for meetings with the Cincinnati Organizing Committee. “We are seeing a tremendous response in the United States. At our World Choir Championships in Graz, Austria, in July, international choirs were buzzing about coming to Cincinnati in 2012. There was a lot of excitement.”

There are choirs already registered from Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, Estonia, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Taipei, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, USA and Venezuela.

The list includes seven former Champions of the World Choir Games (from Croatia, South Africa, Indonesia and the U.S.), the title bestowed upon the choir in each musical category of The Champions Competition that receives the highest voting total from an international panel of judges.

The 2012 Games are expected to bring 20,000 participants and tens of thousands of visitors from more than 70 countries to Cincinnati USA. The economic impact is projected to be \$73.5 million.

How can the local community get involved now?

- **Volunteer:** Sign up on the event's website, [www.2012worldchoirgames.com](http://www.2012worldchoirgames.com). Hundreds have already signed up. Specific needs are being determined now. Those who have signed up will be contacted when those needs are determined. The Cincinnati Organizing Committee expects to name a Volunteer Services Director this month.
- **Donate.** There is a Donate Now button on the website that allows for donations of any denomination that can be targeted to a specified program. See the website for details.
- **Buy merchandise.** There are shirts, hats and water bottles available online now. More products will be available in time for the holidays.
- **Pins:** Buy some of the limited edition international trading pins online. There were four pins released July 11. These will become more valuable next summer when trading takes place.
- **News:** Sign up for the monthly e-newsletter, Prelude, which will provide updates on news about the Games.
- **Social media:** "Like" the 2012 World Choir Games on Facebook and follow worldchoirgames on Twitter.

Tickets are expected to go on sale before the holidays.

"There is activity related to the World Choir Games going on every day," said Dan Lincoln, director of the Cincinnati Organizing Committee for the 2012 World Choir Games. "It's hard to believe that 10 months from now we will be standing in places like Fountain Square and Washington Park side-by-side next to people from Asia, Africa, Europe and South America. Our community is working tirelessly to ensure our guests from around the globe feel welcomed and have a truly memorable experience in the United States and Cincinnati."

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#### **ABOUT INTERKULTUR:**

INTERKULTUR, based in Pohlheim, Germany, has ties to 120,000 choirs made up of 4.8 million choral singers around the world. In more than 20 years since INTERKULTUR was established, more than 5,500 choirs and some 250,000 singers from 100 nations have taken part in the World Choir Games and INTERKULTUR's regional choir competitions.