



**World
Choir
Games**

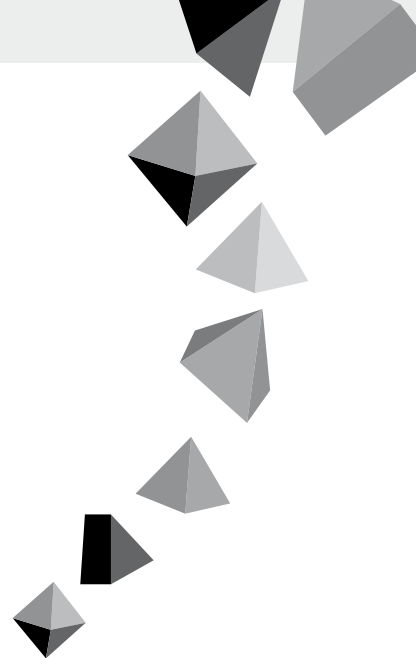
2012
cincinnati usa



JULY 4 - 14 • 2012

**COMPETITION
INFORMATION**

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AI – World Choir Games

The Champions Competition

Choirs competing in The Champions Competition are by the decision of the artistic committee. Amateur choirs can apply for this competition, submit qualifications or be delegated. This competition is for choirs that have corresponding international competitive experience and have already proven their ability in concerts and international choral competitions.

The competition is evaluated by an international jury according to the evaluation system of the World Choir Games (100 points system). Choirs are awarded Bronze, Silver or Gold Medals depending on the number of points. The gold medal choir with the highest number of points, in each category, will be awarded the title “Champion of the World Choir Games“.

- Recommended for**
- Choirs* with national and/or international competitive experience and a proven level of achievement or proof of comparable artistic level
 - Choirs that are listed in the top 500 of the MUSICA MUNDI World Ranking List (List available at Interkultur.com)
 - Choirs that have been awarded a Gold Medal at the World Choir Games since 2008 in a comparable category**
 - Choirs that have been awarded a Golden Diploma at the MUSICA MUNDI choir competitions in a comparable category**
 - Choirs that have received a recommendation diploma for The Champions Competition in a previous INTERKULTUR event
 - Choirs that have received a 1st, 2nd or 3rd prize in national or international choir competitions, or an evaluation comparable to the Golden Diploma of the INTERKULTUR choir competitions. (The competition must be recognized by the Artistic Committee and a copy of the certificate must be submitted with the registration.)
 - Choirs that have been delegated by national and provincial cultural ministries or national and provincial choral associations. (An official letter of delegation must be submitted with the registration.)
 - Choirs that have been delegated by a member of The World Choir Council
 - Choirs that have qualified at the Qualification Concert on-site for the Champions Competition

Admitted by Artistic Committee of the World Choir Games

Jury A jury of seven international music experts will evaluate The Champions Competition

Evaluation system The Champions Competition is evaluated on a 100 point system

Number of points:

40 – 59.99 Bronze medal

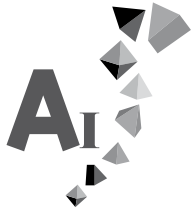
60 – 79.99 Silver medal

80 – 100 Gold medal

Champion of the World Choir Games The choir scoring the highest overall number of points per category will be awarded the title “Champion of the World Choir Games”

* To qualify as an amateur choir means that no choir member except for the conductor may earn his living by professional singing.

** Comparable are: a) Children's and Youth, Sacred and Contemporary, b) Mixed, Male, Female, Sacred and Contemporary, c) Jazz, Gospel and Pop, d) Folklore



1. The Categories

of The Champions Competition

The World Choir Games – The Champions Competition offers participation in 23 categories.

CATEGORIES BY DEMOGRAPHIC (1 – 12)

Basic Information The multiple categories offer each choir the opportunity to express its own traditions and strengths.

A program should reflect the choir music activities of different countries.

At the same time, the World Choir Games encourage choirs to take an **interest in cultural and musical traditions elsewhere** in the world and will perform at least one piece that does not have its origins in their native culture.

Thoughtful consideration should be given to the dramatic arc of the overall program.

The character and degree of difficulty of the program for Children's and Youth categories should correspond with the age of the singers.

- Categories 1 – 12**
- 1 **Young Children's Choirs** S(S)A(A), girls and boys ages 6 – 12
 - 2 **Children's Choirs** S(S)A(A), girls and boys ages 10 – 16
 - 3 **Youth Choirs of Equal Voices** S(S)A(A), girls and boys ages 12 – 21
 - 4 **Young Male Choirs** T(T)B(B), boys and young men ages 14 – 24
 - 5 **Mixed Boys' Choirs** SA(T)B, boys and young men ages 8 – 24
 - 6 **Mixed Youth Choirs** SA(T)B, girls, boys and young men ages 12 – 24
 - 7 **Mixed Chamber Choirs**
 - 8 **Mixed Choirs**
 - 9 **Female Chamber Choirs**
 - 10 **Female Choirs**
 - 11 **Male Chamber Choirs**
 - 12 **Male Choirs**

Number of choral selections 4

Duration of the program The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 20 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment **Categories 1 – 6:** Two compositions may be performed with original instrumental accompaniment.
Categories 7 – 12: One composition may be performed with original instrumental accompaniment.

Program for categories 1 – 12 must include

- 1) One composition by a composer from the country, language area or cultural environment of the participating choir.
- 2) One composition by a composer who does not come from the country or language area or cultural environment of the participating choir (*see also section AI – II competition rules).
- 3) One composition by a living composer (at the time of registration).
- 4) One composition of the choir's own choice.

Categories 6 – 12: Only original compositions are permitted.

GENRE-SPECIFIC CATEGORIES

13 – Musica Sacra

In this category choirs may perform their choice of Christian sacred music.

Number of choral selections 4

Duration of the program The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment Instrumental accompaniment is permitted for 2 compositions.

Program must include Compositions of sacred music:
 1) by a composer born before 1809.
 2) by a composer born between 1809 and 1873.
 3) by a composer who is alive at the time of registration.
 4) of the choir's own choice.

Only original compositions are permitted.

14 – Music of the Religions

This category features music of all different religions, churches and denominations. Programs may include songs and presentation typical of the denomination.

Number of choral selections 4

Duration of the program The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment Live instrumental accompaniment is permitted for all compositions. The use of sound recording is not permitted.

Program Compositions of the choir's own choice.

15 – Musica Contemporanea (contemporary music)

This category features contemporary compositions of the 20th and 21st centuries and the immediate present.

Number of choral selections 4

Duration of the program The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 20 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment A maximum of two compositions may be performed with original instrumental accompaniment.

- Program must include**
- 1) One premier performance composition.
(A declaration explaining that the piece is dedicated for or will be performed for the first time at the 7th World Choir Games 2012 must be attached to the registration form.)
 - 2) One composition by a composer who is alive at the time of registration and comes from the country or cultural area of the participating choir.
 - 3) One composition by a composer who is alive at the time of registration and does not come from the language or cultural area of the participating choir (*see also chapter competition rules AI).
 - 4) One composition of the choir's own choice by a composer born 1950 or later.

Only original compositions are permitted.

Choral music which in style and content belongs to jazz, musical theatre or pop music is not permitted in this category.

CATEGORIES 16 – 18, 20

Basic Information Instrumental accompaniments including electronic instruments with their own amplification are permitted. The amplification of voices and instruments is permitted. Equipment suited to the respective venues will be made available on-site. All forms of full playback are prohibited but the instrumental accompaniments in these categories may be performed via playback.

16 – Jazz

Number of choral selections 4

Duration of the program The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment All compositions may be accompanied.

Program The choir's choice of jazz compositions of varying style is encouraged.

Improvisations by the vocalists are desirable but not compulsory. Instrumental solos must be kept to a minimum, as only the performance of the choir will be evaluated. Accompanists and/or instrumentalists are the responsibility of the choir. The amplification of voices and instruments is permitted.

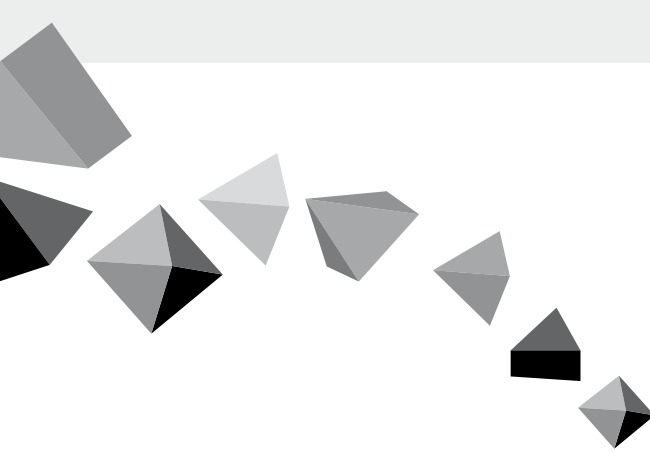
17 – Gospel

Number of choral selections 4

Duration of the program The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment All compositions may be accompanied.

Program Gospel compositions of the choir's own choice.



18 – Spiritual

- Number of choral selections** 4
- Duration of the program** The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.
- Instrumental accompaniment** A maximum of 2 compositions may be performed with accompaniment.
- Program** Spiritual compositions of the choir's own choice.

19 – Barbershop

- Number of choral selections** 4
- Duration of the program** The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.
- Instrumental accompaniment** No accompaniment is permitted.
- Amplification** The Competition is judged on unamplified sound, however general amplification will be provided for the audience.
- Program** Barbershop compositions of the choir's own choice.

20 – Popular Choral Music

Pop, Rock and Light Entertainment selections from the 20th century through the present day will be performed. The style and content must not fit into the jazz, gospel, spiritual or folklore categories.

- Number of choral selections** 4
- Duration of the program** The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.
- Instrumental accompaniment** All compositions may be accompanied.
- Program** Popular choral compositions of the choir's own choice.

CATEGORIES 21 – 22

Basic Information In these categories choirs should interpret the folklore of its native country or its different ethnic groups. A choir whose work is dedicated to the cultures of another people may also perform.

Combining national folk songs from several countries is not permitted (potpourris). For example: A Choir from Germany should not combine songs from Germany, France, Russia and a Spiritual.

21 – Folklore

- Number of choral selections** 4
- Duration of the program** The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.
- Instrumental accompaniment** The maximum of one composition may be performed with original, country specific instrumental accompaniment.
- Program** Four original compositions in the spirit of folksongs or arrangements of folksongs.
- Original performance interpretations are welcome. Solo dance performance is not allowed. Choreographic elements may be integrated into performances but only the singing will be evaluated by the international jury. Amplification and playback are not allowed. In case sheet music is not available, a short description of the program must be provided for the jury (in English).

22 – Scenic Folklore

- Number of choral selections** No restrictions
- Duration of the program** The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.
- Instrumental accompaniment** Piano accompaniment and traditional instruments are permitted.
- Program** Folklore of the choir's own choice with choreography.
- The content of movements and singing should be cohesive. The jury will evaluate the musical as well as the scenic performance. Instrumental accompaniment may also be sound recording (playback). Amplification of voices and instruments is permitted. The performance in traditional costumes typical of the country is recommended. In case sheet music is not available, a short description of the program must be provided for the jury (in English).

23 – Show Choirs

- Number of choral selections** No restrictions
- Duration of the program** The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.
- Instrumental accompaniment** All compositions may be accompanied.
- Amplification** Amplification is permitted.
- Program** Pop, Rock, Broadway and Light Entertainment will be performed with an emphasis on staging with choreography. The style and content must not fit into the jazz, gospel, spiritual or folklore categories. Details on the stage set-up and techniques will be sent to you after the registration has been received.

2. Outline of the Categories in The Champions Competition

S – Soprano, A – Alto, T – Tenor, B – Bass

Number of category	Name of category	Age limit	Number of singers	Maximum duration of program in minutes (actual singing time)	Number of compositions	Maximum number of compositions with instrumental accompaniment	Category is held in the 1 st or 2 nd part of the World Choir Games	Amplification of voices and instruments is permitted					
1	Young Children's Choirs, S(S)A(A), girls and boys	6 – 12	-	20	4	2	II	no					
2	Children's Choirs, S(S)A(A), girls and boys	10 – 16					II						
3	Youth Choirs of Equal Voices, S(S)A(A), (girls and boys)	12 – 21					I						
4	Young Male Choirs, T(T)B(B)	14 – 24					I						
5	Mixed Boys' Choirs, SA(T)B, (boys and young men)	8 – 24					I						
6	Mixed Youth Choirs, SA(T)B, (girls, boys and young men)	12 – 24					I						
7	Mixed Chamber Choirs	18 and older	max. 30		15	4	1		II	no			
8	Mixed Choirs		min. 31						I				
9	Female Chamber Choirs		max. 25						II				
10	Female Choirs		min. 26						I				
11	Male Chamber Choirs		max. 25						II				
12	Male Choirs		min. 26						I				
13	Musica Sacra	-	-	15		4	2	I	no				
14	Music of the Religions			20			4	II					
15	Musica Contemporanea (contemporary music)			2			2	II					
16	Jazz			15			15	4	4		I	yes*	
17	Gospel								4		4		II
18	Spiritual								2		2		II
19	Barbershop				-				-	II	no		
20	Popular Choral Music				4			4	I	yes*			
21	Folklore				1			1	I	no			
22	Scenic Folklore				free			all	II	yes*			
23	Show Choirs								II	yes*			

* In these categories amplification can be provided according to the amount of singers for a single voice or a group of singers. At any rate, choirs which take part in these categories have to hand in their registration form with clear instructions for the stage indicating the technical requirements of their performance.

3. Competition Rules

1. Participation All amateur choirs meeting the criteria are entitled to participate, provided they observe the number of persons, the scorings and the age limits of the respective category.
With exception of the conductor, members must be amateurs, i.e. they must not earn a living by professional singing. A choir may perform with several conductors.

2. Multiple participation All choirs may participate in a maximum of 3 categories including the Individual Coaching. This means that the choir can participate either in 3 competitive categories, or in 2 categories and 1 Individual Coaching.
If your choir's maximum number of participation categories cannot be scheduled for organizational reasons, the registration fee will be refunded.

Possibilities of participation

Categories	Detail
1 – 12	Choirs may participate in only one of these categories.
13 – 23	Choirs may choose from these categories independent of participation in categories 1 – 12.

3. Singers and conductors Individual choir members may participate in smaller ensembles formed out of their primary choir but may not sing in more than one primary choir.

Conductors are permitted to conduct only one choir per category. Conducting in different categories is allowed.

4. Programs in multiple categories Choirs participating in multiple categories must use different compositions for each category.

5. Accompaniment Accompaniment means that at least one pitched instrument is used. In categories requiring a cappella selections, a maximum of three instruments without definite pitch may be used (percussion instruments).

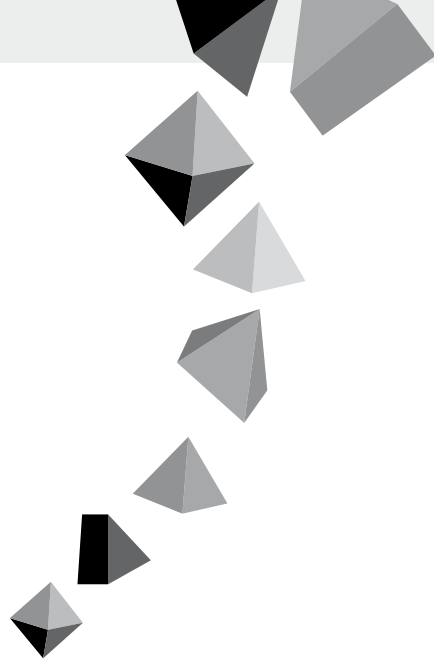
6. Original compositions The use of original compositions means that a piece must be performed in accordance with the composer's original score. Compositions prior-to and through the Baroque era may be performed in variations of scorings that correspond with the original musical material. The arrangement of a composition is permitted if it has led to a new composition. The Artistic Directors reserve the right to reject compositions.

7. Original accompaniments Only original accompaniments are permitted, which means that any reductions in orchestration or transcriptions of other instruments that were not scored by the composer are excluded from the competition.

8. Country, regional language, cultural group Categories 1 – 12 require a composition that does not originate in the country, regional language or cultural group of the participating choir.

Examples for compliance:

- A choir from a Slavic country should not select a work from another Slavic nation, even if the two countries naturally have different cultures and languages.
- A German choir should not select a song from other German-speaking countries.
- Choirs from English-speaking countries should choose compositions written in a different language.
- A choir from Latin and South America should select a piece that does not come from the same region.



- 9. Scores** **Seven** scores of every composition must be submitted with the registration forms. Scores submitted must conform to internationally recognized sheet music standards (five lines of notes). Scores that do not bear the titles, names of composers etc. printed in the Roman alphabet must bear a **transcription into the Roman alphabet** (clear handwritten notes suffice). One score remains with the organizer after the competition. Remaining scores may be collected from the organizer after the awards ceremony. Uncollected scores will not be sent by mail. No scores have to be submitted for celebration or friendship concerts.

Note Please note that published choral compositions may only be sung using the original scores or authorized copies. The use of unauthorized copies or handwritten copies is not allowed!
All scores must be sent by mail as hardcopy. Scores sent as files (PDF or similar) will not be accepted.

- 10. Use of amplification** In categories 16, 17, 18, 20, 21 and 23 the amplification of voices and instruments is permitted. Basic technical equipment and backline (ref. Page 17) will be provided by the organizer. Each choir must submit technical requirements of their performance with their registration form. If these instructions are not submitted, the organizers will not accept responsibility for the production of such instructions. Technically complex requirements (for example the use of headsets or separate microphones for each singer) cannot be guaranteed.
- 11. Competition program and changes** After approval of proposed program by the artistic directors, it will be returned for final review and confirmation by the respective choir. The choir must respond within 14 days of delivery with any changes to the program. If there is no response within 14 days, the program will be considered final, therefore neither titles nor performance order may be changed. Changes made without informing the organizer will result in a disqualification.
- 12. Order of performances** The order of performances within a category is arranged at random.
- 13. Actual singing time** Actual singing time is the duration of the performance time only. It excludes entrance, exit, applause.
- 14. Changes of the key** Prior to the competition, the jury must be informed in writing if a choir wishes to change the key from that written in the printed score.

4. Jury and Competition Evaluation

1. A jury consisting of 7 international choral experts evaluate the competition.
2. The decisions of the jury cannot be contested.
3. The evaluation of the Competition is based on the **Evaluation System of the World Choir Games**.
In competition the performance of every composition will be evaluated according to the following:
 - I) Technical Evaluation
 - a) Intonation
 - b) Sound quality of the choir
 - II) Artistic Evaluation
 - c) Fidelity to the score (in general categories)
interpretation practice (categories Jazz, Popular Choral Music, Barbershop and Show Choirs)
authenticity (in folklore categories)
 - d) Overall artistic impression
4. Each adjudicator will give a maximum of 10 points for each single composition according to criteria a) and c) and for the overall performance according to criteria b) and d) respectively. Using the points given, an intermediate average is determined for the overall technical evaluation (I) and for the overall artistic evaluation (II). The final score given by each individual adjudicator is made up of the total of these intermediate average figures.
5. The final result is made up of the total of all final scores of the adjudicators. The lowest and highest figure will be disregarded.

		I		II	
		a)	b)	c)	d)
1	Composition 1	9		9	
2	Composition 2	8		9	
3	Composition 3	7		8	
4	Composition 4	9		8	
	Criteria a) + c): average of 1 – 4 Criteria b) + d): score of the overall performance	8.25	8	8.5	9
	Intermediate result of technical and artistic evaluation (average of column 1. and 2. as well as column 3. and 4.)	8.13		8.75	
	Total number of points given by one adjudicator: (= total of all intermediate results)	16.88			

The adjudicator gives 16.88 points, which are used for the overall evaluation. In this example, the following results were given and count as follows:

adjudicator 1	adjudicator 2	adjudicator 3	adjudicator 4	adjudicator 5	adjudicator 6	adjudicator 7
16.88	17.54	15.34	18.01	16.21	14.01	17.67

The scores of adjudicator 4 (highest score) and adjudicator 6 (lowest score) are disregarded. The total score will be made up from the remaining scores. In this case the choir will be awarded a Gold Medal with a total of 83.64 points.

In categories 22 and 23 for which the number of pieces is not determined, the jury will evaluate only the overall performance according to the above mentioned criteria.

		a)	b)	c)	d)
1	Composition 1				
2	Composition 2				
3	etc.				
Score for the overall performance		6	8	7	6
Intermediate result of technical and artistic evaluation (average of column 1. and 2. as well as column 3. and 4.)		7		6.5	
Total score given by one adjudicator: (total of all intermediate results)		13.5			

6. In case a choir exceeds the maximum pure singing time of the respective category, their final score will be reduced.
7. Choirs will receive written copy of their adjudication scores.

5. Awards



1. Medals In The Champions Competition choirs will receive medals according to their final scores:

1 – 40 Points	Certificate “Successful Participation in the World Choir Games – The Champions Competition“
40.01 – 60 Points	Bronze Medal
60.01 – 80 Points	Silver Medal
80.01 – 100 Points	Gold Medal

2. Champion of the World Choir Games In the World Choir Games – The Champions Competition, the choir receiving the Gold Medal with the most points will be awarded the title “Champion of the World Choir Games”. The title can only be given to one choir per category. In case of a tie, the jury will determine which choir will be the Champion of the World Choir Games.



AII – World Choir Games

The Open Competition

In the spirit of the World Choir Games, "Participation is the highest honor". Therefore, any amateur choir may participate regardless of their present artistic level of achievement.

The choirs will be evaluated by an international jury in accordance with the general MUSICA MUNDI evaluation system (30 points system) and awarded gold, silver and bronze Diplomas. The choir receiving the Gold Diploma with the most points will be awarded the title "Winner of the World Choir Games –The Open Competition." The title can be given to only one choir per category. In case of a tie, the jury will determine which choir will be the Winner of the World Choir Games-The Open Competition.

- Recommended for**
- Any amateur choir regardless of experience at national and international choral competitions.
 - Choirs that have received a recommendation diploma for The Open Competition at one of the past INTERKULTUR events
 - Choirs that have qualified at the on-site Qualification Concert for The Open Competition

Admitted by The Artistic Committee of the World Choir Games

Jury A jury of international music experts will evaluate the World Choir Games – The Open Competition.

Evaluation system MUSICA MUNDI evaluation system (30 points)
 Number of points:

0.5 – 10.49	Bronze Diplomas levels 1-10
10.50 – 20.49	Silver Diplomas levels 1-10
20.5 – 30	Golden Diplomas levels 1-10

Awards The choir scoring the highest overall number of points per category with a golden diploma in each category will be awarded the title "**Winner of the World Choir Games-The Open Competition**".

1. The Categories

of The Open Competition

The World Choir Games – The Open Competition is held in 18 different categories. The number of the categories follows the comparable categories of The Champions Competition.

CATEGORIES BY DEMOGRAPHIC (1 – 12)

Basic Information The multiple categories offer each choir the opportunity to express its **own traditions and strengths**.

A program should reflect the choral music of different countries.

At the same time, the idea of the World Choir Games encourages choirs to take an **interest in cultural and musical traditions** elsewhere in the world and will perform at least one piece that does not have its origins in their native cultural circles.

Thoughtful consideration should be given to the dramatic arc of the overall program.

The character and degree of difficulty of the program for Children's and Youth categories should correspond with the age of the singers.

- 1 **Children's Choirs S(S)A(A)**, girls and boys ages 6 – 16
- 3 **Youth Choirs of Equal Voices**, S(S)A(A), girls and boys ages 12 – 21
T(T)B(B), young men ages 14 – 24
- 6 **Mixed Youth Choirs**, SA(T)B, girls, boys and young men ages 12 – 24
SA(T)B, boys and young men ages 8 – 24
- 7 **Mixed Chamber Choirs**
- 8 **Mixed Choirs**
- 9 **Female Chamber Choirs**
- 10 **Female Choirs**
- 11 **Male Chamber Choirs**
- 12 **Male Choirs**

Number of choral selections 4

Duration of the program The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment Instrumental accompaniment is permitted for 3 compositions. One piece minimum has to be performed a cappella.

Program Compositions of the choir's own choice.

GENRE-SPECIFIC CATEGORIES**13 – Musica Sacra**

In this category choirs may perform their choice of Christian sacred music.

Number of choral selections 4

Duration of the program The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment Instrumental accompaniment is permitted for all compositions.

Program Compositions of the choir's own choice.

14 – Music of the Religions

This category features music of all different religions, churches and denominations. Programs may include songs and presentation typical of the denomination.

Number of choral selections 4

Duration of the program The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment Instrumental accompaniment is permitted for all compositions. Use of sound recording is not permitted.

Program Compositions of the choir's own choice.

15 – Musica Contemporanea (contemporary music)

This category features contemporary compositions of the 20th and 21st centuries, and the immediate present.

Number of choral selections 4

Duration of the program The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment Instrumental accompaniment is permitted for all compositions. Reductions in orchestration are permitted.

Program Compositions of the choir's own choice by a composer born after 1925. Choral music which in style and content belongs to jazz, musical or pop music is not permitted.

16 – Jazz**Number of choral selections** 4**Duration of the program** The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.**Instrumental accompaniment** All compositions may be accompanied.**Program** The choir's choice of jazz compositions of varying style are encouraged. Improvisations by the vocalists are desirable but not compulsory. Instrumental solos must be kept to a minimum as only the performance of the choir will be evaluated. Accompanists and/or instrumentalists are the responsibility of the choir. The amplification of voices and instruments is permitted.**17 – Gospel****Number of choral selections** 4**Duration of the program** The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.**Instrumental accompaniment** All compositions may be accompanied.**Program** Gospel compositions of the choir's own choice.**18 – Spiritual****Number of choral selections** 4**Duration of the program** The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.**Instrumental accompaniment** All compositions may be accompanied.**Program** Spiritual Compositions of the choir's own choice.

19 – Barbershop

Number of choral selections	4
Duration of the program	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.
Instrumental accompaniment	No accompaniment is permitted.
Amplification	Competition is judged on unamplified sound, however general amplification will be provided for the audience.
Program	Barbershop compositions of the choir's own choice.

20 – Popular Choral Music

Pop, Rock and Light Entertainment selections from the 20th century through the present day will be performed. The style and content must not fit into the jazz, gospel, spiritual, showchoir or folklore categories.

Number of choral selections	4
Duration of the program	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.
Instrumental accompaniment	All compositions may be accompanied.
Program	Popular choral compositions of the choir's own choice.

21 – Folklore

Number of choral selections	No restrictions
Duration of the program	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.
Instrumental accompaniment	Piano accompaniment and traditional instruments are permitted for all compositions.
Program	Folklore of the choir's own choice.

Choreography is permitted. The content of movements and singing should be cohesive. Main emphasis must be put on the vocal part. Instrumental accompaniment may also be sound recording (playback). Amplification of voices and instruments is permitted. The performance in traditional costumes typical of the country is recommended. In case sheet music is not available, a short description of the program must be provided for the jury (in English).

2. Outline of the Categories in The Open Competition

S – Soprano, A – Alto, T – Tenor, B – Bass

Number of category	Name of category	Age limit	Number of singers	Maximum duration of program in minutes (actual singing time)	Number of compositions	Maximum number of compositions with instrumental accompaniment	Category is held in the 1 st or 2 nd part of the World Choir Games	Amplification of voices and instruments is permitted									
1	Children's Choirs, S(S)A(A), girls and boys	6 – 16	–	15	4	3	II	no									
3	Youth Choirs of Equal Voices, S(S)A(A), (girls and boys) T(T)B(B), (young men)	12 – 21 (14 – 24)					I										
6	Mixed Youth Choirs, SA(T)B, (girls and young men) or SA(T)B, (boys and young men 8 – 24)	12 – 24 (8 – 24)					I										
7	Mixed Chamber Choirs	18 and older	max. 30				15		4	3	II	no					
8	Mixed Choirs		min. 31								I						
9	Female Chamber Choirs		max. 25								II						
10	Female Choirs		min. 26								I						
11	Male Chamber Choirs, (CT)T(T)B(B)		max. 25								II						
12	Male Choirs, T(T)B(B)		min. 26								I						
13	Musica Sacra		–								–		15	4	4	I	no
14	Music of the Religions															II	
15	Musica Contemporanea (contemporary music)	II															
16	Jazz	I															
17	Gospel	II		yes*													
18	Spiritual	II															
19	Barbershop	–			II	no											
20	Popular Choral Music	4		I	yes*												
21	Folklore	free		all		I											

* In these categories amplification can be provided according to the amount of singers for a single voice or a group of singers. At any rate, choirs which take part in these categories have to hand in their registration form with clear instructions for the stage indicating the technical requirements of their performance.

3. Competition Rules

1. Participation With exception of the conductor, members must be amateurs, i.e. they must not earn their living by professional singing. A choir may perform with several conductors.

2. Multiple participation All choirs may participate in a maximum of 3 categories including the Individual Coaching. This means that the choir can participate either in 3 competitive categories, or in 2 categories and 1 Individual Coaching. If your choir's maximum number of participation categories cannot be scheduled for organizational reasons, the registration fee will be refunded.

Possibilities of participation

Categories	Details
1 – 12	Choirs may participate in only one of these categories.
13 – 21	Choirs may choose among these categories independent of participation in categories 1 – 12.

3. Singers and conductors Individual choir members may participate in smaller ensembles formed out of their primary choir but may NOT sing in more than one primary choir.
Conductors are permitted to conduct only one choir per category. Conducting in different categories is allowed.

4. Programs in different categories Choirs participating in multiple categories must perform different compositions in each category.

5. Accompaniment Accompaniment means that at least one pitched instrument is used. In categories requiring a cappella selections, a maximum of three instruments without definite pitch may be used (percussion instruments).

6. Original compositions The use of original compositions in The Open Competition is desirable but not mandatory.

7. Original accompaniments Original accompaniments are recommended.
Reductions in orchestration or transcriptions of other instruments that were not scored by the composer are permitted.

8. Scores **Five** scores of every composition must be submitted with the registration forms. Scores submitted must conform to internationally recognized sheet music standards (five lines of notes).
Scores which do not bear the titles, names of composers etc printed in the Roman alphabet must bear a **transcription into the Roman alphabet** (clear handwritten notes suffice).
One score remains with the organizer after the competition. Remaining scores may be collected from the organizer after the awards ceremony. Uncollected scores will not be returned.
No scores have to be submitted for celebration or friendship concerts.

Note Please note that published choral compositions may only be sung using the original scores or authorized copies. The use of unauthorized copies or handwritten copies is not allowed!

All scores must be sent by mail as hardcopy. Scores sent as files (PDF or similar) will not be accepted.

- 9. Use of amplification** In categories 16, 17, 18, 20 and 21 the amplification of voices and instruments is permitted. Basic technical equipment will be provided by the organizer. Each choir must submit technical requirements of their performance with their registration form. If these instructions are not submitted, the organizers will not accept responsibility for the production of such instructions.
- Technically complex requirements (for example the use of headsets or separate microphones for each singer) cannot be guaranteed.

4. Jury and Competition Evaluation

1. A jury consisting of international choral experts evaluate the competition.
2. The decisions of the jury cannot be contested.
3. The World Choir Games – The Open Competition is based on the **MUSICA MUNDI Evaluation System**.
In this competition the performance of every composition will be evaluated according to the following:
 - I) Technical Evaluation
 - a) Intonation
 - b) Sound quality of the choir
 - II) Artistic Evaluation
 - c) Fidelity to the score (in general categories)
Interpretation practice (categories Jazz, Popular choral music and Barbershop)
Authenticity (in folklore categories)
 - d) Overall artistic impression
4. In categories where the number of compositions is determined the jury will evaluate every composition according to criteria a) intonation and c) fidelity to the score or interpretation practice or authenticity. They will evaluate the overall performance according to criteria b) sound quality of the choir and d) overall artistic impression.
5. The jury will decide whether a choir has qualified for a diploma. Choirs receiving no diploma will get a certificate of participation. Choirs that have qualified for a diploma will be given 1 to 30 points.
6. The final result is made up of the average of all given points or by the average of the intermediate results respectively.

		a)	b)	c)	d)
1	Composition 1	25		22	
2	Composition 2	27		26	
3	Composition 3	23		25	
4	Composition 4	26		24	
	Criteria a) and c) = average of 1 – 4 Criteria b) and d) = points given for the overall performances	25.25	26	24.25	24
	Total score	24.88			

In categories for which the number of pieces is not determined, the jury will evaluate only the overall performance according to the above mentioned criteria.

		a)	b)	c)	d)
1	Composition 1	21	22	19	20
2	Composition 2				
3	etc.				
Total score		20.5			

7. In case a choir exceeds the maximum pure singing time of the respective category, their final score will be reduced.
8. Each choir will receive their scoring documents in written.

5. Awards

Diplomas Choirs taking part in the World Choir Games – The Open Competition will be awarded Bronze, Silver and Golden Diplomas at levels I – X according to their score:

MUSICA MUNDI Evaluation System

Diploma	Level									
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X
bronze	0.5 – 1.49	1.5 – 2.49	2.5 – 3.49	3.5 – 4.49	4.5 – 5.49	5.5 – 6.49	6.5 – 7.49	7.5 – 8.49	8.5 – 9.49	9.5 – 10.49
silver	10.5 – 11.49	11.5 – 12.49	12.5 – 13.49	13.5 – 14.49	14.5 – 15.49	15.5 – 16.49	16.5 – 17.49	17.5 – 18.49	18.5 – 19.49	19.5 – 20.49
gold	20.5 – 21.49	21.5 – 22.49	22.5 – 23.49	23.5 – 24.49	24.5 – 25.49	25.5 – 26.49	26.5 – 27.49	27.5 – 28.49	28.5 – 29.49	29.5 – 30.00

Winner Winner of the World Choir Games – The Open Competition is the choir with the highest score above 20.50 points. If the difference between the scores of two choirs is less than 0.1 point the jury will take a vote on the category winner. If no choir has achieved a score above 20.50 points (Gold I), then there will be no category winner in that category.



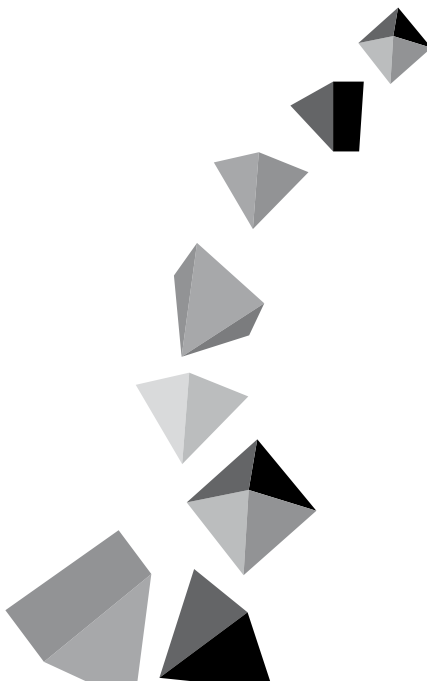
AIII – World Choir Games Qualification Concert

Prior to the opening of the World Choir Games Competitions, amateur choirs who do not have qualification credentials as described in the participant information, will have the opportunity to be evaluated for placement in The Champions Competition or The Open Competition.

Recommended for Any amateur choir seeking on-site qualification placement in The Champions Competition or The Open Competition.

Programming The choirs will perform the same program as in the competition, according to the rules of the Champions Competition. In case a choir wants to participate in different categories the artistic committee will decide about the program of the qualification concert.

Jury Three international music experts will evaluate the performance. The jury's evaluation cannot be contested; diplomas are not presented for qualification placement.





An INTERKULTUR event in partnership with the American Choral Directors Association, presented by Cincinnati USA Convention & Visitors Bureau in collaboration with the City of Cincinnati.

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