



**World  
Choir  
Games**

**AUCKLAND 20  
LAND 24**  
**AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND**



**JULY 10-20, 2024  
AUCKLAND,  
NEW ZEALAND**



AN INTERKULTUR EVENT

**COMPETITION INFORMATION**



# EVENT CALENDAR

		WORLD CHOIR GAMES PART 1				
		July 9, 2024 Tuesday	July 10, 2024 Wednesday	July 11, 2024 Thursday	July 12, 2024 Friday	July 13, 2024 Saturday
OFFICIAL EVENTS	Arrivals					
			Opening Ceremony evening			Awards Ceremony The Open Competition evening
COMPETITIONS, EVALUATIONS & CONCERTS	Official rehearsals					
				Evaluation Performances & Individual Coachings		
				THE OPEN COMPETITION Categories: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 23, 25, 26, 28		
				THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION Categories: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 23, 25, 26, 28		
					Workshops & Seminars	

as of July 2022

	DAY OFF	WORLD CHOIR GAMES PART 2					
July 14, 2024 Sunday	July 15, 2024 Monday	July 16, 2024 Tuesday	July 17, 2024 Wednesday	July 18, 2024 Thursday	July 19, 2024 Friday	July 20, 2024 Saturday	July 21, 2024 Sunday
	Departures, arrivals or extension of stay						Departure or later
Awards Ceremony The Champions Competition morning	Congress of the World Choir Council	Parade of Nations				Awards Ceremony The Champions Competition morning	
	DAY OFF				Awards Ceremony The Open Competition evening	Closing Ceremony evening	
	Official rehearsals						
			Evaluation Performances & Individual Coachings				
			THE OPEN COMPETITION Categories: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 27				
			THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION Categories: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 27				
Celebration Concerts							
Friendship Concerts							
			Workshops & Seminars				



## COMPETITION STRUCTURE

### WORLD CHOIR GAMES – THE OPEN COMPETITION

In the spirit of the World Choir Games, “Participation is the highest honor”. Therefore, any non-professional 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 (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.”

- Recommended for**
- Any non-professional 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
- Admitted by** The Artistic Committee of the World Choir Games
- Jury** A jury of five international music experts will evaluate the World Choir Games – The Open Competition.
- Evaluation system** MUSICA MUNDI evaluation (30 points) system  
Number of points:  
1.00 – 10.49 Bronze Diplomas levels 1-10  
10.50 – 20.49 Silver Diplomas levels 1-10  
20.50 – 30.00 Golden Diplomas levels 1-10
- Awards** The choir scoring the highest overall number of points per category with a gold diploma in each category will be awarded the title “**Winner of the World Choir Games – The Open Competition**”.



## WORLD CHOIR GAMES – THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION

Choirs competing in The Champions Competition are by the decision of the Artistic Committee.

Non-professional choirs can register, 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”.

<b>Recommended for</b>	Choirs with national and/or international competitive experience and a proven level of achievement or proof of comparable artistic level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Choirs that are listed in the top 500 of the MUSICA MUNDI World Ranking List (List available at Interkultur.com)</li><li>• Choirs that have been awarded a Gold Medal at the World Choir Games since 2018</li><li>• Choirs that have been awarded a Golden Diploma at the MUSICA MUNDI choir competitions since 2018</li><li>• Choirs that have received a recommendation diploma for The Champions Competition in a previous INTERKULTUR event since 2018</li><li>• Choirs that have received the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> prize in national or international choir competitions, or an evaluation comparable to the Gold Diploma of the INTERKULTUR choir competitions since 2018 (The competition must be recognized by the Artistic Committee and a copy of the certificate must be submitted with the registration.)</li><li>• 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.)</li><li>• Choirs that have been delegated by a member of the World Choir Council</li></ul>
<b>Admitted by</b>	The Artistic Committee of the World Choir Games
<b>Jury</b>	A jury of seven international music experts will evaluate The Champions Competition.
<b>Evaluation system</b>	The Champions Competition is evaluated on a 100 point system. Number of points: 40.00 – 60.00 Bronze medal                      60.01 – 80.00 Silver medal                      80.01– 100.00 Gold medal
<b>Champion of the World Choir Games</b>	The choir receiving the Gold Medal with the most points will be awarded the title “ <b>Champion of the World Choir Games</b> ”.

# THE CATEGORIES

## GENERAL CATEGORIES (1-14)



### Basic Information

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

- A program should reflect the choral 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 to 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 1-14

- 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 boys ages, 10-16
- 3 **Secondary School Choirs** mixed S(A)TB and equal voices S(S)A(A) or T(T) B(B), ages 12-18
- 4 **Youth Choirs** mixed S(A)TB and equal voices S(S)A(A) or T(T) B(B), ages 12-25
- 5 **University and College Choirs** (mixed and equal voices), ages 18-30
- 6 **Vocal Ensembles** (mixed and equal voices)
- 7 **Mixed Chamber Choirs**
- 8 **Mixed Choirs**
- 9 **Female Chamber Choirs**
- 10 **Female Choirs**
- 11 **Male Chamber Choirs**
- 12 **Male Choirs**
- 13 **Mixed Senior Choirs (55+)**
- 14 **Senior Choirs of equal voices (55+)**

## ARTISTIC REQUIREMENTS FOR CATEGORIES 1 – 14\*

	THE OPEN COMPETITION	THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION
<b>Program must consist of</b>	4 compositions of the choir's choice.	<p>In these categories compositions of a varied nature should be performed. Also, a choir should not perform 4 pieces that belong to the same thematic category, e.g. 4 compositions with sacred content.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) one composition by a composer from the country, language area or cultural environment of the participating choir</li> <li>2) one composition by a composer who does not come from the country, language area or cultural environment of the participating choir</li> <li>3) one composition by a living composer (at the time of registration) - for choirs participating in categories 3-14: only original compositions are permitted.</li> <li>4) one composition of the choir's choice</li> </ol>
<b>Number of pieces</b>	4	4
<b>Duration of the program</b>	The minimum actual singing time should be at least 8 minutes and must not exceed 15 minutes.	The minimum actual singing time should be at least 12 minutes and must not exceed 20 minutes.
<b>Instrumental accompaniment</b>	<p>Three compositions may be performed with instrumental accompaniment.</p> <p>At least one piece has to be performed a cappella.</p>	<p><b>Categories 1-5:</b> 2 pieces may be performed with original accompaniment.</p> <p><b>Categories 6-14:</b> 1 piece may be performed with original accompaniment.</p>
<b>Part of event</b>	<p><b>Part I (July 10-14):</b> categories 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14</p> <p><b>Part II (July 16-20):</b> categories 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13</p>	

\* Depending on the number of registrations the Artistic Committee reserves the right to split the categories 3, 4, 5 and 6 up into mixed and equal voices.



# THE CATEGORIES

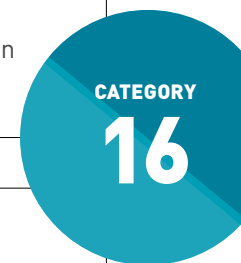
## THEMATIC CATEGORIES (15-28)

### CATEGORY 15 – SACRED CHORAL MUSIC A CAPPELLA

	THE OPEN COMPETITION	THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION
<b>Program must consist of</b>	Compositions of sacred music of the choir's choice.	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 choice Only original compositions are permitted.
<b>Number of pieces</b>	4	4
<b>Duration of the program</b>	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 20 minutes.
<b>Instrumental accompaniment</b>	Instrumental accompaniment is not permitted.	
<b>Part of event</b>	Part I (July 10-14)	

### CATEGORY 16 – SACRED CHORAL MUSIC WITH ACCOMPANIMENT

	THE OPEN COMPETITION	THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION
<b>Program must consist of</b>	Compositions of sacred music of the choir's choice.	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 choice Only original compositions are permitted.
<b>Number of pieces</b>	4	4
<b>Duration of the program</b>	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 20 minutes.
<b>Instrumental accompaniment</b>	Minimum one piece has to be accompanied.	Minimum 1 and maximum 3 pieces have to be performed with accompaniment (tuned instruments).
<b>Part of event</b>	Part II (July 16-20)	





## CATEGORY 17 – MUSIC OF SPIRIT AND FAITH

	THE OPEN COMPETITION	THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION
<b>Program must consist of</b>	This category welcomes music of all religions, churches and denominations, as well as general songs of spirit and faith that are not affiliated with a religion, church or denomination. Choral music that in style and content belongs to Sacred Music, Gospel, or Spiritual is not permitted in this category.	
<b>Number of pieces</b>	Compositions of the choir's choice	
<b>Duration of the program</b>	unlimited	
<b>Instrumental accompaniment</b>	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.	
<b>Part of event</b>	All pieces may be accompanied.	
	<b>Part I (July 10-14)</b>	



# THE CATEGORIES

## THEMATIC CATEGORIES (15-28)

### CATEGORY 18 – CONTEMPORARY MUSIC - EQUAL VOICES

### CATEGORY 19 – CONTEMPORARY MUSIC - MIXED VOICES

Program must consist of



Number of pieces

Duration of the program

Instrumental accompaniment

Part of event

	THE OPEN COMPETITION	THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION
	This category features contemporary compositions of the 20 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> century and the immediate present.	
	<p>Compositions of the choir's choice by composers born after 1925.</p> <p>Only original compositions are permitted. Choral music that in style and content belongs to jazz, musical theatre or pop music is not permitted in this category.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) One première performance composition. (A declaration explaining that the piece is dedicated to or will be performed for the first time at the World Choir Games Auckland must be attached to the registration forms.)</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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</li> <li>4) One composition of the choir's choice by a composer born 1950 or later.</li> </ol> <p>Only original compositions are permitted. Choral music that in style and content belongs to jazz, musical theatre or pop music is not permitted in this category.</p>
	4	4
	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 20 minutes.
	Instrumental accompaniment is permitted for all compositions. Reductions in orchestration are permitted.	A maximum of two compositions may be performed with original instrumental accompaniment.
	<b>Category 18: Part I (July 10-14)</b> <b>Category 19: Part II (July 16-20)</b>	

## BASIC INFORMATION FOR CATEGORIES 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 28



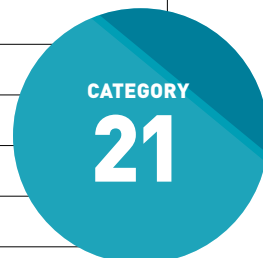
Instrumental accompaniments including electronic instruments with their own amplification are permitted. The amplification of voices and instruments is permitted. Equipment suited to the respective venues will be made available on-site. All forms of full playback are prohibited but the instrumental accompaniments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

### CATEGORY 20 – JAZZ

	THE OPEN COMPETITION	THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION
<b>Program must consist of</b>	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.	
<b>Number of pieces</b>	4	
<b>Duration of the program</b>	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 20 minutes.	
<b>Instrumental accompaniment</b>	All compositions may be accompanied.	
<b>Part of event</b>	Part II (July 16-20)	

### CATEGORY 21 – GOSPEL

	THE OPEN COMPETITION	THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION
<b>Program must consist of</b>	The choir's choice of Gospel compositions. In this category all styles of Gospel (African Gospel, Black Gospel, etc.) may be performed and in case sheet music is not available, a short description of the program or the lyrics must be provided for the jury in English.	
<b>Number of pieces</b>	unlimited	
<b>Duration of the program</b>	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.	
<b>Instrumental accompaniment</b>	All compositions may be accompanied.	
<b>Part of event</b>	Part II (July 16-20)	



# THE CATEGORIES

## CATEGORY 22 – SPIRITUAL

	THE OPEN COMPETITION	THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION
<b>Program must consist of</b>	The choir's choice of Spirituals. Spirituals are religious compositions, originally transmitted orally, that have been transcribed and arranged primarily for a cappella choral singing. This category is commonly interpreted as the African-American Spiritual derived from slave songs and hymns.	
<b>Number of pieces</b>	4	
<b>Duration of the program</b>	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.	
<b>Instrumental accompaniment</b>	Instrumental accompaniment is not permitted.	
<b>Part of event</b>	Part II (July 16-20)	



## CATEGORY 23 – POP ENSEMBLES

## CATEGORY 24 – POP CHOIRS

	THE OPEN COMPETITION	THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION
	Pop, Rock, Barbershop and Light Entertainment selections from the 20 <sup>th</sup> century through the present day will be performed. The style and content must not fit into the jazz, gospel, spiritual or folklore categories. 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. Choreographic elements may be integrated into performances but only the singing and playing will be evaluated by the international jury.	
Number of singers	<b>Category 23:</b> min. 4; max. 36 <b>Category 24:</b> min. 37	
Program must consist of	Popular choral compositions of the choir's choice.	
Number of pieces	4	
Duration of the program	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 20 minutes.	
Instrumental accompaniment	A minimum of one composition has to be performed a cappella.	
Part of event	<b>Category 23: Part I (July 10-14)</b> <b>Category 24: Part II (July 16-20)</b>	



Depending on the number of registrations the Artistic Committee reserves the right to split category 23 up into:  
 1) **Small Ensembles up to 16 singers** & 2) **Bigger Ensembles from 17-36 singers**



## CATEGORY 25 – POP WITH CHOREOGRAPHY

	THE OPEN COMPETITION	THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION
	Pop, Rock, Barbershop and Light Entertainment selections from the 20 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> century through the present day will be performed. The style and content must not fit into the jazz, gospel, spiritual or folklore categories.	
Program must consist of	Popular choral compositions of the choir's choice. The jury will evaluate the music as well as the scenic performance and/or choreography. The content of movements and singing should be cohesive.	
Number of pieces	unlimited	
Duration of the program	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.	
Instrumental accompaniment	All compositions may be accompanied.	
Part of event	<b>Part I (July 10-14)</b>	

# THE CATEGORIES

## BASIC INFORMATION FOR CATEGORIES 26-28



In these categories choirs should interpret the folk and indigenous songs of their native country or their 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.

### CATEGORY 26 – FOLKLORE AND INDIGENOUS MUSIC A CAPPELLA

**Program must consist of**

**Number of pieces**

**Duration of the program**

**Instrumental accompaniment**

**Part of event**

	THE OPEN COMPETITION	THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION
	In this category, melodies must be used that already exist and belong to the folk and indigenous songs of the country or an ethnic group. These may be performed in different ways - original or in various arrangements. New compositions without such reference, even those written in the folkloric style of the country, may not be performed in these categories. Original performance interpretations are welcome. 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 or if the performed music is not in the English language, a short description of the program must be provided for the jury in English.	
	unlimited	
	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.	
	Instrumental accompaniment with tuned instruments is not permitted.	
	Part I (July 10-14)	



**CATEGORY 27 – FOLKLORE AND INDIGENOUS MUSIC WITH ACCOMPANIMENT**

**Program must consist of**

**Number of pieces**

**Duration of the program**

**Instrumental accompaniment**

**Part of event**

	THE OPEN COMPETITION	THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION
	<p>In this category, melodies must be used that already exist and belong to the folk and indigenous songs of the country or an ethnic group. These may be performed in different ways - original or in various arrangements. New compositions without such reference, even those written in the folkloric style of the country, may not be performed in these categories. Original performance interpretations are welcome. 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 or if the performed music is not in the English language, a short description of the program must be provided for the jury in English.</p>	
	unlimited	
	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.	
	The majority of the pieces has to be performed with original, country-specific instrumental accompaniment with tuned instruments. Not tuned, sound producing instruments (e.g. percussion) may also be used, but not exclusively.	
	Part II (July 16-20)	

# THE CATEGORIES



## CATEGORY 28 – FOLKLORE AND INDIGENOUS MUSIC WITH CHOREOGRAPHY

**Program must consist of**

**Number of pieces**

**Duration of the program**

**Instrumental accompaniment**

**Part of event**

	THE OPEN COMPETITION	THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION
	Folklore music/folk and indigenous songs of the choir’s choice with choreography. In this category melodies must be used that already exist and belong to the folk and indigenous songs of the country or an ethnic group. These may be performed in different ways - original or in various arrangements. New compositions without such reference, even those written in the folkloric style of the country, may not be performed in these categories. The content of movements and singing should be cohesive. The jury will evaluate the musical as well as the choreography. 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 or if the performed music is not in the English language, a short description of the program must be provided for the jury in English.	
	unlimited	
	The maximum actual singing time must not exceed 15 minutes.	
	Any kind of accompaniment and traditional instruments are permitted.	
	Part I (July 10-14)	





# CATEGORY OVERVIEW

## PART I (JULY 10-14) / PART II (JULY 16-20)

Category	Category Name	Age limit	Number of singers	Maximum Singing Time (minutes)		Number of compositions		Max. number of pieces with accompaniment		Amplification permitted	PART OF WCG
				OC	CC	OC	CC	OC	CC		
<b>GENERAL CATEGORIES</b>											
1	Young Children's Choirs, S(S)A(A), girls and boys	6-12	unlimited	15	20	4	4	3	2	no	II
2	Children's Choirs, S(S)A(A), girls and boys	10-16									I
3	Secondary School Choirs, (mixed and equal voices)	12-18									II
4	Youth Choirs, (mixed and equal voices)	12-25									I
5	University and College Choirs	18-30									II
6	Vocal Ensembles (mixed and equal voices)	18+	min. 4 / max. 12						1		I
7	Mixed Chamber Choirs		min. 13 / max. 36								II
8	Mixed Choirs		min. 37								I
9	Female Chamber Choirs		min. 13 / max. 30								II
10	Female Choirs		min. 31								I
11	Male Chamber Choirs		min. 13 / max. 30								II
12	Male Choirs		min. 31								I
13	Mixed Senior Choirs		55+								unlimited
14	Senior Choirs of equal voices	I									



Category	Category Name	Age limit	Number of singers	Maximum Singing Time (minutes)		Number of compositions		Max. number of pieces with accompaniment		Amplification permitted	PART OF WCG					
				OC	CC	OC	CC	OC	CC							
<b>THEMATIC CATEGORIES</b>																
15	Sacred Choral Music a cappella	-	unlimited	15	20	4	4	-	-	no	I					
16	Sacred Choral Music with accompaniment							4	3		II					
17	Music of Spirit and Faith							15	un-limited		un-limited	all	I			
18	Contemporary Music equal voices							20	4		4	all	2	I		
19	Contemporary Music mixed voices												II			
20	Jazz							15	un-limited		un-limited	all	all	II		
21	Gospel												yes	II		
22	Spiritual							-	-		no	II				
23	Pop Ensembles							min. 4 / max. 36	20		4	4	3	3	yes	I
24	Pop Choirs							min. 37								II
25	Pop with choreography							unlimited	15		un-limited	un-limited	all	all	no	I
26	Folklore and Indigenous Music a cappella												-	-		I
27	Folklore and Indigenous Music with accompaniment												all	all		II
28	Folklore and Indigenous Music with choreography												yes	I		

# COMPETITION RULES

## 1. General Rules

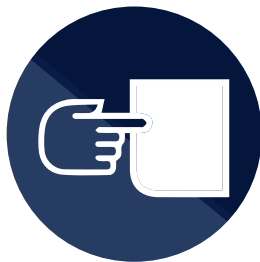
- a) All non-professional choirs are welcome to compete in this event. With the exception of the conductors, their members must all be amateurs, i.e. they are not allowed to earn their livelihood by professional singing.
- b) In categories with age limits, a maximum of 20% of the members may exceed or fall below the age limit by 5 years. The organizers reserve the right to check the ages of the singers.
- c) The order of performances within a category is scheduled at random.

## 2. Multiple Participation

Per part of the event choirs and conductors may enter in a maximum of two activities. This applies also to conductors who participate as a singer with another choir. The organizers will make every effort to schedule all activities. If it is impossible to accommodate all categories due to scheduling reasons, the fees for those unscheduled activities will be refunded.

### a) Possibilities of participation

Category	Detail
1-14	Choirs may participate in only one of these categories.
15-28	Choirs may choose from these categories independent of participation in categories 1-14.



- b) INDIVIDUAL CHOIR MEMBERS may participate in smaller ensembles formed out of their primary choir but may NOT sing in more than one primary choir (e.g. a singer may not perform in two or more independent mixed choirs).
- c) CONDUCTORS are permitted to conduct only one choir per category, however conducting in different categories is allowed. A choir may also perform with several conductors.
- d) Choirs participating in multiple categories have to register all categories on the same level (The Open Competition OR The Champions Competition).

- 3. Music**
- a) The Artistic Committee decides on the admission of the program to the competition. The approval of the Artistic Committee is usually not given when it comes to opera choirs or when the character of the composition conflicts with a choral interpretation (such as “Nabucco - Prisoners’ Choir” by Giuseppe Verdi edited for children’s voices, “Träumerei” by Robert Schumann edited for choir). In addition, none of the programs may include topics such as war or glorification of violence and may not be against other nations and nationalities.
  - b) In The Champions Competition only ORIGINAL ACCOMPANIMENTS are permitted, which means that any reductions in orchestration or transcriptions of other instruments that were not planned by the composer and do not have an accepted performance tradition are excluded from the competition.
  - c) ACCOMPANIMENT means that at least one tuned instrument is used. In categories requiring a cappella selections, only not tuned instruments may be used (percussion instruments).
  - d) 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 scoring that correspond with the original musical material. The arrangement of a composition is permitted if it has led to a new composition. The Artistic Committee reserves the right to reject compositions.
  - e) ARRANGEMENTS: If you intend to change a song in any way and/or rearrange it for your choir, you will need permission from the song’s copyright owner. Bear in mind that if you do not obtain permission you risk exposing yourself to legal action.
  - f) USE OF AMPLIFICATION: In cases where the amplification of voices and instruments is permitted, basic technical equipment and backline 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, such as the provision of solo mics or headsets for the whole choir cannot be guaranteed. In the Pop Choirs category, only general choir amplification and a limited number of solo mics will be provided.
  - g) CHANGES OF KEY: The jury must be informed in writing if a choir wishes to change the key from what is written in the printed score prior to the competition.
  - h) After APPROVAL OF PROPOSED PROGRAM by the Artistic Committee, 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. Choirs are responsible for possible performing rights of their program.
  - i) ACTUAL SINGING TIME: Actual singing time is the duration of the performance time only. It excludes entrance, exit, and applause.

# COMPETITION RULES

- j) PROGRAMS IN MULTIPLE CATEGORIES: Choirs may NOT sing the same pieces in different categories. Separate repertoire pages should be filled out for each category of competition for registration.
- k) Some categories require a composition which does not originate in the COUNTRY, REGIONAL LANGUAGE OR CULTURAL GROUP of the participating choir.  
Examples of compliance:
  - Choirs from English-speaking countries should choose compositions written in a different language.
  - A choir from a Baltic Country (Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia) should not sing a composition from another Baltic country even if the two countries naturally have different cultures and languages.
  - 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 choir from Latin and South America should select a piece that does not come from the same region.
- l) The World Choir Games follow the ideas and goals of the Olympic ideal. None of the programs listed may include war or glorify violence or content directed against other nations and nationalities. Moreover, the World Choir Games are politically non-party and neutral. Any statement by words or actions which could include political conflict potential is prohibited. At the official events of the World Choir Games (e.g. competitions, Awards Ceremonies, Parade of Nations) only flags and anthems of those states that are officially recognized by the United Nations are permitted.

## 4. Sheet Music

- a) For The Open Competition five scores and for The Champions Competition seven scores of every composition must be submitted with the registration forms.
- b) Scores submitted must conform to internationally recognized sheet music standards (five lines of notes).
- c) 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).
- d) 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.
- e) No scores have to be submitted for Celebration or Friendship Concerts.
- f) Please note that published choral compositions may only be sung using the original scores or authorized copies. Copying sheet music either by photocopier, scanner or by hand without the permission of the copyright owner is a copyright law violation and can be fined. All scores must be sent by mail as hardcopy. Scores sent as files (PDF or similar) will not be accepted.

# THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION



## JURY AND COMPETITION EVALUATION

1. A jury consisting of seven international music experts evaluates the competition.
2. The decisions of the jury cannot be contested.
3. The evaluation of the competition is based on the 100 points Evaluation System of the World Choir Games. In the competition the performance program will be evaluated according to the following:
  - I) Technical Evaluation
    - a) Intonation
    - b) Sound quality of the choir
  - II) Artistic Evaluation
    - c1) Fidelity to the score (in general categories)
    - c2) Interpretation practice (in Jazz, Pop, Music of Spirit and Faith categories)
    - c3) Authenticity (in Folklore and Indigenous, Gospel and Spiritual 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 final scores of 5 of the 7 adjudicators. The lowest and highest figure will be disregarded.



## THE CHAMPIONS COMPETITION

Example of a score sheet:

		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	8.25	8	8.5	9
	Intermediate result of technical and artistic evaluation (average of column 1. and 2. as well as 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	<b>18,01</b>	16,21	<b>14,01</b>	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 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. In case of non-observance of the age limit the choir could lose points of the overall result or may even be disqualified.
8. Choirs will receive a written copy of their adjudication scores.





## AWARDS

**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

**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. If no choir has achieved a score above 80.01 points (Gold Medal), there will be no Champion.

# THE OPEN COMPETITION

## JURY AND COMPETITION EVALUATION

1. A jury consisting of five international music experts evaluates the competition.
2. The decisions of the jury cannot be contested.
3. The evaluation of the competition is based on the Musica Mundi (30 points) Evaluation System. In the competition the performance program will be evaluated according to the following:
  - I) Technical Evaluation
    - a) Intonation
    - b) Sound quality of the choir
  - II) Artistic Evaluation
    - c1) Fidelity to the score (in general categories)
    - c2) Interpretation practice (in Jazz, Pop, Music of Spirit and Faith categories)
    - c3) Authenticity (in Folklore and Indigenous, Gospel and Spiritual 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 up 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.  
Example:

		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		20.50			

7. In case a choir exceeds the maximum pure singing time of the respective category, their final score will be reduced.
8. In case of non-observance of the age limit the choir could lose points of the overall result or may even be disqualified.
9. Choirs will receive a written copy of their adjudication scores.

# THE OPEN COMPETITION

## 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	1.00–1.49	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), there will be no category winner.




**World Choir Games 2024  
Auckland, New Zealand**

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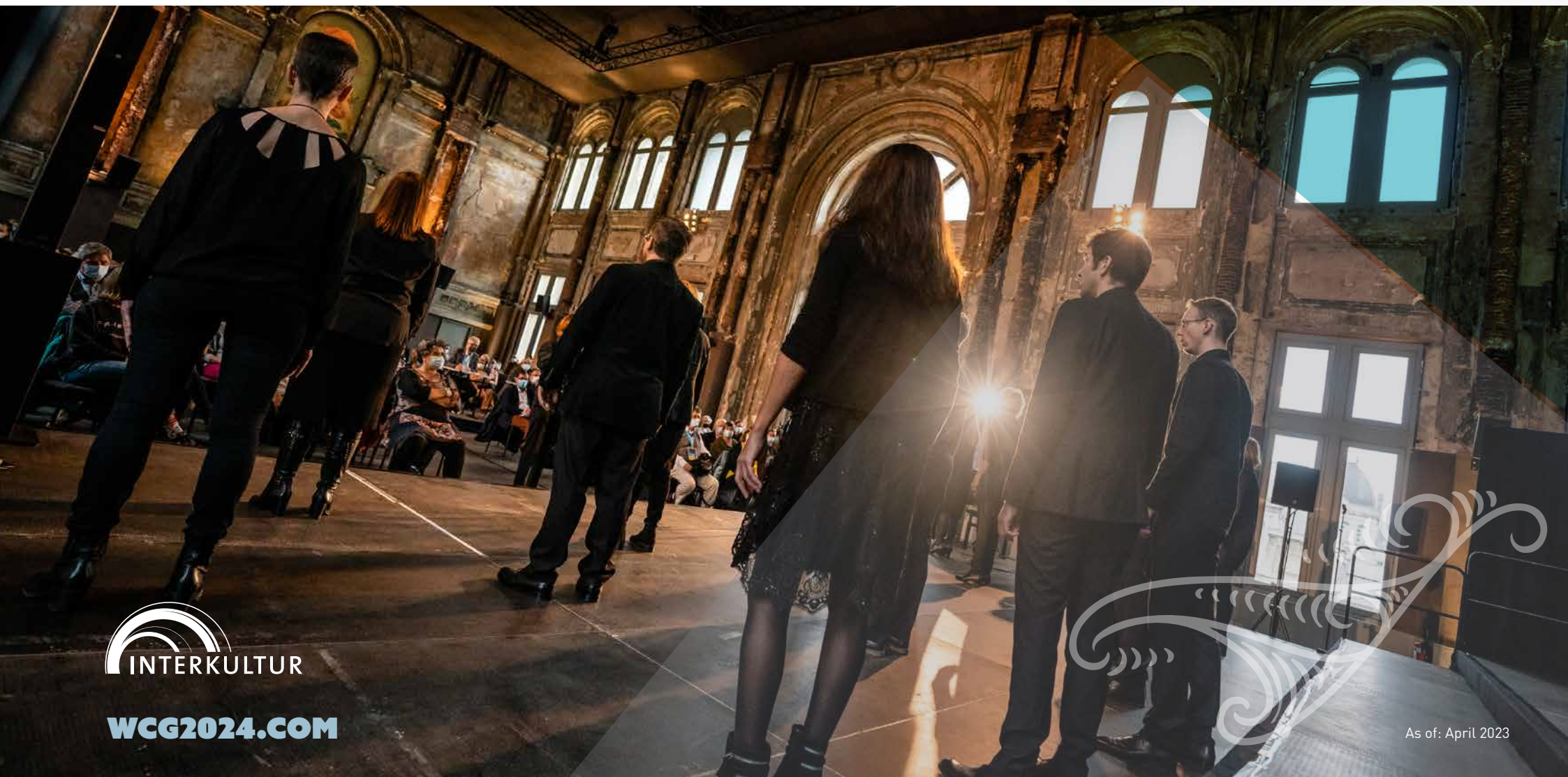
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