



Participant Information

Magdeburg, Germany
July 5 – 12, 2015



**2nd EUROPEAN CHOIR GAMES
GRAND PRIX OF NATIONS**





Organizer

Patronage

Reiner Haseloff
Premier of the State of Saxony-Anhalt

Organizer

Förderverein Interkultur e.V.

supported by

the Landeshauptstadt Magdeburg (State Capital Magdeburg)
the Land Sachsen-Anhalt (State of Saxony-Anhalt)

In cooperation with

Chorverband Sachsen-Anhalt e.V.

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Cordial Invitation

Dear choristers from Europe and all over the world!



Günter Titsch
Präsident INTERKULTUR

INTERKULTUR cordially invites you to participate once again in a great festival of choral music. MAGDEBURG, the capital of Saxony-Anhalt and flourishing major city in the centre of Germany welcomes you from July 05-12, 2014 as the host of the 2nd European Choir Games and „Grand Prix of Nations“ which will be held for the first time.

The European Choir Games are the European version of the World Choir Games, which are also known as „Choir Olympics“. Just like this event, the world's largest choir competition which will celebrate an outstanding success in Riga, the European Capital of Culture 2014, the European Choir Games will continue the peaceful encounters of choirs of all nations and bestow unforgettable and emotional experiences to the participants from all over the world.

As customary at our INTERKULTUR activities the event offers a comprehensive and diversified range of choices for all artistic levels and all kinds of choirs and combines these possibilities with the choirs' manifold needs and desires. Thus choirs can choose among different levels of difficulties, categories and casts. They can participate in pedagogical events as well as in numerous festival events, concerts and joint singing even without participating in the competition.

The event benefits from more than 25 years of experience that we have gathered continuously in organising more than 150 international events and which you can rely on. This is represented by our INTERKULTUR quality seal and our highly professional staff which are dedicated to serve the choirs' well-being.

The event will feature competitions which are especially announced for European participants. At the same time we welcome choirs from all over the world compete at the Grand Prix of Nations and sing for the coveted trophies that also include a financial bonus.

Magdeburg is a city which looks back on a historically eventful past. In medieval times the city was the origin of the Christianization of the Slavs. Otto I., first emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, resided here. Later on, the Hanseatic municipality gained huge importance and became one of the biggest German towns and a centre of the reformation. During the Thirty Years' War and the 2nd World War Magdeburg was completely destroyed. Well-known citizens are the so-called „Galilei of Germany“ Otto von Guericke, as well as the Baroque music composer Georg Philipp Telemann. The city features outstanding concert halls in churches and the monastery „Unser Lieben Frauen“, which will also become the main competition venue of the European Choir Games.

We cordially invite you to join us and be welcome in Magdeburg.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Günter Titsch'.

Günter Titsch
Präsident INTERKULTUR

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Trümper'.

Dr. Lutz Trümper
Mayor
Regional Capital Magdeburg

Basic Structure of the 2nd European Choir Games & the Grand Prix of Nations

I. OPEN COMPETITION

Who can participate?

- Choirs from all countries (worldwide) without admission

Categories:

- O1 Children's Choirs
- O2 Youth Choirs of Equal Voices
- O3 Mixed Youth Choirs
- O4 Chamber Choirs/Vocal Ensembles
- O5 Mixed, Male and Female Choirs
- O6 Musica Sacra
- O7 Musica Contemporanea
- O8 Jazz and Pop
- O9 Gospel and Spiritual
- O10 Folklore

What awards are there?

Winner of the Open Competition

in each category

- bronze, silver and golden diplomas, levels 1 – 10
- points according to the Musica Mundi evaluation system (30 points)

II. CHAMPIONS COMPETITION

Who can participate?

- European choirs with a delegation of qualification from an INTERKULTUR event or an equivalent international event
- European choirs that have been selected by the artistic committee
- qualified choirs from the Open Competition (AI)

Categories:

- C1 Children's Choirs
- C2 Youth Choirs of Equal Voices
- C3 Mixed Youth Choirs
- C4 Chamber Choirs/Vocal Ensembles
- C5 Mixed, Male and Female Choirs
- C6 Musica Sacra
- C7 Musica Contemporanea
- C8 Jazz and Pop
- C9 Gospel and Spiritual
- C10 Folklore

What awards are there?

European Champion

in each category

- bronze, silver and gold medals
- points according to the international 100 point evaluation system of INTERKULTUR

III. GRAND PRIX OF NATIONS

Who can participate?

- choirs from all countries (worldwide) with a delegation of qualification from an INTERKULTUR event or an equivalent international event
- Choirs worldwide that have been selected by the artistic committee
- qualified choirs from the Champions Competition (AII)
- qualified choirs from the "Open Competition" (AI)
- choirs, that have received 23 / 85 or more points at an IK event or that have achieved at least 850 points in the Musica Mundi World Ranking list

Categories:

- GP1 Children's Choirs
- GP2 Youth Choirs
- GP3 Chamber Choirs/Vocal Ensembles
- GP4 Mixed, Male and Female Choirs
- GP5 Jazz-Pop-Gospel-Spiritual
- GP6 Folklore

What awards are there?

Winner of the Grand Prix of Nations

in each category

- bronze, silver and gold medals according to the international 100 point evaluation system of INTERKULTUR
- price money of 2.500,- € per category for each Winner of the Grand Prix of Nations

How can you qualify within the competitions?

- It will be possible to qualify for the Grand Prix of Nations (AIII) from the Open Competition (AI) as well as from the Champions Competition (AII)
- European choirs with golden diploma in the Open Competition (AI) already decide with their registration, whether they want to compete in the Champions Competition (AII) or the Grand Prix of Nations (AIII). It is also possible to qualify from the Open Competition on the Champions Competition in the Grand Prix of Nations.
- Non-European choirs with a golden diploma and at least 23,00 points in the Open Competition will qualify automatically for the Grand Prix of Nations.

from the **Open Competition (AI)** → to the **Champions Competition (AII)**

from the **Open Competition (AI)** → to the **Grand Prix of Nations (AIII)**

from the **Champions Competition (AII)** → to the **Grand Prix of Nations (AIII)**

for European Choirs with a golden diploma in the Open Competition

for all choirs with a golden diploma with at least 23,00 points in the Open Competition

for choirs with a gold medal and with at least 85,00 points in the Champions Competition

Event Calendar

2nd European Choir Games & Grand Prix of Nations 2015

	July 5 Sunday	July 6 Monday	July 7 Tuesday	July 8 Wednesday	
	Arrivals				
Official events	Opening Concert				
Competitions		Children’s Choirs (Category 1)			
		A1 Open Competition A2 Champions Competition A3 Grand Prix			
			Youth Choirs (Category 2)		
			A1 Open Competition A2 Champions Competition		
			Folklore (Category 3)		
			A1 Open Competition A2 Champions Competition		
		Musica Sacra* (Category 6)			
		A1 Open Competition A2 Champions Competition			
				Musica Contemporanea (Category 7)	
				A1 Open Competition A2 Champions Competition	
		Jazz & Pop** (Category 8)			
		A1 Open Competition A2 Champions Competition A3 Grand Prix			
			Chamber Choirs (Category 4)		
			A1 Open Competition A2 Champions Competition		
				Mixed, Vocal & Instrumental (Category 5)	
				A1 Open Competition	
			Gospel & Spiritual (Category 9)		
			A1 Open Competition A2 Champions Competition		
	Sing’n’Joy	Celebration Concerts, Singing Together & Friendly Performances			
			Workshops, Evaluation Performances and Individual Meetings		
	Sightseeing opportunities Germany				

* Qualified choirs (Golden Diploma or Gold Medal) sind the Grand Prix competition categories according to their line-up.

** combined Grand Prix competition Pop, Jazz, Gospel, Spiritual

*** From July 15-19 the 9th International Johannes Brahms Choir Competition will take place in Wernigerode (80km from Magdeburg). INTERKULTUR organizes concerts and sightseeing opportunities so that both events can be combined easily.

July 5 – 12, 2015 · Magdeburg, Germany

July 9 Thursday	July 10 Friday	July 11 Saturday	July 12 Sunday	
			Departure	
		Closing Ceremony, Closing Event Champions- and Grand Prix-Concert		Official events
Award Ceremony Champions and Open	Award Ceremony Champions and Open	Award Ceremony Grand Prix		
		Parade of the choirs		
				Competitions
and Prix				
Category 2 and 3)				
Champions Competition A3 Grand Prix				
Category 10)				
Champions Competition A3 Grand Prix				
Grand Prix* (Category 7)				
A2 Champions Competition				
and Prix				
ion A3 Grand Prix				
Male and Female Choirs (Category 5)				
A2 Champions Competition A3 Grand Prix				
ion A3 Grand Prix				
Friendship Concerts in and around Magdeburg				Sing'n'Joy
Individual Coachings with international Conductors			Closing Concerts Wernigerode***	
sing-along concerts Sing'n'Joy				
Sightseeing opportunities Germany				

Subject to change!

July 5 – 12, 2015, Magdeburg, Germany

SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2015 – OPENING DAY

Welcome The European Choir Games will start with a festive welcoming event in the evening.

MONDAY, JULY 6 – SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2015

Competition Performances In three different competitions with 10 or 6 categories choirs from Europe and all over the world will give their best and sing for diplomas, medals and the Grand Prix of Nations.
There are excellent concert halls of Magdeburg as competition venues available, such as St John's Church and the concert hall in the monastery "Unser Lieben Frauen".

Workshops, Evaluation Performances and Individual Coachings During the days of the event there will be many opportunities to participate in evaluation activities, ranging from workshops to direct evaluations of choirs by international choral experts and Individual Coachings with a choral expert. These opportunities to gain immediate experience and to use this for the further development of the choirs, enjoy an extraordinary popularity within the INTERKULTUR events.

MONDAY, JULY 6 – SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2015

Friendship Concerts & Singing Together For a whole week choirs of different nations will sing in squares and concert venues in Magdeburg and at selected concert venues in Saxony-Anhalt - in the popular friendship concerts, they can show off their skills in front of the Magdeburg and international audience. In addition to concerts internationally renowned choir directors invite you to sing together: All choirs as well as the Magdeburg audience are welcome!

Magdeburg sings Saxony-Anhalt sings Throughout the week there will be many concerts in Magdeburg and in the different communities of the area - in churches, concert halls and squares. The international choirs are invited to give samples of their skills to the best, to sing in the hearts of the people and to discover the beauties of Saxony-Anhalt. At the suggestion of the artistic committee choirs may be invited to perform in celebration concerts.

THURSDAY, JULY 9 – SATURDAY JULY 11, 2015

Awards Ceremonies On these days, the emotional highlights, the highly anticipated awards ceremonies will take place.

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2015

Parade of the choirs In a colorful procession the participating choirs will take leave from the city of Magdeburg after and an eventful week.

Awards Ceremony Grand Prix During the closing ceremony the winners of the Grand Prix of Nations will receive their award and
Closing Concert with a concert of the most successful choirs the second European Choir Games find their festive conclusion.

Participation opportunities

- Competitive participation**
- Participation in one or more categories in the Open Competition, Champions Competition or the Grand Prix of Nations
 - Participation in the official events
 - Participation in friendship concerts in and around Magdeburg
 - For selected choirs opportunity to participate in celebrations concerts
 - Participation in workshops
 - Participation in evaluation activities: Individual Coaching

- Non-competitive participation**
- Participation in the official events
 - Participation in friendship concerts in and around Magdeburg
 - For selected choirs opportunity to participate in celebration concerts
 - Participation in workshops
 - Participation in evaluation activities: Individual Coaching, Evaluation Performances



General Competition Rules

European Choir Games & Grand Prix of Nations

Participation All non-professional choirs are welcome to compete in this event. This means that no choir member except for the conductor may earn his living by professional singing. A choir may perform with several conductors.

Multiple Participation You may enter a maximum of 3 activities (competition categories and / or evaluation activities).

Participation opportunities

Open Competition & Champions Competition

Category	Remarks
1 – 6	Choirs may participate in only one of these categories.
7 – 10	Choirs may choose from these categories independent of participation in categories 7 – 10.

Grand Prix of Nations

Category	Remarks
1 – 4	Choirs may participate in only one of these categories.
5 – 6	Choirs may choose from these categories independent of participation in categories 1 – 4.

Individual choir members & 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, however conducting in different categories is allowed. A choir may also perform with several conductors.

Programs in multiple categories

Choirs may **not** sing the same pieces in different categories.

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).

Original compositions Champions Competition & Grand Prix of Nations

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.

Open Competition

The use of original compositions is welcome but not compulsory.

Original accompaniment Champions Competition & Grand Prix of Nations


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.

Open Competition

The use of original accompaniment is recommended. Any reductions in orchestration or transcriptions of other instruments are permitted.

Country, regional language or cultural group

Some categories that require a composition does not originate in the country, regional language or cultural group of the participating choir. Examples of compliance:



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Choir from a Baltic Country (Latvia, Lithuania, 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 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.
Sheet Music	<p>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).</p> <p>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.</p>
Please note	<p>that published choral compositions may only be sung using the original scores or authorized copies.</p> <p>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.</p>
Use of amplification	<p>There are several categories for which 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 (for example the use of headsets or separate microphones for each singer) cannot be guaranteed.</p>
Competition program and changes	<p>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.</p> <p>Choirs are responsible for possible performing rights of their program.</p>
Order of performances	<p>The order of performances within a category is scheduled at random except in the case of organizational requirements (e.g. multiple performances).</p>
Actual singing time	<p>Actual singing time is the duration of the performance time only. It excludes entrance, exit, and applause.</p>
Changes of key	<p>If the choir wishes to change the 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. The works of composers who were born after 1870 are to sing in the key proposed by the composer.</p>
Age limit	<p>In categories with age limits, a maximum of 20% of the members may exceed the age limit by 5 years. The organizers reserve the right to check the ages of the singers.</p>

A1

A1 – European Choir Games

Open Competition

Recommended for any non-professional choir from all over the world regardless of experience at national and international choral competitions



The categories – Open Competition

The Open Competition offers participation in 10 different categories.

- 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 European 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.
 - dependent on their result, European Choirs of the Open Competition with a golden diploma can either compete in the Champions Competition or the Grand Prix of Nations.
 - Non-European Choirs that receive a golden diploma with at least 23,00 point have the possibility to participate in the Grand Prix of Nations

**PLEASE NOTE FOR THE
PROGRAM SELECTION**

Choirs that want to qualify from the Open Competition to the Grand Prix of Nations or Champions Competition please follow the competition rules of the respective competition.

GENERAL CATEGORIES (1 – 5)

Categories 1 – 5

- 01 Children's Choirs**
S(S)A(A), girls and boys ages 6 – 16
- 02 Youth Choirs of Equal Voices**
S(S)A(A), girls and boys ages 14 – 24
- 03 Mixed Youth Choirs**
SA(T)B, girls, boys and young men ages 8 – 24
- 04 Chamber Choirs / Vocal Ensembles**
usual formations of mixed and equal voices
- 05 Mixed Choirs, Female Choirs, Male Choirs**
usual formations of mixed and equal voices

Number of pieces 3

Duration of the program The minimum actual singing time should be at least 8 minutes and must not exceed 15 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment Two compositions may be performed with original instrumental accompaniment. At least one piece has to be performed a cappella.

Program must include Compositions of the choir's choice, preferably from different musical epochs.

THEMATIC CATEGORIES

O6 – MUSICA SACRA

This category welcomes music of all religions, churches and denominations.

Number of pieces 3

Duration of the program The minimum actual singing time should be at least 8 minutes and must not exceed 15 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment All pieces may be accompanied. Playback is not permitted.

Program must include Compositions of the choir's choice, from different musical epochs. (Gospels and Spirituals may not be performed in this category.)

O7 – MUSICA CONTEMPORANEA (CONTEMPORARY MUSIC)

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

Number of pieces 3

Duration of the program The minimum actual singing time should be at least 8 minutes and must not exceed 15 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment All pieces may be accompanied. Orchestra reductions are permitted.

Program must include Compositions of the choir's choice by composers that were born after 1925.

Choral music which in style & content belongs to Jazz, Musical or Pop are not permitted.

CATEGORIES O8 JAZZ & POP AND O9 GOSPEL & SPIRITUAL

- Basic Information**
- Instrumental accompaniments including electronic instruments with their own amplification are permitted.
 - The amplification of voices and instruments is permitted.
 - 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.
 - 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 (for example the use of headsets or separate microphones for each singer) cannot be guaranteed.

O8 – JAZZ & POP

In this category Jazz, 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 gospel, spiritual or folklore categories.

Number of pieces	3
Duration of the program	The minimum actual singing time should be at least 8 minutes and must not exceed 15 minutes.
Instrumental accompaniment	All pieces may be accompanied.
Program must include	Compositions of the choir's choice of different character.

O9 – GOSPEL & SPIRITUAL

Number of pieces	unlimited
Duration of the program	The minimum actual singing time should be at least 8 minutes and must not exceed 15 minutes.
Instrumental accompaniment	All pieces may be accompanied.
Program must include	Gospels and Spirituals of the choir's choice.

O10 – FOLKLORE

Number of pieces	unlimited
Duration of the program	The minimum actual singing time should be at least 8 minutes and must not exceed 15 minutes.
Instrumental accompaniment	Piano accompaniment and traditional instruments are permitted for all pieces. Instrumental accompaniment may also be sound recording (playback).
Amplification	Amplification of instruments is possible.
Program must include	<p>Folklore of the choir's choice.</p> <p>Choreographic elements may be integrated into performances. The content of movements and singing should be cohesive. The focus has to be on the vocal part. Instrumental accompaniment may also be sound recording (playback). 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).</p>

Outline of the categories – Open Competition

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

Number of category	Name of category	Age limit	Number of singers	Recommended minimum singing time	Maximum singing time	Number of pieces	Maximum number of pieces with accompaniment	Amplification of voices and instruments	Competition period (rehearsals, competition performances in all competitions, awards ceremonies)			
O1	Children’s Choirs, S(S)A(A) (girls and boys)	6 – 16	–	8	15	3	2	no	July 6 – 10, 2015			
O2	Youth Choirs of Equal Voices S(S)A(A) girls, T(T)B(B) boys	girls 12 – 19 boys 14 – 24							July 7 – 11, 2015			
O3	Mixed Youth Choirs, SA(T)B, (including mixed boys choirs)	8 – 24							July 7 – 11, 2015			
O4	Chamber Choirs / Vocal Ensembles (usual formations of mixed and equal voices)	16 and older	Equal voices min: 4 max: 24 Mixed voices min: 4 max: 30						July 7 – 9, 2015			
O5	Mixed Choirs, Female Choirs, Male Choirs, (usual formations of mixed and equal voices)		Equal voices min: 25 Mixed voices min: 31						July 8 – 11, 2015			
O6	Musica Sacra		–						–	July 6 – 9, 2015		
O7	Musica Contemporanea	July 8 – 10, 2015										
O8	Jazz & Pop	free								all	Voices and instruments*	July 6 – 10, 2015
O9	Gospel & Spiritual											July 6 – 10, 2015
O10	Folklore					July 7 – 11, 2015						

* In these categories amplification will be provided according to the amount of singers for a single voice or a group of singers. In any case choirs that are competing in these categories are required to submit clear stage plots with their registration indicating all technical requirements of their performance including microphone requirements for soloists, small groups, and general amplification.

Jury and Evaluation – Open Competition

- 1 A jury of five international music experts will evaluate the Open Competition.
- 2 The decisions of the jury cannot be contested.
- 3 The evaluation of the competition is based on the MUSICA MUNDI Evaluation System. In competition the performance of every composition will be evaluated according to the following:
 - a) Intonation
 - b) Sound quality of the choir
 - c) Fidelity to the score (in general categories)
 - Interpretation practice (e.g. Jazz & Pop)
 - Authenticity (in Folklore categories, Gospel and Spiritual)
 - 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		24	
	Criteria a) and c) = average of 1 – 3 Criteria b) and d) = points given for the overall performances	25	26	24	24
	Total score	24,75			

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	0
2	Composition 2				
3	etc.				
	Total score	20,5			

- 7 In case a choir exceeds the maximum pure singing time, 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.

Awards and Qualification – Open Competition

Diplomas Choirs taking part in 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	1.0 – 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

Category Winner Category Winner 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.

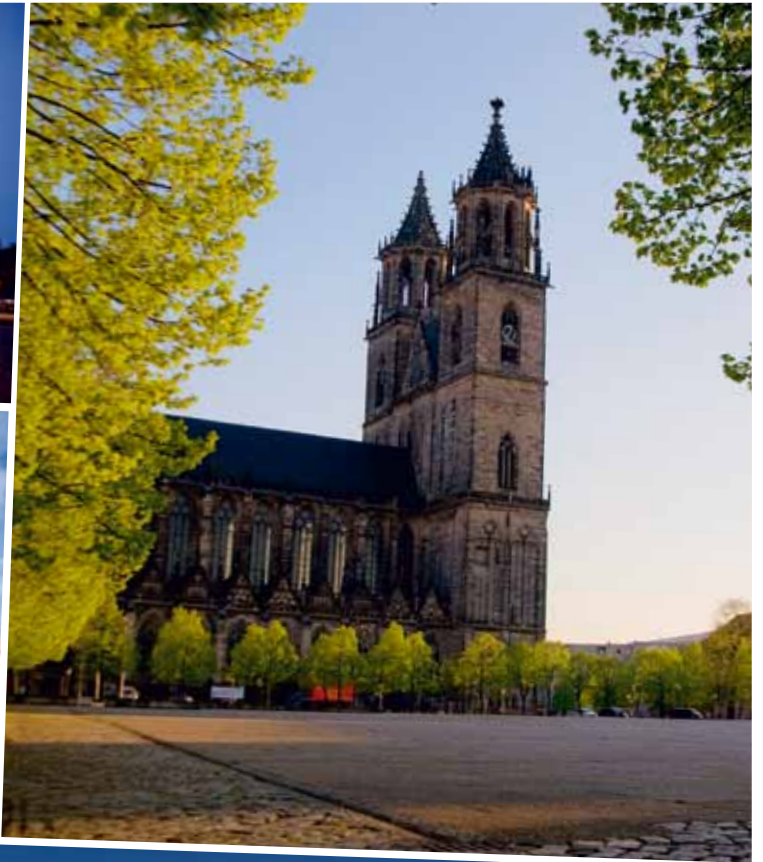
Nomination for the Champions Competition or the Grand Prix of Nations

Non-European choirs

Non-European choirs with a golden diploma with at least 23,00 points qualify for participation in the Grand Prix of Nations.

European Choirs

- 1) European Choirs with a golden diploma in the Open Competition (20,50 point or more) have the possibility to participate in the Champions Competition.
- 2) European Choirs that have received a golden diploma with at least 23,00 points in the Open Competition can choose whether they want to participate in the Open Competition or the Grand Prix of Nations (The decision has to be made together with the registration.).



A2 – European Choir Games 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.

Participation is possible for choirs

- from countries on the European continent,
- from further countries, which participate at European sports and cultural events, like:
 - Armenia
 - Azerbaijan
 - Georgia
 - Israel
 - Kazakhstan

that meet one of the criteria below:

Conditions of participations

Participation in the Champions Competition is recommended for non-professional choirs that meet one of the following criteria:

- 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, European Choir Games and Asia Pacific Choir Games since 2010 in a comparable category
- Choirs that have been awarded a Golden Diploma at the MUSICA MUNDI choir competitions in a comparable category since 2010
- 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 since 2010 (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 in the Open Competition on-site for the Champions Competition

The categories – Champions Competition

The Champions Competition offers participation in 10 categories.

- Basic Information**
- the 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 European 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.

GENERAL CATEGORIES (1 – 5)

- Categories 1 – 5**
- C1 Children's Choirs**
S(S)A(A), girls and boys ages 6 – 16
 - C2 Youth Choirs of Equal Voices**
S(S)A(A), girls and boys ages 14 – 24
 - C3 Mixed Youth Choirs**
SA(T)B, girls, boys and young men ages 8 – 24
 - C4 Chamber Choirs / Vocal Ensembles**
usual formations of mixed and equal voices
 - C5 Mixed Choirs, Female Choirs, Male Choirs**
usual formations of mixed and equal voices

Number of pieces 4

Duration of the program The minimum actual singing time should be at least 12 minutes and must not exceed 20 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment

Categories 1 – 3: 2 pieces may be performed with original accompaniment.

Categories 4 – 5: 1 piece may be performed with original accompaniment.

- Program must include**
- 1) One piece by a composer born before 1809
 - 2) One piece by a composer born after 1809
 - 3) one composition by a living composer (at the time of registration)
 - 4) one piece of the choir's choice

Only original accompaniments are permitted. At least one composition should be by a composer who does not come from the country, language area or cultural environment of the participating choir

THEMATIC CATEGORIES

C6 – MUSICA SACRA

Number of pieces	4
Duration of the program	The minimum actual singing time should be at least 12 minutes and must not exceed 20 minutes.
Instrumental accompaniment	2 pieces may be performed with original accompaniment.
Program must include	<p>Compositions of sacred music:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) by a composer born before 16852) by a composer born between 1685 and 18733) by a living composer (at the time of registration)4) of the choir's choice <p>Only original compositions are permitted. (Gospels and Spirituals may not be performed in this category.)</p>

C7 – MUSICA CONTEMPORANEA (CONTEMPORARY MUSIC)

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

Number of pieces	4
Duration of the program	The minimum actual singing time should be at least 12 minutes and must not exceed 20 minutes.
Instrumental accompaniment	2 pieces may be performed with original accompaniment.
Program must include	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) One premier performance composition. (A declaration explaining that the piece is dedicated for or will be performed for the first time at the 2nd European Choir Games 2015 must be attached to the registration forms.)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 competition rules All).4) One composition of the choir's choice by a composer born 1950 or later. <p>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.</p>

CATEGORIES C8 JAZZ & POP AND C9 GOSPEL&SPIRITUAL

- Basic Information**
- Instrumental accompaniments including electronic instruments with their own amplification are permitted.
 - The amplification of voices and instruments is permitted.
 - 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.
 - 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 (for example the use of headsets or separate microphones for each singer) cannot be guaranteed.

C8 – JAZZ & POP

In this category Jazz, 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 gospel, spiritual or folklore categories.

Number of pieces 4

Duration of the program The minimum actual singing time should be at least 12 minutes and must not exceed 20 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment All pieces may be performed with instrumental accompaniment.

Program must include Jazz & Pop compositions of the choir's choice of different character.

C9 – GOSPEL & SPIRITUAL

Number of pieces unlimited

Duration of the program The minimum actual singing time should be at least 12 minutes and must not exceed 20 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment All pieces may be performed with instrumental accompaniment.

Program must include Gospels and/or Spirituals of the choir's choice

C10 – FOLKLORE

Basic Information Choirs should interpret the folklore of their native country or their different ethnic groups. Choirs whose work is dedicated to the culture of another people may sing music native to that culture.
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.

Number of pieces unlimited

Duration of the program The minimum actual singing time should be at least 12 minutes and must not exceed 20 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment Piano accompaniment and traditional instruments are permitted for all pieces. Instrumental accompaniment may also be sound recording (playback).

Amplification Amplification of instruments is possible.

Program must include Unlimited number of original compositions composed in the spirit of a folksong or folksong arrangement. Original folk songs may also be performed, provided they meet the requirements of a concert performance.

Choreographic elements may be integrated into performances. The content of movements and singing should be cohesive. The focus has to be on the vocal part. Instrumental accompaniment may also be sound recording (playback).

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).



Outline of the categories – Champions Competition

S – Sopran, A – Alt, T – Tenor, B – Bass

Number of category	Name of category	Age limit	Number of singers	Recommended minimum singing time	Maximum singing time	Number of pieces	Maximum number of pieces with accompaniment	Amplification of voices and instruments	Competition period (rehearsals, competition performances in all competitions, awards ceremonies)				
C1	Children’s Choirs , S(S)A(A) (girls and boys)	6 – 16	–	12	20	4	2	no	July 6 – 10, 2015				
C2	Youth Choirs of Equal Voices S(S)A(A) girls, T(T)B(B) boys	girls 12 – 19 boys 14 – 24							July 7 – 11, 2015				
C3	Mixed Youth Choirs , SA(T)B, (including mixed boys choirs)	8 – 24							July 7 – 11, 2015				
C4	Chamber Choirs / Vocal Ensembles (usual formations of mixed and equal voices)	16 and older	Equal voices min: 4 max: 24 Mixed voices min: 4 max: 30				1		July 7 – 9, 2015				
C5	Mixed Choirs, Female Choirs, Male Choirs , (usual formations of mixed and equal voices)		Equal voices min: 25 Mixed voices min: 31						July 8 – 11, 2015				
C6	Musica Sacra	–	–				2		July 6 – 9, 2015				
C7	Musica Contemporanea								July 8 – 10, 2015				
C8	Jazz & Pop						all	Voices and instruments*	July 6 – 10, 2015				
C9	Gospel & Spiritual								July 6 – 10, 2015				
C10	Folklore		free			July 7 – 11, 2015							

*In these categories amplification will be provided according to the amount of singers for a single voice or a group of singers. In any case choirs that are competing in these categories are required to submit clear stage plots with their registration indicating all technical requirements of their performance including microphone requirements for soloists, small groups, and general amplification.

Jury and Evaluation – Champions Competition

- 1 A jury consisting of 7 international choral experts evaluates the competition.
- 2 The decision of the jury cannot be contested.
- 3 The evaluation of the competition is based on the Evaluation System of the World Choir Games. 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
 - c1) Fidelity to the score (in general categories)
 - c2) Interpretation practice (in Jazz, Popular Choral Music Choirs)
 - c3) Authenticity (in Folklore categories, Gospel and Spiritual)
 - 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		8,25	
	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 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 written copy of their adjudication scores.

Awards & Qualification – Champions Competition

Medals In the Champions Competition choirs will receive medals according to their final scores:

1 – 40	points	Certificate “Successful participation in the European Choir Games Champions Competition”
40.01 – 60	points	Bronze Medal
60.01 – 80	points	Silver Medal
80.01 – 100	points	Gold Medal

European Champion In the Champions Competition, the choir receiving the Gold Medal with the most points will be awarded the title “European Champion”. 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 European Champion.

Nomination for the Grand Prix of Nations Choirs who have received the a gold medal with at least 85.00 points in the “Champions Competition” get a nomination for the Grand Prix of Nations.

A3 – Grand Prix of Nations

Choirs competing in the Grand Prix of Nations are by the decision of the artistic committee. **Non-professional choirs from all over the world 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.

Recommended for

- Choirs that are listed in the top 400 of the MUSICA MUNDI World Ranking List (List available at Interkultur.com)
- Choirs that have been awarded a Gold Medal with at least 85.00 points at the World Choir Games, European Choir Games and Asia Pacific Choir Games since 2010 in a comparable category
- Choirs that have been awarded a Golden Diploma with at least 23.00 points at the MUSICA MUNDI choir competitions in a comparable category since 2010
- Choirs that have received a recommendation diploma for the “Grand Prix of Nations” 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 since 2010 (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 for the Grand Prix of Nations in the Open Competition of the European Choir Games in Magdeburg with a golden diploma with at least 23.00 points
- Choirs that have qualified for the Grand Prix of Nations in the “Champions Competition” of the European Choir Games in Magdeburg with a gold medal with at least 85.00 points

The Grand Prix of Nations offers participation in 6 categories.

Basic Information

- the 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 European 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.

The Categories – Grand Prix of Nations

CATEGORIES (GP1 – GP4)

- Categories 1 – 4**
- GP1 Children's Choir**
S(S)A(A) girls and boys in the age of 6 – 16
 - GP2 Youth Choirs**
S(S)A(A) girls in the age of 12 – 19,
(T(T)B(B) boys in the age of 14 – 24
SA(T)B girls, boys and young men in the age of 8 – 24
 - GP3 Chamber Choirs / Vocal Ensembles**
usual formations of mixed and equal voices
 - GP4 Mixed Choirs, Female Choirs, Male Choirs**
usual formations of mixed and equal voices

Number of pieces 5

Duration of the program The minimum actual singing time should be at least 12 minutes and must not exceed 20 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment **Categories 1 und 2:** 3 pieces may be performed with original accompaniment.
Categories 3 – 5: 2 pieces may be performed with original accompaniment

Program for categories 1 – 4 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, language area or cultural environment of the participating choir
- 3) one composition by a living composer (at the time of registration)
- 4) and 5) two compositions of the choir's choice

GP5 – Pop, Jazz, Gospel, Spiritual

Basic Information Pop, Rock and Light Entertainment selections from the 20th and 21st century and/or Gospels & Spirituals will be performed. The style and content must not fit into the folklore categories.

Number of pieces unlimited

Duration of the program The minimum actual singing time should be at least 12 minutes and must not exceed 20 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment Instrumental accompaniment is permitted for all pieces.

Program must include The choir's choice of Jazz, Pop, Gospel and/or Spirituals.

GP6 – Folklore

Basic Information Choirs should interpret the folklore of their native country or their different ethnic groups. Choirs whose work is dedicated to the culture of another people may sing music native to that culture.
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.

Number of pieces unlimited

Duration of the program The minimum actual singing time should be at least 12 minutes and must not exceed 20 minutes.

Instrumental accompaniment & playback Piano accompaniment and traditional instruments are permitted for all pieces. Instrumental accompaniment may also be sound recording (playback).

Amplification Amplification of instruments is possible.

Program must include Unlimited number of original compositions composed in the spirit of a folksong or folksong arrangement. Original folk songs may also be performed, provided they meet the requirements of a concert performance.

Choreographic elements may be integrated into performances. The content of movements and singing should be cohesive. The focus has to be on the vocal part. Instrumental accompaniment may also be sound recording (playback).

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)



Outline of categories – Grand Prix of Nations

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

Number of category	Name of category	Age limit	Number of singers	Recommended minimum singing time	Maximum singing time	Number of pieces	Maximum number of pieces with accompaniment	Amplification of voices and instruments	Competition period(rehearsals, competition performances in all competitions, awards ceremonies)		
GP1	Children’s Choirs , S(S)A(A) (girls and boys)	6 – 16	–	12	20	5	2	no	July 6 – 10, 2015		
GP2	Youth Choirs S(S)A(A) girls T(T)B(B) boys SA(T)B girls, boys and young men	girls 12 – 19 boys 14 – 24 mixed 8 – 24							July 7 – 11, 2015		
GP3	Chamber Choirs / Vocal Ensembles (usual formations of mixed and equal voices)	16 and older					Equal voices min: 4 max: 24 Mixed voices min: 4 max: 30		1	July 7 – 11, 2015	
GP4	Mixed Choirs, Female Choirs, Male Choirs , (usual formations of mixed and equal voices)		Equal voices min: 25 Mixed voices min: 31			July 8 – 11, 2015					
GP5	Pop, Jazz, Gospel	–	–					free	free	yes	July 7 – 10, 2015
GP6	Folklore										July 8 – 11, 2015

Jury and Evaluation – Grand Prix of Nations

- 1 A jury consisting of 7 international choral experts evaluates 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
 - c1) Fidelity to the score (in general categories)
 - c2) Interpretation practice (in Jazz, Pop)
 - c3) Authenticity (in Folklore categories, Gospel and Spiritual)
 - 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	
5	Composition 5	8		7	
	Criteria a) + c): average of 1 – 4 Criteria b) + d): score of the overall performance	8,2	8	8,2	9
	Intermediate result of technical and artistic evaluation (average of column 1. and 2. as well as column 3. and 4.)	8,1		8,6	
	Total number of points given by one adjudicator: (= total of all intermediate results)	16,7			

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
16,7	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 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 – Grand Prix of Nations

Medals In the Grand Prix of Nations choirs will receive medals according to their final scores:

1 – 40	points	Certificate “Successful participation in the Grand Prix of Nations”
40.01 – 60	points	Bronze Medal
60.01 – 80	points	Silver Medal
80.01 – 100	points	Gold Medal

Grand Prix Winner In the Grand Prix of Nations, the choir receiving the Gold Medal with the most points will be awarded the title Winner of the Grand Prix of Nations. 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 Grand Prix Winner.

The winner of the Grand Prix of Nations in each category will receive a prize money in the amount of 2.500,- €.

B – Evaluation Activities

The evaluation activities are recommended for every choir wishing to gain professional experience that might help their artistic development. This possibility has been highly popular among the choirs which took part at previous INTERKULTUR events.

B1 – Evaluation Performance

This level of participation is available to choirs who choose not to be placed in competition, but seek to be part of the international experience of the European Choir Games. Choirs will sing a program of three pieces for a maximum performance time of 15 minutes before a panel of international experts.

At the conclusion of the program there will be a brief internal consultation of the panel of choral experts. Finally, the program is discussed with the choir in an open and amicable atmosphere. Performance coaching and recommendations will be given for future participation in international competitions. The choirs will receive an official certificate of participation.

B2 – Individual Coaching

All participants, whether taking part in the competitions or not, are given the opportunity to participate with their choir in a session with a noted international choir director.

Procedure

Choirs interested in making use of this opportunity are required to prepare one piece of choral music. An internationally respected choral music expert will then rehearse the piece with the choir to provide new artistic ideas and impetus. Choirs not participating in the competition are presented a certificate and a recommendation for their future participation in international choral competition.

C – Sing'n'joy Festival

Basic Information

In the framework of the European Choir Games INTERKULTUR offers the possibility to participate in the festival to competing as well as to non-competing choirs.

Possibilities to participate in:

Friendship Concerts

Choirs from round the world are welcome to present the programs.

Celebration Concerts

By decision of the artistic committee several choirs and ensembles may be selected to perform in celebration concerts or official events.

General Conditions of Participation

European Choir Games & Grand Prix of Nations

1. Registration deadline

The final deadline for registration is **February 15, 2015**.

Early Bird deadline is November 16, 2014 (Registration fee and complete documents have to be received).

Registration Fees

The following registration fees have to be paid per choir/ensemble as follows:

Early Bird 16.11.2014	For Early Bird registration the fee per selected activity* is EUR 200,00.
Regular 15.02.2015	For registration until the regular deadline the fee for the first activity* is EUR 400,00 and EUR 200,00 for each additional category

* Activities are e.g. competition participation (1 category = 1 activity), Evaluation Performance, Individual Coaching, Festival Participation (only concerts).
For choirs participating in the competitions and evaluation activities the performance in concerts is free of charge.

In case a choir cancels its participation the registration fee will not be refunded.

Details for wire transfer

The registration fee must be paid in full and accompanied by the completed registration forms to reserve your participation in the European Choir Games & Grand Prix of Nations. Any banking fees are the responsibility of the registrant. Please remit the registration fee to the following bank account:

Bank details	Account holder:	INTERKULTUR
	Name of bank:	Deutsche Bank AG
	Address:	Marktplatz 4, D-35390 Giesen
	Bank code:	513 700 24
	Account number:	028 042 001
	SWIFT-Code (BIC):	DEUTDEDB513
	IBAN for EU countries:	DE59513700240028042001
	Purpose:	MB15+name of choir (please state in full)

Registration Checklist

The following documents must be provided together with the registration forms by the respective deadline:

- Alle Teilnehmer**
- ☐ REGISTRATION FORMS DULY FILLED IN
 - ☐ REGISTRATION FEE (PLEASE ENCLOSE PROOF OF PAYMENT). The amount may also be paid with Visa or MasterCard (see registration forms).
 - ☐ AUDIO RECORDING: Please send an .mp3, WAV, WMA, or CD with at least three (3) pieces (preferably a cappella) not older than two years. Please write the titles and composers of the pieces as well as the date of recording
 - ☐ SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF CHOIR: Please send the biography in English as an editable text document (e.g. Word)
 - ☐ PHOTOGRAPH OF CHOIR: Make sure that it is suitable for reproduction (landscape format, as a file jpg or bmp, no PDF format, min. 300 dpi, as original min. 12 x 7,5 cm). The picture should not be older than two years.

- For participation in the competition and evaluation activities**
- ☐ A separate page of the registration form for each competition category in which it intends to participate
 - ☐ PROOF OF QUALIFICATION for participation in the Champions Competition and the Grand Prix of Nations
 - ☐ MUSIC SCORES OF COMPETITION REPERTOIRE: Scores sent as PDF or similar files will not be accepted. Seven (7) copies for competition, three (3) for Evaluation Performance & one (1) for Individual Coaching are required to submit.

2. Event Package Terms and Conditions

- Travel** Transportation to the event including the travel expenses is the sole responsibility of the choir members and additional persons. Sightseeing excursions aside from the event are not inclusive and must be booked separately.

- Event Package Terms & Conditions** It is required that your event package and accommodations be booked through the selected and authorized travel agencies of INTERKULTUR. This is an exclusive condition and is a requirement of the general rules for participation. All included services are described in the authorised travel agency offer.

Event packages are available in the following categories: Economy and Standard Class.

To guarantee your organization's reservation, it is recommended that you take advantage of the early bird registration dates. Registrations received after November 16, 2014 cannot be guaranteed for accommodations in the requested category.

If the registration forms are not filled-in completely, the event package will be booked and automatically invoiced for "standard" accommodations.

- Travel, Accommodation and Exclusivity Clause**
- a) Accommodations and touring services for participants (and accompanying persons) to the European Choir Games & Grand Prix of Nations are available through official travel agents and tour operators authorized as official providers by the organizer, Interkultur. These agents and operators have secured the hotel room allocations in Magdeburg, as well as the legally required insurance coverage, liability protection and all other requirements. As official providers, the agents and tour operators have the exclusive right to make individual tour offers to participants in the form of a "Event Tour Package".
Participants will be provided with a "Participant Information" booklet. The organizer will pass on the choirs' contact information to the official providers.
 - b) For security and event management, participation in the European Choir Games &

Grand Prix of Nations requires that accommodations for the event are booked exclusively through the selected and authorized travel agents. This is an exclusive condition and is part of the general rules for participation. Exceptions and exemptions must be confirmed in writing by the organising committee. Choral organizations not in compliance with this requirement will forfeit all fees paid and the right to compete in The Games.

- c) Registration for the European Choir Games & Grand Prix of Nations is legally binding for the participant in terms of obligations to the authorized travel agents. A travel agreement becomes legally binding once the travel agent confirms the registration. Registration fees are non-refundable.
- d) Participation in the European Choir Games & Grand Prix of Nations will only be possible if all fees and the Event Package (including agency costs for tourism services) have been paid in full and without deductions. The organizer reserves the right to deny permission to participate in the European Choir Games & Grand Prix of Nations to any choral organization not in compliance with these terms. Costs arising out of any such situations will be at the participants' expense.

Organizer Organizer is the Förderverein INTERKULTUR (Heinrich-Lübke-Ring 4, 35415 Pohlheim, Germany - registered at Vereinsregister Giessen, VR 1806, represented by Günter Titsch, Chairmain/President.

Liability of the organizer INTERKULTUR, supports the European Choir Games & Grand Prix of Nations in its function as official organizer and is responsible for the artistic and musical design and the execution of the events. Its liability comprises all organizational matters of the festival, the concerts and special events. Any liability with regard to the organizer's liability is expressly excluded. Any liability of such kind would be that of the authorized agencies and/or the management of the respective congress or concert halls, catering and transport companies. As travel operators, the authorized travel agents are liable in accordance with the corresponding travel laws and on the basis of the "Allgemeinen Reisebedingungen" (ARB) ("General Conditions for Travel"). With his/her signature on the registration for registration at the event, the signatory accepts the terms of the "Allgemeinen Reisebedingungen" (ARB) and the organizer's liability for him/herself and for all persons registered.

Languages Languages of correspondence

The official languages of the event are German and English. Moderation (participant information, translations) of the events, the printed material and other publications will be produced in these languages. Participants are requested to conduct all correspondence and communication relating to registration or organisation of artistic programs exclusively in English and /or German.

Please make sure that your choir is accompanied by at least one English- or German-speaking person who can assist with translation.

Official documents are available on the internet at Interkultur.com in the following languages: German, English, Chinese, Russian. In the event of doubts or disputes, the printed German version is authentic and legally binding.

Subcontracted Services The organizer reserves the right to award contracts for services other than tourism services to carefully selected and experienced agencies. These agencies will then operate as subcontractors

Rejection The organizer reserves the right to reject registrations for artistic or organisational reasons. If a choir is rejected due to one of these reasons, the registration fee will be refunded.

Pictorial and Sound Recordings

All rights regarding the audio and audiovisual recordings of the event ("Recordings") as well as their exploitation are herewith being granted exclusively to INTERKULTUR by the choir/ artists. All rights granted to INTERKULTUR hereunder may be exploited by INTERKULTUR in perpetuity without any limitation as to time, territory and/or manner of exploitation free of any rights of third parties. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, this includes in particular the following exclusive rights in the Recordings which can also be transferred by INTERKULTUR to a third party at INTERKULTUR'S discretion:

INTERKULTUR shall be exclusively entitled to reproduce the Recordings wholly or partly by way of producing vinyl discs, music cassettes, compact discs, DATs, Mini Discs, Digital Compact Cassettes or other sound carriers and by producing video cassettes, picture discs, compact disc videos, DVDs or other audio-visual carriers or other data carriers or by means of other technical devices and to sell or otherwise distribute these reproductions by retail, wholesale or other distribution channels such as clubs, mail order or TV-response. This also includes the right to exploit the Recordings in the context of online and especially Internet registrations of any kind and of any system, regardless of the way of transmission and business model, and to use, upload and distribute these Recordings in data bases, networks (e.g. Internet and all its services) or anything similar of any kind and especially to disseminate and transmit these Recordings to users of databases / networks via cable or other ways of transmission for the purpose of perception and/ or reproduction and/ or distribution against payment or free of charge. This also includes the right to publicly perform or broadcast the Recordings by private or public broadcast stations, including digital radio services, via cable, satellite or other technical transmission services either against payment or free of charge (including the right to collect in INTERKULTUR'S own name broadcast fees accruing in connection with the public performance or broadcast of the Recordings). INTERKULTUR'S rights also include the right to edit and/or alter the Recordings (e.g. by producing mixes or remixes), to couple the Recordings with other recordings (e.g. with recordings of other artists) and the right to release and sell the Recordings on so-called "special product" audio- or audio-visual carriers. Furthermore, INTERKULTUR shall be entitled to grant synchronisation rights in the Recordings for movies, videos, TV and/ or movie commercials, image films etc., to translate them into other languages, to use them for multimedia purposes of any kind or to rearrange them in any other way (e.g. to create remixes or do sampling). This also includes the exclusive right to use the Recordings in games / PC games as well as other and also interactive multimedia productions (incl. so called "websites") for goods, services and advertising purposes of any kind.

Finally, this includes the non-exclusive right to use the choir's /artist's name as well as images of the choir / artist in the context of the exploitation and the advertising and promotion measures mentioned above. INTERKULTUR does not pay any money to the ARTIST for the exclusive grant of rights mentioned above. The ARTIST accepts explicitly that the positive promotion effect resulting from an exploitation of the Recordings by INTERKULTUR represents an adequate return service for this transfer of rights.

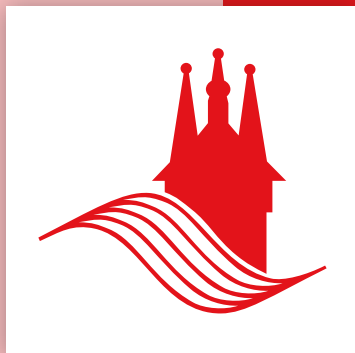
In case of a commercial release of the Recordings on CD, the parties will negotiate separately in good faith about an adequate royalty to be payable to Artist according to standard business practice.

Individual Concerts and Performances

During their stay at the European Choir Games, the participating choirs are not allowed to give further concerts or performances without the organizer's advance approval.

Changes to the Participant and Competition Information

The organizer reserves the right to make changes and amendments to the existing information material and/or the information booklet in the event of unforeseen technical, organisational or artistic circumstances or act(s) of God. The organizer also reserves the right to make changes to the program contents and schedule.



July 15 – 19, 2015
Wernigerode, Germany

9th International Johannes Brahms Choir Festival & Competition



Photo Credits: © INTERKULTUR



The International Johannes Brahms Choir Competition in Wernigerode is one of the success stories of INTERKULTUR. In an excellent way the international choir competition in honor of the great German composer is combined with a vital, colorful folk festival and atmospheric concerts in one of the most beautiful cities in Germany, the „colorful town in the Harz“, Wernigerode. Only 80 km from the host city of the second European Choir Games and the Grand Prix of Nations, Magdeburg, and immediately following this event, Wernigerode is the ideal place to make a choir trip an unforgettable experience.



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European Choir Games

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