

INTERNATIONAL Syllabus

28th April - 2nd May

2021

Bringing our voices together

International
A Cappella Video
Competition

International
Non-Competitive
Online Participation



Cork^{International} Choral Festival

Introduction

Founded in 1954 to be a dynamic force in developing choral music in Ireland, the Cork International Choral Festival is now one of Europe's premier international choral festivals. It is held annually for the five days immediately preceding the first Monday in May. The Festival takes place in dozens of venues across the city, including Cork's City Hall (capacity 1,000) - one of the most attractive and acoustically superb venues in Ireland. It is noted for its diverse programme, high competitive standards, excellent organisation, and the friendliness of its welcome.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Choral music is, by definition, a group activity and we are fully aware of the logistical challenges that the Covid-19 pandemic has imposed on the international choral world. The health and safety of everyone taking part in our event is our number one priority. In spite of the recent announcements worldwide and advances with vaccines, gatherings in Ireland, including group rehearsals and performances, remain discouraged at the time of writing. The Cork International Choral Festival is fully supportive of these safety measures and will continue to follow the latest guidance from local and national authorities in the interests of the health and welfare of all.

In light of the significant effect that the pandemic has had upon the group singing sector, some elements of this year's Cork International Choral Festival will not be possible. As we continue to monitor the developments, we have taken this unprecedented situation as an opportunity to actively reimagine our Festival. The International Syllabus has been amended and updated to incorporate the current national and international climate. For the first time this year we are launching a programme in which choirs from around the world can enter without needing to travel to Cork.

We ask you for your understanding and patience with this, and also to keep in regular contact with the Festival Office.

OPTION 1: NEW - INTERNATIONAL A CAPPELLA VIDEO COMPETITION

We are excited to announce the expansion of our international competition programme. For the first time this year we are launching a new International A Cappella Video Competition in which choirs from around the world can enter without needing to travel abroad! We are inviting you to submit a video in performance of your choir to be judged by our international jury, either by filming a live choral performance, or by compiling a virtual performance made up of individual choir members' videos. Competition categories are Female/Upper Voices, Lower/Male Voices, Children's Voices and Mixed Voices. The winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony of the Cork International Choral Festival.

[See full details on page 3](#)

OPTION 2: NEW - INTERNATIONAL NON-COMPETITIVE ONLINE PARTICIPATION

The International Non-Competitive strand will have a new look this year! Non-Competitive choirs are invited to submit an archival video of a choral performance, or a virtual video production (e.g. a "virtual choir" video).

Entry is free and we will broadcast the performances on the Festival's online channels throughout the Festival week.

[See full details on page 5](#)

Peter Stobart
Artistic Director

Option 1: NEW - International A Cappella Video Competition

GENERAL

- Closing date for receipt of completed applications is 28th February of the same year.
- Open to any international choir (excluding Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland).
- The choir is not requested to travel to Cork to participate in the competition.
- The video can either be of a live performance or of a virtual performance compiled of individual choir members' videos. These two types of video will be entered into different categories and will not be competing against each other.
- Competition categories are:
 - **Female/Upper Voices**
 - **Lower/Male Voices**
 - **Children's Voices** (all singers must be under 18 years of age)
 - **Mixed Voices**
- Minimum 3 voices / No maximum.
- Each choir can enter only one competition category. No person may compete as a member of more than one choir.
- The video should not have been published previously. After 2nd May 2021 the choir can upload the competition video on their own online channels.
- National dress is encouraged if applicable.
- There should be no verbal announcements at any point during the presentation.
- Should a high number of entries be received, the Festival reserves the right to shortlist finalists.
- Depending on the number of entries received, the Festival reserves the right to adjust the competition categories.
- Finalists will be judged by our international jury.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

The repertoire should be one piece of your choice and a cappella.

The five-member international jury allocates marks for the technical and artistic quality of the piece and the overall quality of its performance.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applications can be submitted online at this link:
<https://www.corkchoral.ie/online-a-cappella-video-competition/>

Each choir is required to forward by 28th February of the same year:

1. An online completed application form.
2. Competition video (max 2GB) to be submitted via WeTransfer (wetransfer.com) to info@corkchoral.ie. WeTransfer is free and allows you to send up to 2GB.
3. A digital short history of the choir detailing activities and achievements, in English (approx 250 words).
4. Two digital photographs of the choir (at least 1MB in size, print resolution or 300dpi) suitable for publicity purposes.
5. Receipt of payment of entry fee of €20 (See "Entry Fees")

ENTRY FEES

The entry fee for the International Video Competition is €20. This entry fee must be Paid by bank transfer to the Cork International Choral Festival's account by 31st March of the same year.

Choirs are responsible for all related bank charges.

BANK DETAILS

Bank: Allied Irish Banks plc,
Patrick's Street, Cork, Ireland
IBAN: IE85 AIBK 9341 5105 1954 48
BIC: AIBKIE2D
Account Number: 05195448
National Sort Code: 93 41 51
Recipient: Cork International Choral Festival

NOTE: Please ensure that the name of choir and contact details are noted on bank transfer.

PRIZES

First Prize for each competition category:
€200 & Certificate

The winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony of the Cork International Choral Festival. Depending on the Covid-19 restrictions in place, the Awards Ceremony will take place in Cork City Hall and/or online on the Sunday of the Festival week.

BROADCASTING RIGHTS

It is a condition of participation that a choir agrees that:

- All rights regarding the audiovisual recordings made for the International A Cappella Video Competition as well as their exploitation are herewith being granted non-exclusively to the Cork International Choral Festival by the choir for subsequent reproduction and/or broadcast on radio/television/internet without payment to the choir.
- The Festival will be free to dispose of the audiovisual recordings or utilise them in promotional materials as it sees fit. It is the duty of all choirs with members under 18 years of age to ensure that informed consent is sought from young people and their parents/carers in this regard.
- The Festival may, without payment, dispose of the audiovisual recordings and shall further be entitled to reproduce any such recording and to sell, let for hire, offer or exposure for sale or hire, distribute or otherwise dispose of any recording or reproduction of recording of any such performance in any manner as it sees fit.

GENERAL RULES

1. Adjudicators' decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into regarding any aspect of their work.
2. A selected choir that withdraws from the competition is not entitled to a refund of the entry fee.
3. The Festival accepts no legal responsibility whatsoever in respect of anything pertaining to a choir's participation in the competition.
4. The Festival accepts no responsibility for any expense incurred by any choir or individual chorister participating in the online competition.
5. The Festival reserves the right to change its dates in the event that a concert, or other public event or any circumstance outside the control of the Festival renders it impracticable to hold the festival on the scheduled dates.
6. It is contrary to law to perform music that has been reproduced illegally. Should a choir do so, the Festival accepts no responsibility for any action taken by the copyright owners.
7. Participation in the competition implies acceptance of all the rules and regulations.
8. Any updates will be made on the Application Form found on www.corkchoral.ie and will supersede information in this brochure.

Option 2: Non-Competitive International Participation

GENERAL

- Closing date for receipt of completed applications is 28th February of the same year.
- Entry is free and open to any international choir.
- The choir is not requested to travel to Cork to participate in the online non-competitive strand.
- Non-Competitive choirs are invited to submit an archival video of a choral performance, or a virtual video production (e.g. a “virtual choir” video).
- There are no repertoire requirements.
- The Festival will broadcast the performance on the Festival’s online channels throughout the Festival week. The Festival schedule will be available online.
- Depending on the number of entries received, the Festival reserves the right to limit the number of entries.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applications can be submitted online at:

<https://www.corkchoral.ie/non-competitive-participation-new/>

Each choir is required to forward:

1. An online completed application form.
2. Performance video (max 2GB) to be submitted via WeTransfer (wetransfer.com) to info@corkchoral.ie. WeTransfer is free and allows you to send up to 2GB.
3. A digital short history of the choir detailing activities and achievements, in English (approx 250 words).
4. Two digital photographs of the choir (at least 1MB in size, print resolution or 300dpi) suitable for publicity purposes.

BROADCASTING, RECORDING & PHOTOGRAPHIC RIGHTS

It is a condition of participation that a choir agrees that:

- All rights regarding the audiovisual recordings as well as their exploitation are herewith being granted non-exclusively to the Cork International Choral Festival by the choir for subsequent reproduction and/or broadcast on radio/television/internet without payment to the choir.

- The Festival will be free to dispose of the audiovisual recordings or utilise them in promotional materials as it sees fit. It is the duty of all choirs with members under 18 years of age to ensure that informed consent is sought from young people and their parents/carers in this regard.
- The Festival may, without payment, dispose of the audiovisual recordings and shall further be entitled to reproduce any such recording and to sell, let for hire, offer or exposure for sale or hire, distribute or otherwise dispose of any recording or reproduction of recording of any such performance in any manner as it sees fit.

GENERAL RULES

1. The Festival accepts no legal responsibility whatsoever in respect of anything pertaining to a choir’s participation in the online Festival.
2. The Festival accepts no responsibility for any expense incurred by any choir or individual chorister participating in the online Festival.
3. The Festival reserves the right to change its dates in the event that a concert, or other public event or any circumstance outside the control of the Festival renders it impracticable to hold the festival on the scheduled dates.
4. It is contrary to law to perform music that has been reproduced illegally. Should a choir do so, the Festival accepts no responsibility for any action taken by the copyright owners.
5. Participation in the online Festival implies acceptance of all the rules and regulations.
6. Any updates will be made on the Application Form found on www.corkchoral.ie and will supersede information in this brochure.

We look forward to
MEETING YOU ONLINE

www.corkchoral.ie

Cork International **Choral** Festival

