



OHRID CHOIR FESTIVAL 2025
ОХРИДСКИ ХОРСКИ ФЕСТИВАЛ

ОХРИДСКИ ХОРСКИ ФЕСТИВАЛ

22.8 Дијамантска сала на
Хотел Инекс Олгица
Diamond Hall at Hotel Inex Olgiца

ФОЛК И ПОП КОНЦЕРТ FOLK AND POP CONCERT

- 11.00 **Vista Choir**
Турција Turkey
- 11.10 **Anchorus Polyphonic Choir**
Турција Turkey
- 11.20 **Pljevlja City Choir**
Црна Гора Montenegro
- 11.30 **AN Vokal**
Турција Turkey
- 11.40 **Eskişehir Polyphonic Choir**
Турција Turkey
- 11.50 **Ondrášek Czech Youth Choir**
ZUS Nový Jičín
Чешка Czech Republic
- 12.00 **Russian Culture and Art Society**
"Slavjanka"
Македонија Macedonia
- 12.10 **Academic Choir of the Jan Długosz**
University in Częstochowa
Полска Poland

22.8 Дијамантска сала на
Хотел Инекс Олгица
Diamond Hall at Hotel Inex Olgiца

ПРВ НАТПРЕВАРУВАЧКИ КОНЦЕРТ FIRST COMPETITION CONCERT

- 16.00 **AN Vokal**
Турција Turkey
- 16.20 **Alegria Choir**
Турција Turkey
- 16.40 **Chamber Choir from Kalisz**
Полска Poland
- 17.00 **Mešoviti hor AKUDUNS "Sonja Marinković"**
Србија Serbia
- 17.20 **City Choir "Lira"**
Босна и Херцеговина Bosnia and Herzegovina

ВТОР НАТПРЕВАРУВАЧКИ КОНЦЕРТ SECOND COMPETITION CONCERT

- 18.00 **Eskişehir Polyphonic Choir**
Турција Turkey
- 18.20 **Anchorus Polyphonic Choir**
Турција Turkey
- 18.40 **Prvo pevačko društvo - muški hor**
KUD „Abrašević“ Šabac
Србија Serbia
- 19.00 **Academic Choir of the Jan Długosz**
University in Częstochowa
Полска Poland

The information in this brochure was provided
by the choirs themselves and the publisher is not
responsible for its accuracy.

OHRID CHOIR FESTIVAL 2025

23.8 Црква Св. Софија
Church of St. Sophia

КОНЦЕРТ НА ДУХОВНА МУЗИКА SACRED MUSIC CONCERT

- 11.00 **Children's Choir "Sv.Kiril i Metodij"**
Македонија Macedonia
- 11.10 **Mixed Youth Choir of Art School Nagy Istvan**
Романија Romania
- 11.20 **Prvo pevačko društvo - muški hor**
KUD „Abrašević“ Šabac
Србија Serbia
- 11.30 **Ondrášek Czech Youth Choir**
ZUS Nový Jičín
Чешка Czech Republic
- 11.40 **Academic Choir of the Jan Długosz**
University in Częstochowa
Полска Poland
- 11.50 **Chamber Choir from Kalisz**
Полска Poland
- 12.00 **Children's Church Choir „Branko”**
Србија Serbia

24.8 Дијамантска сала на
Хотел Инекс Олгица
Diamond Hall at Hotel Inex Olgica

19.00 **Competition Finale**

24.8 Дијамантска сала на
Хотел Инекс Олгица
Diamond Hall at Hotel Inex Olgica

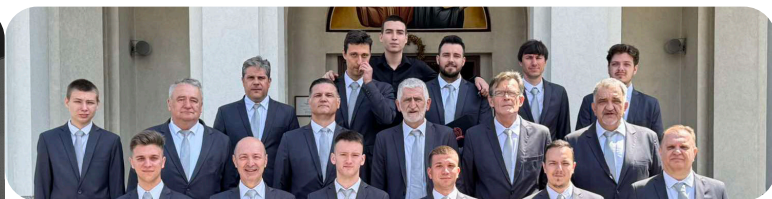
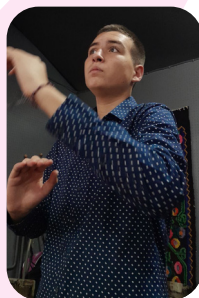
ТРЕТ НАТПРЕВАРУВАЧКИ КОНЦЕРТ THIRD COMPETITION CONCERT

- 10.00 **Children's Choir "Sv.Kiril i Metodij"**
Македонија Macedonia
- 10.20 **NFM Girls' Choir from Wrocław**
Полска Poland
- 10.40 **Çanakkale H.A.T.M.S. Polyphonic**
Children's Choir
Турција Turkey
- 11.00 **Children's Church Choir „Branko”**
Србија Serbia
- 11.20 **Utrechts Jeugdkoor**
Холандија Netherlands

ЧЕТВРТ НАТПРЕВАРУВАЧКИ КОНЦЕРТ FOURTH COMPETITION CONCERT

- 12.00 **Intonacatore**
Холандија Netherlands
- 12.20 **Mixed Youth Choir of Art School**
Nagy Istvan
Романија Romania
- 12.40 **Szczecin Boys Choir "Nightngales"**
Полска Poland
- 13.00 **Ondrášek Czech Youth Choir**
ZUS Nový Jičín
Чешка Czech Republic

PAGE	CATEGORY	CHOIR	COMPETITION	SACRED FOLK / POP	PLACE / COUNTRY
5	AM	„Prvo pevačko društvo“ KUD Abrašević	2	•	Šabac Serbia
6	AM	Alegria Korosu	1		Ankara Türkiye
7	AM	AN Vokal	1	•	Istanbul Türkiye
8	AM	Anchorus Polyphonic Choir	3	•	Ankara Türkiye
9	C	Children's church choir „Branko“ Leskovac	3	•	Leskovac Serbia
10	C	Çanakkale H.A.T.M.S. Polyphonic Children's Choir	3		Çanakkale Türkiye
11	AM	Eskişehir Polyphonic Choir	2	•	Eskişehir Türkiye
12	YM	Intonacatore	4		Utrecht Netherlands
13	AF	City Choir "Lira"	1		Gradiška BiH
14	C	Children's Choir Ss. Cyril i Methodius	3	•	Veles Macedonia
15	C	NFM Girls' Choir from Wrocław	3		Wrocław Poland
16	YM	Szczecin Boys Choir "Nightingales"	4		Szczecin Poland
17	YM	Mixed Youth Choir of Art School Nagy István	4	•	Miercurea Ciuc Romania
18	YM	Ondrášek Czech Youth choir, ZUS Nový Jičín	4	•	Nový Jičín Czech Republic
19	AM	Pljevlja City Choir		•	Pljevlja Montenegro
20	AF	Russian Ensemble "Slavjanka"		•	Skopje Macedonia
21	AM	Mixed Choir AKUDUNS "Sonja Marinković"	1		Novi Sad Serbia
22	AM	Academic Choir of the Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa	2	•	Częstochowa Poland
23	YF	Utrechts Jeugdkoor	3		Utrecht Netherlands
24	AM	Vista Choir		•	Ankara Türkiye
25	AM	WPA UAM Chamber Choir from Kalisz	1	•	Kalisz Poland



„Prvo pevačko društvo” KUD Abrašević Šabac
Šabac, Serbia

Nemanja Petrović
 conductor

The choir came to life in 1865. Two periods are significant in the history of ŠPD: Robert Tollinger led the choir from 1902 to 1911. We should remember the year 1903, when ŠPD participates in “A competition of Serbian singing societies” in Belgrade. The jury was chaired by Stevan Stojanović Mokranjac. Another important period is the year 1905, when the KUD “Abrašević” Šabac was founded. To this day, the choir the regular part of KUD, in addition to the mixed choir, as a male singing group called “Prvo singing society in 1905.” (abbreviated: „PPD 1905.”). Since 2024, he has been directing the choir Nemanja Petrović. The young conductor brings new freshness and necessary quality for the further development of the choir. The repertoire of the choir is diverse: original music, old town songs, gospel, spiritual music, music of other nations.

Nemanja Petrović is the conductor of the Male Choir “First Singing Society 1905”, choir section KUD “Abrašević” from Šabac. His musical curiosity led him to the choir section, where he became the youngest member and through dedicated work and mentorship the youngest conductor in the history of the city and KUD “Abrašević” from Šabac.

	TITLE	COMPOSER
COMPETITION	Gospodi, spasi (Lord, save us)	Viktor Kalinikov
	Bolen mi leži	Trajko Prokopiev
	I wanna be ready	James Miller
	Prva rukovet (The first garland)	S. S. Mokranjac
SACRED	Otce nash (Our Father)	Nikolaj Kedrov
	Gospodi, spasi (Lord, save us)	Viktor Kalinikov
	Antifon br. 1	Arhimandrit Matfej



Alegria Korosu
Ankara, Türkiye

İnci Tıǧlı Ayağ
conductor

Alegria Choir was founded in 2000 by a group of amateur music enthusiasts in Ankara. It continues its polyphonic choral music activities in Ankara City Council. Alegria consists of approximately 35 music lovers of various ages and professions, all united by the goal of delivering high-level musical performances. The choir does not limit its repertoire to a specific musical period; instead, it performs a wide range of works—from madrigals to pop, jazz, and rock pieces, from folk songs to symphonic works accompanied by orchestra. Additionally, in its aim to contribute to the world of polyphonic music, Alegria also performs works by young and amateur composers and arrangers.

İnci Tıǧlı Ayağ studied vocal training and choral conducting at Marmara University. She continued her education at Istanbul University State Conservatory, and performed as chorister and soloist in various choirs, including Dutch Chapel Cantata Choir and TRT Youth Choir. She trained with renowned conductors in Europe through Vox Europae and represented Turkey at the 1987 Passau Choir Festival. A member of the State Polyphonic Choir since 1988, she earned her MA at Gazi University and attended workshops in Austria and France. Since 2000, she has conducted Alegria and Vista Choirs.

COMPETITION	TITLE	COMPOSER
	Weep, O Mine Eyes	John Bennet
	Ubi Caritas (Where Love is)	Ola Gjeilo
	Timor et Tremor	György Orbán
	Variations on the folk song “Katibim”	Ahmet Adnan Saygun
	Rum Dum Dum	Dragan Šuplevski



AN Vokal *İstanbul, Türkiye*

Mr. Haluk Polat
conductor

Ms. Nurevşan Kırçışek
solo

AN Vokal was founded by Haluk Polat in 2015 as a polyphonic ensemble performing Polat's original arrangements of folk songs from Anatolia, the Balkans, the Caucasus, and the Middle East. Its namesake is the Sumerian god, Anu, which is a uniting symbol for the rich history, culture and values shared in these geographies. In its polyphonic and multilingual renditions of folk songs, AN Vokal wishes to capture the complexity and variety of the musical traditions of these lands. AN Vokal reflects the mosaic of its hometown, İstanbul, as its members come from all over Türkiye, and reflect diverse ethnic and linguistic backgrounds.

Conductor Haluk Polat began his musical journey at the İstanbul University Conservatory as a classic guitarist. He went on to establish a rock choir at Boğaziçi University, and became its first conductor. In 1998, he produced *Renkler* (Colours) – the first album of its kind in Türkiye, featuring original polyphonic arrangements of folk songs interpreted by a vocal ensemble. In 2002, Polat founded the label WePlay, and has produced over 100 albums since. From 1993 onwards, Polat has established and conducted polyphonic ensembles with participants from various ages and professional backgrounds

	TITLE	COMPOSER
COMPETITION	Sareri Hovin Mernem	Anonymous
	Ha Bu Diyar	Anonymous
	Elindedir Bağlama	Anonymous
	Rodos Semahı	Anonymous
	Jovano Jovanke-Batum medley	Anonymous
FOLK	Ötme Bülbül	Anonymous
	Jarnana	Anonymous
	Batum	Anonymous



Anchorus Polyphonic Choir

Ankara, Türkiye

Cihan Selçuk
conductor

Irem Alpaslan
correpetitor

Founded in 2017 in Ankara, the capital of Türkiye, Anchorus Polyphonic Choir was established by a group of experienced choir singers who had previously performed with various ensembles. Although its members come from diverse professional fields unrelated to music, they share a strong passion for polyphonic choral singing and aim to reach international standards while preserving an amateur spirit.

Anchorus Polyphonic Choir is led by Cihan Selçuk, who began his musical journey as a choir singer in 1999 during his university years. He started assisting conductors in 2005 and gradually expanded his experience in vocal coaching and arranging. In 2017, he founded Anchorus Polyphonic Choir together with his beloved fellow choristers and has since led the ensemble in numerous concerts across Türkiye and abroad. Alongside his work with Anchorus, he has participated in various choral conducting masterclasses and continues his private conducting studies with İsmail Sezen.

	TITLE	COMPOSER
COMPETITION	Tropar na Sv. Kiril i Metodi	Dragan Šuplevski
	Kyrie Eleison (Missa Rigensis)	Ugis Praulins
	Lilium	Kunishi / Kondo / Moriyama
	Dies Irae	Jonny Priano
POP	Engel	Rammstein
	Take Five	Paul Desmond
	Her Şey Güzel Olacak (Everything Will Be Fine)	Athena



Children's church choir „Branko“ Leskovac *Leskovac, Serbia*

Siniša Stamenković
conductor

Lazar Pešić
solo vocal

Justin Stefanović
solo vocal

Strahinja Stamenković
piano accompaniment

The Leskovac Church Choir Society Branko founded the first Children's Church Choir in Leskovac on November 11, 2012. The choir participates in church services and children's festivals, aiming to promote and preserve both sacred and secular music from the region. It specializes in children's choral music and performs at church ceremonies and city events, with a strong focus on preserving Byzantine church chant.

Siniša Stamenković, born in Leskovac on September 16, 1982, completed his music education locally and graduated from the Higher Music School in 2016. Specializing in instrumental teaching and children's orchestras, he founded the Children's Church Choir Branko in 2012. He is currently studying Byzantine chant at the St. John of Damascus School in Novi Sad and holds a Music Theory degree.

Leskovac, a city in southern Serbia, is known for its rich culture, history, and cuisine. Alongside the famous Roštiljijada (Barbecue Festival), the city has a vibrant cultural scene with attractions like the National Theatre, Museum, and LIFFE film festival. Church music, especially Byzantine chant, is preserved through choirs and religious schools, preserving the region's spiritual and cultural heritage.

	TITLE	COMPOSER
COMPETITION	Dostojno jest 8. glas (It is truly right 8th tone)	Grigorije Protopsalt
	Hvalite imja Gospodnje (Praise the name of the Lord)	Protojerej Dimitrij Arzumanov
	Da cosi dotta man	G. P.da Palestrina
	Rum dum dum	Dragan Šuplevski
	Rehearsal for the concert	W. A. Mocart
SACRED	150. Psalam	Brotherhood of the Kovilj monastery
	Aliluja 4. glas	Simon Karas
	Dostojno jest 8. glas (It is truly right 8th tone)	Grigorije Protopsalt



Çanakkale H.A.T.M.S. Polyphonic Children's Choir Çanakkale, Türkiye

Ebru Gökçe
conductor

İrem Yalçiner
piano

Sarp Küçükler
percussion

Deniz Ece Gören
percussion

Ada Gökçe
percussion

Bilge Deren Gül
coordinator

Duru Derince & İnci Hayat Ermin
solos

Ebru Gökçe completed her early education in Antalya and graduated with honors in 2004 from Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Department of Music Education. She pursued advanced conducting studies with Prof. Mustafa Apaydın and received her master's degree under Prof. Dr. Emel Funda Türkmen. Throughout her academic and professional journey, she has actively performed in various choirs and completed conducting workshops with renowned professionals including Prof. Dr. Ahter Destan and Dr. Mete Gökçe.

In 2011, she founded the Hüseyin Akif Terzioğlu Secondary School Children's Choir, where she continues to serve as conductor and music teacher. Under her direction, the choir has earned national and international acclaim. Gökçe has led multiple children's choirs and actively supports choral development in civil society as a member and educator within the Polyphonic Arts and Choirs Association.

COMPETITION	TITLE	COMPOSER
	Why We Sing	Greg Gilipin
	Banaha	Folk Song from Congo
	Hot Chocolate	Andy Beck
	Güzel Yurdum	Salih Aydoğan
	Makedonsko Devojče	Jonče Hristovski
	Firefly	Andy Beck
	T'was The Night Before The Christmas	Andy Beck



Eskişehir Polyphonic Choir

Eskişehir, Türkiye

Özlem Erdoğan

conductor

Eskişehir Polyphonic Choir is an adult ensemble made up entirely of music teachers and individuals from various professional backgrounds who are experienced in choral singing. Independent of any institution or organization, it aims to promote and popularize polyphonic choral music among wider audiences. The choir has successfully represented the city by participating in major choral festivals.

The choir is conducted by Özlem Erdoğan, who was born in Ankara in 1977 and completed her primary and secondary education in Eskişehir. She studied piano, viola, and voice at Atatürk Fine Arts High School and later graduated from the Voice Department of Gazi University's Music Education Faculty. Since 1999, she has been teaching choir at Atatürk Fine Arts High School, where she continues to mentor bright young talents who will shape the future of music.

Located in northwestern Central Anatolia, Eskişehir is a vibrant city known for its dynamic cultural life and modern urban atmosphere. Home to three major universities, it is often referred to as a 'student city' and offers a rich variety of artistic and educational activities. The city is also an industrial hub, particularly strong in railways and aviation. With the historical charm of Odunpazarı and the scenic Porsuk River running through its center, Eskişehir stands out as a unique blend of tradition, innovation, and creativity.

	TITLE	COMPOSER
COMPETITION	Dök Zülfünü Meydana Gel (Let your locks fall and come forth)	Nevit Kodallı
	Yayla Yollarında Yürüyüp Gelir (Comes walking on the highland paths)	Muzaffer Sarısözen
	Bebek (Baby)	Sarper Özsan
	Su Gelir Bulanarak (The water comes, turbid)	Aykut Önder Sarıçiftçi
	So ben mi cha' bon tempo (I know well that I'm having a good time)	Orazio Vecchi
	Što mi e milo (How much I love it)	Jean Kleeb
FOLK	Kızılıklar Oldu Mu? (Are the cornelian cherries ripe?)	Hakan Önsöz
	Ceviz Oynamaya Geldim (I came to play walnuts)	Nedim Yıldız
	Rosa Amarela	Heitor Villa-Lobos



Intonacore *Utrecht, Netherlands*

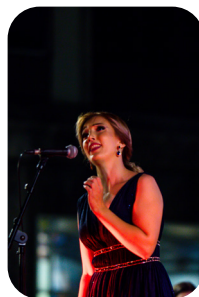
Thea Bakker
conductor

The student choir Intonacore of the Zangschool Utrecht was founded in 2018. The choir consists primarily of singers who have been singing with the Zangschool Utrecht since their youth. The singers have all gained extensive experience singing in various works on various large stages. Several singers also regularly sing as soloists with various ensembles. At the singing school, we work on singing quality, vocal development, music reading, stage presence, but above all, the joy of singing.

Thea Bakker studied singing, choral conducting, and church music at the Utrecht Conservatory, majoring in piano and organ. During and after her studies, she participated in various masterclasses, workshops, and courses in singing, choral direction, soundwork, choral conducting, and children's choir singing, both in the Netherlands and abroad. She conducts and specializes in vocal training for various choirs, gives workshops to (children's) choir directors and primary school teachers, and has a vocal practice. Thea Bakker founded the Utrecht Singing School in 2000 to give children the opportunity to use their voices to perform at a high level.

The Zangschool Utrecht is situated in Utrecht, one of the oldest cities in the Netherlands. It originated as a Roman fortification on the Limes River.

	TITLE	COMPOSER
COMPETITION	Kyrie	Giovanni Pierluigi Palestrina
	Uči me majko	Zapro Zapro
	Waterfountain	Merrill Garbus



City Choir "Lira"

Gradiška, Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Minja Šukalo Naerac
conductor

Vlado Danić
piano accompaniment

City Choir "Lira" has been active for more than 20 years and is composed predominantly of dedicated amateur singers who share a deep passion for choral music and maintain a highly professional approach to their work. The choir's repertoire includes a wide range of genres, from sacred and ethno music to works by early masters, as well as contemporary compositions. „Lira" is a choir that regularly participates in national and international competitions, while also maintaining an active concert presence throughout its home country. Over the years, the choir has received numerous accolades at international festivals.

The conductor of City Choir "Lira" is Minja Šukalo Naerac, a classically trained soprano with a Master's degree in solo singing. She is a vocal professor at the Music School in Gradiška and is widely recognized in the local community both as a solo performer and as the choir's artistic leader.

The choir's home city, Gradiška, is a picturesque Central European town situated on the banks of the Sava River. The local government actively nurtures the existence of the City Choir „Lira" and provides unwavering support to its activities, recognizing the choir as an important cultural ambassador of the community.

COMPETITION	TITLE	COMPOSER
	Amatemi ben mio (Love me, my beloved)	Luca Marenzio
	Deo Gracias (Thanks be to God)	Benjamin Britten
	Tiho noći (Silent night)	Mladen Matović
	Krajiške pjesme (Songs from Krajina)	Nemanja Savić
	Tri makedonske (Three Macedonian Songs)	Mladen Matović



Children's Choir Ss. Cyril and Methodius
Veles, Macedonia

Veselinka Mađarova
 conductor

The Children's Choir "St. Cyril and Methodius" was founded in 2012. It has an extensive portfolio of independent concerts, both in the country and abroad. Notably, it is the youngest choir in Macedonia to have participated in the Divine Liturgy. Its repertoire is rich and diverse, encompassing compositions of various genres and styles. The quality and progress of the choir are reflected in numerous awards and recognitions received at national and international competitions.

Throughout her long-standing musical career, Veselinka Mađarova has achieved significant success in choral conducting. She is the founder and conductor of the Children's Choir "St. Cyril and Methodius", which she has led over for years. Under her direction, the choir has won numerous awards at international choir competitions.

Veles is a city located in Central Macedonia. It has been home to many prominent Macedonian revivalists, revolutionaries, writers, and poets, making it one of the cradles of Macedonian culture. Veles is the birthplace of the first formally educated Macedonian musicians, including Stefan Gajdov, Živko Firfov, and the renowned opera diva Danka Firfova.

	TITLE	COMPOSER
COMPETITION	Kondak Utoli moja pechali	Irina Denisova
	Velichanija Kirilu I Metodiju (Honor to Cyrill and Methodius)	Todor Skalovski
	Goro le goro (Forest, oh forest)	Zapro Zapro
	Kyrie	Piotr Janczak
SACRED	Velichanija Kirilu I Metodiju (Honor to Cyrill and Methodius)	Todor Skalovski
	Kyrie	Piotr Janczak



NFM Girls' Choir from Wrocław

Wrocław, Poland

Małgorzata Podzielny
conductor

Mikołaj Szczęsny
piano accompaniment

The NFM Girls' Choir (Wrocław), whose members are girls aged nine to eighteen, was founded in 2022 and from the beginning it has worked under the direction of Małgorzata Podzielny. Despite the short period of activity, the NFM Girls' Choir has gained recognition for participating in the musical life of Wrocław, carrying out artistic projects in collaboration with famous conductors – including Ernst Kovacic and Enrico Onofri – and such ensembles as the European Union Baroque Orchestra, NFM Leopoldinum Orchestra, LutosAir Quintet, Lutosławski Quartet, NFM Choir, NFM Boys' Choir and Rondo Vocal Ensemble.

Małgorzata Podzielny is an assistant professor at the Faculty of Music Education, Choral Studies and Church Music of the Karol Lipiński Academy of Music in Wrocław. She has received 40 individual awards for her artistic and teaching achievements. Her choirs have been prize-winners at 90 national and international competitions, during which they have received over 120 awards.

	TITLE	COMPOSER
COMPETITION	Ta wodzicka czysta	Irena Pfeiffer
	Alleluja	Zapro Zapro
	Przybieżeli do Betlejem	Arr. Olek Miśkiewicz
	Z tamtej strony jeziora	Arr. Małgorzata Podzielny
	Ptasie plotki	Henryk Mikołaj Górecki
	Hail Holy Queen	Arr. Marc Shaiman



Szczecin Boys Choir "Nightingales"

Szczecin, Poland

Kamil Szałata
conductor

Maja Maliglowka
piano accompaniment

The Szczecin Boys Choir „Słowiki” was established in 1960 under the initiative of Professor Jan Szyrocki who conducted the choir for the first 15 years. The “Słowiki” choir has performed in majority of European countries, as well as in countries of Africa, Asia, Australia and Oceania. Since 2022 choir is conducted by Kamil Szałata. Under his direction choir achieved many successes.

Kamil Szałata -Graduate of the University of Arts in Szczecin in the field of choral conducting. Winner of choral and composition competitions. Artistic scholarship holder of the President of the city of Szczecin. He has been associated with the Szczecin Boys’ Choir “Słowiki” since 2011, and since 2022 as the chief conductor.

Szczecin is a charming city where history, architecture, and nature blend effortlessly. Known for its unique urban layout, it features grand boulevards, green spaces, and majestic buildings like the Pomeranian Dukes’ Castle and the Philharmonic Hall with its modern, award-winning design. The city sits along the Oder River, with picturesque waterfronts, parks, and nearby access to the Baltic Sea. Szczecin also boasts a vibrant cultural scene and a maritime spirit that reflects its shipbuilding heritage.

COMPETITION	TITLE	COMPOSER
	Ubi Caritas	Ola Gjeilo
	Szła Dzieweczka	Arr. Antoni Gref
	Be Thou My Vision	Bob Chilcott
	I'M Gonna Sing	Arr. Andre Van Ryckeghem



Mixed Youth Choir of Art School Nagy István

Miercurea Ciuc, Romania

Fábíán Attila
conductor

Since 1990 the choir has been made up of the high school students (grades 9–12) of the institution who are dedicated to promoting high-quality Hungarian and international choral music. Throughout its existence, the ensemble has earned numerous professional recognitions at national choir competitions and has become a prominent figure in the cultural life of the city.

Attila Fábíán (b. 1995) graduated from Partium Christian University in 2016. Under the guidance of Sándor Berkesi and Dr. Gábor Kovács, he got his degrees in music education and choral conducting. He supplemented his studies in Reykjavik at the Iceland Academy of the Arts. Specializing in church music, conducting and organ under the mentorship of Björn Streinar and Magnús Ragnarsson, he also obtained his masters degree there in 2019. Since 2023 he has been teaching at the Nagy István Secondary School of Arts in Miercurea Ciuc where he also conducts the institute's youth mixed choir.

Miercurea Ciuc, located in the heart of Seclerland, is a picturesque Transylvanian town rich in history and cultural heritage. It is renowned for the famous Csiksomlyó pilgrimage and its proximity to Saint Anne Lake. The vibrant arts and culinary scene of the town also attracts many visitors. With its welcoming atmosphere, stunning natural surroundings and tradition-preserving community, the town offers an unforgettable experience to all who come to visit it.

	TITLE	COMPOSER
COMPETITION	Szép könyörgés (Gracious Prayer)	Kodály Zoltán
	Je ne l'ose dire (I do not dare to say it)	Pierre Certon
	Lángok (Flames)	Tóth Péter
	Humoreska (Humoresque)	Zifko Firfov
	Mă mieram (I wondered, my Sweetheart)	Mihail Jora
SACRED	A pünkösdi rózsza (The May rose)	Daróci Bárdos Tamás
	O salutaris Hostia (O Saving Victim)	Horváth Márton Levente
	Szép könyörgés (Gracious Prayer)	Kodály Zoltán



Ondrášek Czech Youth Choir , ZUŠ Nový Jičín
Nový Jičín, Czech Republic

Boris Nykl
conductor

Marta Špačková
piano accompaniment

Alena Jestřebská
oboe

Ondrášek Czech Youth choir, ZUŠ Nový Jičín, has been one of the most successful children’s choirs in the Czech Republic for over 58 years. It has received numerous awards at prestigious international competitions and festivals across the globe. The choir regularly collaborates with leading Czech artists, composers, and orchestras. Its diverse repertoire ranges from Renaissance works to contemporary choral music.

Since 2024, the choir has been led by Mgr. Boris Nykl, a graduate of Music Education and Choir Conducting from the Faculty of Education, Charles University in Prague, where he is currently pursuing his doctoral studies in Music Theory and Pedagogy. He conducts the Ondrášek Concert and Chamber Choirs and works as accompanist for its preparatory division. In addition, he leads several other ensembles, including Nyklband, Datio, and the Moravian Madrigalists, and teaches at the St. Agnes Secondary Schools in Odry.

	TITLE	COMPOSER
COMPETITION	Come to the music	Joseph M. Martin
	Dixit Maria (Mary said)	Hans Leo Hassler
	Rum dum dum	Dragan Šuplevski
	Zazpívaj slavičku (Sing the nightingale)	Tereza Surovíková
	Turot eszik a cigan (The gypsy eats a turkey)	Zoltán Kodály
SACRED	Laudate Deum (Praise God)	Henry Purcel
	Píseň česká (Czech song)	Bedřich Smetana
	Rembrandt	Zdeněk Lukáš
	Korunovaná hvězdami (Crowned with stars)	Marc Dannaud
FOLK	Synku Janku (My son, Jan)	Václav Ptáček
	Což se mně, má milá (Which seems pretty to me, my dear)	Jaroslav Krček
	Pod našima vršíčkama (Under our hills)	Václav Ptáček
	Tolita toten	Zdeněk Lukáš



Pljevlja City Choir

Pljevlja, Montenegro

Zerina Hubanić
conductor

Stevan Vukojičić
guitar

Hajrudin Jakupović
accordion

Pljevlja City Choir was founded by Secretariat for culture Pljevlja in 2020., with the aim of developing a creative attitude towards musical heritage and creativity, encouraging active participation in the processes of developing culture. Choir cultivates and performs several types of artistic music, engages in concert activities and has successful solo performances behind him. The Choir's repertoire, in addition to artistic compositions and arrangements of popular songs, folk music compositions as well as arrangements of songs from the Balkans. Choir is mixed amateur singing group consisting of soprano, alto, tenor and bass voices. Choir currently has 35 members.

Zerina Hubanić has been the conductor of the Choir since 2024. Zerina graduated Music Academy in Cetinje, Montenegro. She works as a piano and solfeggio teacher at Pljevlja Music School, plays three instruments: piano, accordion and tambourine. She was participant in various domestic and international competition in the country and abroad and mentor for female students. She won numerous awards at international competitions.

Pljevlja is a city located in the north of Montenegro. It is the third largest city in Montenegro. It borders Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. Pljevlja is the center of the energy potential of Montenegro, an important industrial, cultural and educational center, city with a long and rich past and history and a place where different civilization lived.

	TITLE	COMPOSER
FOLK	Ruse kose	Jovica Gavrilović
	Biljana platno beleše	Marko Stevanović
	Još ne sviče rujna zora	Vasilije Nikolić
	Ajde, Jano	Traditional
	Preleteše ptice lastavice	Marko Tajčević



Russian Ensemble "Slavjanka"

Skopje, Macedonia

Olga Despotović
conductor

"Slavjanka" was formed in 2000, born out of the desire to nurture Slavic folk song. Initially composed mostly of Russian and Ukrainian women, today it has more Macedonians among its members, with the number of those who have been members over the years reaching around 60 people. Currently, "Slavjanka" has 15 singers, with plans to expand its membership. The total repertoire of songs consists of more than 60 songs.

The artistic director of 'Slavjanka' – Mrs. Olga Despotović, who comes from her hometown of Krasnodar, from the vast spaces of our kin, Russia, has spread the beauty of Russian melodies throughout our beautiful Macedonia and has poured the wonderful words of Russian songs that seem to float above us, bringing us closer to their culture, tradition, and people through 'Slavjanka', which has been affirmed on the Macedonian music scene for more than 25 years and, with its numerous full-length performances, participation in festivals, cultural-artistic events and celebrations, as well as television and radio programs, brings the beauty and warmth of Russian songs to the Macedonian people.

'Slavjanka' was established in Skopje, the Capital of Macedonia. Skopje is located in the upper course of River Vardar and the central area of the Balkan Peninsula. In Roman period it was known under the name Skupi. Among the cultural monuments which Skopje is famous for, are: The Stone Bridge, The Fortress Kale, The Monument House of Mother Theresa, The Old Bazaar, The Old Railway Station, The Orthodox Temple, The Orthodox Church St. Spas, The Mustafa Pasha Mosque, etc.

	TITLE	COMPOSER
FOLK	Rodina (Homeland)	Sergei Trofimov
	Ja lecu nad Rasie (I flew over Rasie)	Grigorii Ponomerenko
	Kazacok (medley of Russian songs)	Traditional



Mixed Choir AKUDUNS "Sonja Marinković" Novi Sad, Serbia

Dunja Deurić Kartalović
conductor

Mixed Choir of the Academic Cultural and Art Society of the University of Novi Sad Sonja Marinković (Sonja Choir) was founded in 1961 in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, and was the first important section of the Society. The academic background, tradition and reputation of the choir are confirming its high artistic achievements by winning prestigious awards at numerous domestic and international festivals and competitions.

Since 2015 the choir's conductor and artistic director has been Dunja Deurić Kartalović. This is the time when the choir gets a completely new artistic aura, which is characterized by the vocal upgrade and the introduction of a scene movement in order to enrich the audio-visual experience of the choir music. Dunja is currently employed as a professional associate at the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad and holds numerous awards.

The choir's primary goals are preserving and nurturing local and foreign secular and sacred choral art, expanding culture, art, and musical amateurism, and engaging in various ceremonies, contests, and other public performances, with the goal of establishing a quality choral scene in Novi Sad, Serbia, the city that boasts a diverse history shaped by various cultures and ethnicities. Novi Sad earned the title of European Capital of Culture in 2022.

COMPETITION	TITLE	COMPOSER
	Quell' augellin, che canta (That Little Bird, who sings)	Claudio Monteverdi
	The Shower	Edward Elgar
	Vena	Kiril Makedonski
	Rum, dum, dum	Dragan Šuplevski
	Pal-So-Seong (Laughing Voices)	Hyo-Won Woo



Academic Choir of the Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa *Poland*

Marek Kudra
conductor

Korneliusz Wiatr
piano accompaniment

The choir was created in October 2022. It consists of students, employees and supporters of our university. Each of the university's departments has its own representation among choristers. The first concert of the Choir took place on December 16, 2022 as part of our university's Christmas Concert.

Marek Kudra - conductor, lecturer at the Jan Długosz Academy in Częstochowa, doctor of musical arts, organist, teacher. He is a graduate of the K. Lipiński Academy of Music in Wrocław, the F. Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz and the University of Economics in Wrocław. He constantly cooperates with academic choirs. With these ensembles he gave many concerts in Poland and abroad.

Częstochowa is a beautiful city in Upper Silesia, famous for the most important sanctuary in Poland - Jasna Góra with the miraculous image of the Black Madonna.

	TITLE	COMPOSER
COMPETITION	Alleluja	Romuald Twardowski
	Cantate Domino	Karl Jenkins
	U wos mamo roz	arr. Mirosław Gałęski
	Go down, Moses!	arr. Lesław Podolski
SACRED	Alleluja	Romuald Twardowski
	Cantate Domino	Karl Jenkins
FOLK	U wos mamo roz	arr. Mirosław Gałęski
	Stużyłem ja Tobie	Arr. Włodzimierz Sotysik
	So pleased	T. Zografski
POP	The lion sleeps tonight	Robert John
	Didn't my Lord	arr. Lesław Podolski
	Go down, Moses!	arr. Lesław Podolski



Utrechts Jeugdkoor

Utrecht, Netherlands

Thea Bakker
conductor

The 'Utrechts Jeugdkoor' is one of the choirs of the Zangschool Utrecht. At the Zangschool, we work on singing quality, vocal development, music reading, stage presence, but above all, the joy of singing. Besides the lessons, which are held in Utrecht, the children also see each other frequently outside of class. Through joint activities, such as concerts and the choir weekend, a close bond often develops between the singers.

Thea Bakker studied singing, choral conducting, and church music at the Utrecht Conservatory, majoring in piano and organ. During and after her studies, she participated in various masterclasses, workshops, and courses in singing, choral direction, soundwork, choral conducting, and children's choir singing, both in the Netherlands and abroad.

The Zangschool Utrecht is situated in Utrecht, in the middle of the Netherlands. Utrecht is one of the oldest cities in the Netherlands. It originated as a Roman fortification on the Limes River.

COMPETITION	TITLE	COMPOSER
	Festive alleluia	Lyn Williams
	Lisa veterinar	Zapro Zaprov
	Muhona	Cedrick Howoseb
	Geshem	Yoel Engel
	Las Amarillas	Stephen Hatfield



Vista Choir Ankara, Türkiye

İnci Tıǧlı Ayağ
conductor

Esra Hande Lüleci
piano accompaniment

Founded in September 2019 in Ankara by our conductor İnci Ayağ, the Vista Choir is composed of amateur music enthusiasts who find joy in singing together, performing a carefully selected repertoire from both Turkish and world music. Though amateur in polyphonic music, we are passionate and, most importantly, united in pursuit of a shared dream. We chose the name Vista, which means “view, vision, something imagined or aspired to,” for this very reason. After the pandemic, our choir resumed rehearsals in May 2022 under the umbrella of the Sevda Cenap And Foundation, with Hande Lüleci as our pianist. Vista has joined many festivals in Türkiye and has been awarded in several categories such as stylistic compatibility and instrument accompaniment.

İnci Tıǧlı Ayağ studied vocal training and choral conducting at Marmara University. She continued her education at Istanbul University State Conservatory, and performed as chorister and soloist in various choirs, including Dutch Chapel Cantata Choir and TRT Youth Choir. She trained with renowned conductors in Europe through Vox Europae and represented Turkey at the 1987 Passau Choir Festival. A member of the State Polyphonic Choir since 1988, she earned her MA at Gazi University and attended workshops in Austria and France. Since 2000, she has conducted Alegria and Vista Choirs.

FOLK	TITLE	COMPOSER
	Deriko	Saip Eğüz
	Ederlezi	Goran Bregović
	Heyamo	Tatiana Lina
	Jarnana	Zoran Hristić
	Mari Mome	Dobri Hristov
	Niksar'ın Fidanları (The saplings of Niksar)	Saip Eğüz
	Karadeniz Türküsü (The Black Sea Folk Song)	Traditional



WPA UAM Chamber Choir from Kalisz
Kalisz, Poland

Beata Szymańska
 conductors

Maria Szczap
 sopran

Maciej Jesiołkiewicz
 tenor

The Chamber Choir of the Faculty of Pedagogy and Fine Arts in Kalisz, a branch of Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, was founded in 1996 by Beata Szymańska, who continues to serve as its conductor. The ensemble is composed of students and graduates specializing in Artistic Education in Music. The choir performs both in Poland and internationally, actively participating in competitions, festivals, and academic events.

The choir specializes in contemporary choral music but also embraces works from other historical periods. It regularly collaborates with the Symphony Orchestra of the Kalisz Philharmonic.

Beata Szymańska, Associate Professor at Adam Mickiewicz University, is the choir’s conductor and also serves as Artistic Director of the Kalisz Choral Festival. In 2017, she was honored with the Merit Award for her contributions to the city of Kalisz.

Kalisz, the choir’s home city, is one of the oldest in Poland. Located along the historic “Amber Trail,” which once connected the Roman Empire with the Baltic Sea, Kalisz lies in the picturesque valley of the Prosna River. It is the second-largest city in the Greater Poland region, where history and modern life harmoniously intertwine to create a unique cultural atmosphere.

	TITLE	COMPOSER
COMPETITION	Lux aeterna	Ivo Antognini
	Every door	Lorenzo Donati
	Stoi łód na Prośnie	Jacek Sykulski
	Makedonsko devojče	arr. Brygida Sawicka
SACRED	Lux aeterna	Ivo Antognini
	Alleluia	Elaine Hagenberg



J U R Y



**Božidar
Crnjanski**



**Zapro
Zaprov**



**Masis Aram
Gozbek**



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