

PROGRAM
Grieg International Choir Festival
& NINA Solo Competition - for young voices
Bergen 24. – 27. September 2026

Familien Brynildsens Legat



BERGEN
KOMMUNE



Vestland
fylkeskommune

Dear participants and guests,



It is a true honor to welcome you all from around the world to the Grieg International Choir Festival and the NINA Solo Competition. During these days in September, you will fill our city with the wonderful energy of 28 choirs representing 8 nations, alongside 24 talented young vocal artists from 9 different countries. Music has a unique power to bridge cultures and unite people in a shared language across borders. This might be more important than ever. Bergen has a rich musical heritage, not least as the hometown of Edvard Grieg. We are proud to host this celebration of international choral artistry and young voices, and we hope your stay in our city is truly inspiring. I wish all participants the best of luck in the competitions, and I hope everyone enjoys the concerts and the atmosphere here in Bergen. Welcome all singers, conductors, and music lovers to Bergen!

Best regards,
Marit Warncke, Mayor of Bergen



It is with great pleasure we welcome 28 choirs from 8 nations to the 11th Grieg International Choir Competition, and 24 young singers from 9 nations to the 7th NINA Solo Competition – for young voices. In addition to the competitions, the festival will offer a series of friendship concerts featuring participating choirs in the heart of Bergen and throughout the surrounding area. Music and singing have a unique power to bring people together, fostering friendship, mutual respect and a deeper understanding between cultures. Through the shared experience of music, we are given the opportunity to discover, learn from and appreciate the rich diversity of traditions and customs represented by our participants.



The venues for the concerts and competitions have been carefully selected to provide a fitting and inspiring setting for every part of the festival. The grand highlight will take place on Saturday at Grieghallen, the city's largest and most distinguished concert hall. Following the eagerly anticipated Grand Prix Finale, we hope you will join us for an evening of celebration, fellowship and singing.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to Bergen and to experiencing the music you have prepared with such dedication and commitment. We know how much time, effort and passion you have invested in preparing for this festival, and we are honored to have the opportunity to hear you perform.

Our hope is that your participation in the Grieg Festival will leave you with cherished memories, lasting friendships and renewed inspiration for your continued artistic and musical development.

We wish you a most memorable stay in Bergen, every success in the competitions, and above all, many joyful moments of music and fellowship.

Cecilie Lycke, Chairman of the Board of Grieg International Choir Festival
Trude Nistad Lien, Chairman of the Board of Norwegian Choir Association, Hordaland

NINA Solo Competition

– for young voices.

The vocal competition is open for all young and talented singers between 15 and 25 years. The contestants will sing pieces from the classical tradition, and after the first round the jury will choose contestants for the 2nd round before the three finalists are chosen. The competition is open to enter as audience for all participants at the festival.

Adjudicators: Iano Tamar, Italy / Georgia,
Brigitte Wohlfarth / Germany, Giacomo Prestia / Italy
Pianist: Vyara Shuperlieva / Austria

TIME SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 25. SEPTEMBER

15:00 - 20:00

NINA Solo Competition: 1st round.

Venue: Nykirken

SATURDAY 26. SEPTEMBER

14:30 - 16:00

Competition: 2nd round

Venue: Nykirken

20:00 - 22:00

Grand Prix Choir Competitions and
finale NINA Solo Competition

Venue: Grieghallen

PARTICIPANTS

Alisa Protsenko - Ukraine
Amanda Kvammen - Norway
Andrija Sekulic - Serbia
Bertine Skovly - Norway
Elisabeth Drønen-Midtgård - Norway
Ellen Gahm - Sweden
Felix Schulte - Germany
Flavia Askevold - Norway/Italy
Gabriel Olsson - Sweden
Ida Eid Tunestveit - Norway
Jacqueline Lanzrein - Norway
Karen Sofie Nilsen Hafskjold - Norway
Kristaps Kumsars - Latvia
Kristina Polov - Estonia
Kristoffer Dyblie Erdal - Norway
Leon Seferi - Norway
Lina Gogule - Latvia
Marica Lina Bisogno - Italy
Max Gustav Zeuthen - Denmark
Olivers Veldre - Latvia
Reinis Liepiņš - Latvia
Vilde Jønholt - Norway
Wiktoria Boroń - Poland
Zuzanna Pala - Poland

Competition program: www.griegfestival.no

Time schedule

THURSDAY 24. SEPTEMBER

19:30 – 21:00

Concert

Venue: Troldsalen

19:30 – 21:00

Concert

Venue: Korskirken

FRIDAY 25. SEPTEMBER

15:00 - 20:00

NINA Solo Competition – for young voices
1st round

Venue: Nykirken, Kulturkirken i Bergen

15:00 – 21:30

Choir competition

Venue: Bergen Domkirke

- Category: Folk music
- Category: Sacred music

18:00 – 19:15

Concert

Venue: Korskirken

19:30 – 21:00

Concert

Venue: Korskirken

SATURDAY 26. SEPTEMBER

14:30 – 16:00

NINA Solo Competition – for young voices, 2nd round
Venue: Nykirken, Kulturkirken i Bergen

09:30 – 17:00

Choir competition

Venue: Grieghallen

- Category: Female choir
- Category: Youth choir
- Category: Male choir
- Category: Mixed choir

13:30 Concert

Venue: Peer Gyntsalen

15:30 Concert

Venue: Peer Gyntsalen

20:00 – 20:00

Grand Prix Finale and finale NINA Solo competition
Venue: Grieghallen

22.00

Social gathering in Grieghallen foyer

SUNDAY 27. SEPTEMBER

13:30 – 15:00

Concert

Venue: Johanneskirken

ENTRANCE / TICKETS

Program details and map for venues: <https://griegfestival.no/>
All participants have free entrance to all events. Audience can
buy tickets at TicketCo, and at the entrance



Thursday 24. September

19:30 – 21:30

Concert - Venue: Troldsalen

*Female choir Usmev, Slovakia, Kammerpikene, Norway, Brilliant Harmony, Japan
Choir of the University of Environmental and Life Sciences in Wroclaw, Poland
Carl Johans Kammarkör, Sweden, E Studio Girls` Choir, Estonia*

19:30 – 21:30

Concert - Venue: Korskirken

Young Voices, Slovakia, Skule Choir, Canada, Seim Songkor, Norway, Cantus Vokalensemble, Sweden

Friday 25. September

15:00 - 21:30

Choir Competition: Folk music, Sacred music

Venue: Bergen Domkirke

15:00 FOLK MUSIC

SSE Riga Choir, conductor *Lauris Goss*

Uguns rituāls (Fire ritual) - Latvian folk song, Irina Mihailovska,
Es Gulu, Gulu (I lie asleep) - Latvian folk song arr. Arijš Skepasts
Pērkontēvs (Father thunder) - Latvian folk song, Laura Jekabsone

Stavanger Studentsangforening, conductor *Åsta Sirnes*

Vé no velkomne med æra - trad. Geir Tveitt/ Håkon Berge
Bestelanden, trad/ Ørjan Matre - Paal-Helge Haugen
Som den gyldne sol frembryter - trad. H. Ødegaard, T. Kingo

Female choir Usmev, conductor *Daniela Januchova*

Dve dievcenske piesne zo Zemplina (Two girls' songs from
Zemplin) - folk songs arr. by Ivan Hrusovsky, slovak lyrics,
Isli hudci horou (Through woods went musicians) -
Maria Jasurdova, slovak lyrics (based on folk ballad)
Dindaru dindaru - Laura Jekabsone, latvian lyrics (based on
latvian traditional singing game)

Korensamblet Stas, conductor *Rannveig Skillingstad*

Bruremarsj frå Valsøyfjord/Aure - trad. H. Sommero /G. Pedersen
Jag blåse i min pipa, trad., arr. Rannveig Skillingstad
Amen! Jesus han skal råde - trad., arr. Henning Sommero
Ndikhokhele Bawo - trad South African, arr. Hodge

**Choir of the Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life
Sciences**, conductor *Alan Urbanek*

Na ciepłej niebieskiej łące - Romuald Twardowski
Powiadają, że jest ładna - arr. M. Krzynski
Nie chcę cię, Kasiuniu - Stanisław Wiechowicz

Bergens Kvinnelige Studentersangforening,
conductor *Regine Cornelia Forthun*

Annan Polska - Anna-Mari Kähärä / Elokuun lopussa
Springdans fra Vestfold
Som den gylne sol frembryter - trad./ H. Ødegaard, T. Kingo

16:45 SACRED MUSIC

Skule Choir

conductors, Amanda Yu, Lauren Levorson-Wong, Elaine Wang
Hold Me, Rock Me - Brian Tate
So Is Life - Harry Belafonte, arr. Lauren Levorson-Wong
I Sing Because I'm Happy - Charles H. Gabriel, Kenneth Paden, Rollo Dillworth

Acta Musicae, conductor Irina Ødegaard Korchuganova

Cantate Domino - Josu Elberdin / Josu Elberdin
Eg veit i himmerik ei borg - trad., arr. Irina Ødegaard Korchuganova

Young Voices, conductor Zuzana Dirbáková

Ave Generosa - Ola Gjeilo
Cantate Domino - Charlotte Botha
Agnus Dei - Anna Kurekova

Dysonans Chamber Choir

conductor Magdalena Wdowicka-Mackiewicz
Exsultate Deo - Alessandro Scarlatti
Ave Regina Caelorum - Marek Raczynski (2012)
III. Requiem aeternam - Robert Howells

Sandefjord Vokalensemble, conductor Erlend Leinan Lund

I denna ljuva sommartid - Kim André Arnesen / J. von Düben
Ave Regina - Ko Matsushita
O Salutaris - André Caplét

Oslo Domkirkes Ungdomskor

conductor Sindre Hugo Bjerkestrand
My soul, there is a country, no1 from Songs of Farewell – Charles H. H. Parry
Peace I I leave with you, op 43, no 2 – Knut Nystedt
This little babe, from A Ceremony of Carols, op. 28 – B. Britten.
Karin Boyes aftonbön - Egil Hovland

Fjellkoret, conductor Jan L. Jacobsen

Ave Maria - Trond Kverno
Hymn to Freedom – O. Peterson /H. Hamilton, arr.: Jim Clancy
O Love - Elaine Hagenberg, Georg Matheson

Cantus vokalensemble, conductor Birgitta Urbán

Laudi, sats 3 - Ingvar Lidholm, Psalm 116,
Even when He is silent - Kim André Arnesen
Exsultate Deo - Michael Waldenby, Psalm 81

Kammerpikene, conductor Hege Monica Eskedal

Torø Liti – trad./Knut Nystedt
Ave Verum Corpus - Francis Polenc
Regina Caeli - Cecilia Mc Dowall
Northern Lights - Ola Gjeilo

Brilliant Harmony, conductor Ko Matsushita

Horae - Orbán György
Agnus Dei - Ivo Antognini
Tantum ergo - Ko Matsushita

Cantabo, conductor Tove Annette Holter

O Magnum Mysterium - W. Byrd/Tove Holter
Even when He is silent - Kim André Arnesen
O come, let us sing - Egil Hovland

Ole Bull Kammerkor, conductor Halldis Rønning

Bogoróditse Djévo - trad Church Slavonic lyrics from the Orthodox Book of prayers, composer Arvo Pärt
Jerusalem - lyrics Lucas 19, 42-44, composer Egil Hovland
Crucifixus - lyrics John 19:18, composer Antonio Lotti
Denn er hat seinen Engeln befohlen - lyrics Psalm 91, 11-12, composer Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy Duration

Os Vocalis, conductor Ørjan Hartveit

I am the rose of Sharon - Høysangen kap. 2, arr. Søren Møller
Å leva - Anders Vassbotn, arr. Sparre Olsen
Som den gyldne sol frembryter - Trad., H. Ødegaard, T. Kingo

Carl Johans kammarkör, conductor David Molin

Until the daybreak - Sven-David Sandström, Song of songs
Canticum novum - Ivo Antognini, Psalm 96:1-2
Lux Aeterna, Ērik Ešenvalds, Requiem mass
Data est mihi omnis potestas - James MacMillan, Matthew 28:18-19

Salhuskoret, *conductor Jan L. Jacobsen*
Vitae Lux – Frode Alnæs, Ivar Dyrhaug
Blå salme – Henning Sommero, Erik Bye
Jerusalem – Hubert Parry, William Blake

Choir of the Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences, *conductor Alan Urbanek*
Błogosławi Dusze Moja Gospoda – Jelena Junek
Otcze Nasz – Romuald Twardowski
Alleluja - Romuald Twardowski

E STuudio Girls` Choir, *conductor Külli Lokko*
Ave verum corpus, from Tria Cantica Sacrae Mariae - Kurt Bikkembergs
Peace upon uou, Jerusalem - Arvo Pärt, Psalm 122 (121)
Biegga Luohte - Jan Sandström/ Ulrika Emanuelsson

Studentersangforeningen i Bergen
conductor Ole-Andreas Førde
Bön, kärlek och tro, Knut Nystedt
Sanctus - Friedrich Silcher
Ubi Caritas - Ola Geilo
Soon-ah will be done - William L. Dawson

18:00-19:15

Concert
Venue: Korskirken

*SSE Riga Choir, Latvia, Korensemblet Stas, Norway, Vox, Sweden,
Bergens kvinnelige studentersangforening, Norway*

19:30-21:00

Concert
Venue: Korskirken

*FRYD, Norway, Kören Decibel, Sweden, Oslo Domkirkes Ungdomskor, Norway
Stavanger Studentsangforening, Norway, Dysonans Chamber Choir, Poland*

Saturday 26. September

09:30 - 17:00

Choir Competitions - Venue: Grieghallen

09:30 FEMALE CHOIR

Bergens Kvinnelige Sudentersangforening

conductor Regine Cornelia Forthun

Spes - Mia Makaroff, lyrics Mia Makaroff & Nils Aslak

Valkeapää

God's Great Dust Storm - Katzenjammer

Acta Musicae

conductor Irina Ødegaard Korchuganova

Vi skal ikkje sova - Geirr Tveitt / A. Låstad Lygre, arr. Liv

Hukkelberg

O Sapientia - Tadeja Vulc, Antiphon for Vespers

Panta Rhei - Jim Papoulis, arr. Francisco J. Núñez

Sandefjord Vokalensemble, conductor Erlend Leinan Lund

Kanarbik - Veljo Tormis

Shall I compare thee - Karin Eklund, William Shakespeare

Solveig - Eva Holm Foosnæs / Edvard Grieg, Henrik Ibsen

Cantabo, conductor Tove Annette Holter

Kvifor - Christian Holter

Stundom e' mi kjerring så god - Henrik Ødegaard

Lullaby of Broadway - Harry Warren/Arne Dagsvik

Think before I talk - Madison Love, Scott Harris, Andrew

Cedar/Christian Holter

Kammerpikene, conductor Hege Monica Eskedal

Båten og Båra - Mary Pettersen/Henrik Ødegaard

Lok - Edvard Grieg, Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson

Wild Nights - Eva Holm Foosnæs / Emily Dickinson

My Funny Valentine - Rodgers/ Hart, arr. Bjørn Kruse

Dragefjellets damekor, conductor Maria Therese Bersås

Vargsongen - Bjørn Isfält, Astrid Lindgren, arr. Andrea Eklund

Abendlied - Josef Rheinberger, arr. Nadezhda Averina,

Osanna! - Henrik Colding-Sørensen

Female choir Usmev

conductor Daniela Januchova

Laulu perunoiden kiehuessa - Anna-Mari Kähärä, finnish lyrics

Aestimatus sum - Tomás Luis de Victoria, latin lyrics,

Alleluia. Laudate Dominum, Omnes gentes - Ambrož Čopi, latin lyrics

Makedonska humoreska -Todor Skalovsiki, macedonian lyrics

Vox, conductor Josefine Domargård

Springdans - traditional folk song, arr Tone Krohn

Kung Liljekonvalje - music David Wikander/arr Gabriel

Wilczkowski, lyrics Gustaf Fröding,

Ljusa kvällar om våren - music Benny Andersson, lyrics Björn

Ulvaeus, arr Dan Boberg

What happens when a woman takes power - Alexandra

Olsavsky of Artemisia

Fryd, conductor Jorunn Bakke Nydal

Til deg du heid og bleike myr - Ketil Bjørnstad, Arne Garborg, arr. Ingunn Solem

Desert song - Säge, arr. Erin Bentlage

I have a voice - Moira Smiley

Brilliant Harmony, conductor Ko Matsushita

Kamuy - Ko Matsushita / The epic poems of Ainu people

Tre vers til mor - Ellrun Ystad / Idunn Vindspoll, Halldis Moren Vesås

Laudate Dominum - Levente Gyöngyösi

13:45 YOUTH CHOIR

Oslo Domkirkes Ungdomskor

conductor Sindre Hugo Bjerkestrand

I will wade out, fra Three songs of Faith – Eric Whitacre
Med en bukett – Torbjørn Dyrud
Amor, lo Sento L'alma, from sixs "Fire Songs" on Italian
Renaissance Poems - Morten Lauridsen
Salve Regina – Francis Poulenc

E STudio Girls` Choir, conductor Külli Lokko

Soov - Rasmus Puur/Kersti Merilaas
It sounded as if the streets were running - Jonathan
Dove/Emily Dickinson
El Hambo - Jaakko Mäntyjärvi

Young Voices, conductor Zuzana Dirbáková

I denna ljuva sommartid - Kim André Arnesen
Rytmus - Ivan Hrušovský
Išli hudci horou - Mária Jašurďová

13:30 MALE CHOIR

Studentersangforeningen i Bergen

conductor Ole-Andreas Førde

Havsalt - Valter Aamodt / Henrik Rytter
Leelo - Estisk trad, arr. Mart Saars
The rocky road to Dublin - Irsk trad., arr. Martin Eikeset Koren
Gryning vid havet - Hugo Alfvén, Sten Selander

13:45 MIXED CHOIR

Skule Choir, conductors Amanda Yu, Lauren Levorson-Wong, Elaine Wang

Eatnemen Vuelie - Frode Fjellheim, arr. Emily Crocker
Earth Song - Frank Ticheli
Qilak - Andrew Balfour, Catherine Robbins

Salhuskoret, conductor Jan L. Jacobsen

Viva la vida – Coldplay, arr. Jens Johansen
Golden ticket – Highasakite, arr. Håvard Sveaas
Don't stop me now - Freddy Mercury, arr.: Jay Giallombardo /
Jan L. Jacobsen

SSE Riga Choir, conductors Lāsma Vāciete and Lauris Goss

Double, Double Toil and Trouble - Jaakko Mäntyjärvi, William
Shakespeare
Ausmas stundā - Pēteris Plakidis ,Egils Plaudis
Mironczarnia - Jakub Neske , Miron Białoszewski

Korensmblet Stas, conductor Rannveig Skillingstad

Jubilate Deo – Hyowon Woo
Never more will the wind – Erik Bosio, Hilda Dolittle
Voi voi – Georg Elgaaen, arr. Anders Edenroth

Dysonans Chamber Choir

conductor Magdalena Wdowicka-Mackiewicz

Ave Maris Stella - Trond Kverno
Lay a Garland - Robert Lucas Pearsall, words from Francis
Beaumont and John Fletcher
Laudate Dominum - Levente Gyöngyösi

Ole Bull Kammerkor, conductor Halldis Rønning

Morning Star - Arvo Pärt (text inspired by a tomb stone in
Durham)
Snart kysser hun sin venn i Rosenhagen - Torbjørn Dyrud,
Inger Hagerup
And the Swallow – Caroline Shaw, lyrics inspired by Psalm 84

Seim Songkor, conductor Arild Rohde

Come in and stay a while - Rhonda Polay
Nachtwache I - fra Fünf Gesänge, by Johannes Brahms,
Friederich Rückert
Fair Phyllis - John Farmer
Under den lysande himmelens auge - Irene Adolfsen Wenæs,
Jon Fosse

Kören Decibel, *conductor Roger Rådström*

The way we win - Rådström

Double, Double Toil and Trouble - Jaakko Mäntyjärvi, William Shakespeare

Aquarius - Galt MacDermont, arr. Roger Rådström. Lyrics:

James Rado/Gerome Ragni,

Fjellkoret, *conductor Jan L. Jacobsen*

Entrada Lodica - Jan L. Jacobsen

And so it goes - Billy Joel, arr.: Bob Chilcott

Mannen og kråka - trad. arr.: Lars Morset / Jan L. Jacobsen

Carl Johans kammarkör, *conductor David Molin*

Snabbt jagar stormen våra år - Sven-Eric Johansson, Erik Axel Karlfeldt

To the hands: III. Her beacon-hand beckons - Caroline Shaw

Kvällen stundar - Arne Lundmark, trad. Malung, Sverige trad.

Advance democracy - Benjamin Britten, Randall Swingler.

Stavanger Studentsangforening, *conductor Åsta Sirnes*

I stenbrottet - Knut Nystedt, Nils Bolander

And the swallow - Caroline Shaw, psalm 84

The Black Monkey - Eva Holm Foosnæs, Katherine Mansfield

13:30-15:00

Concert

Venue: Peer Gyntsalen / Grieghallen

Acta Musicae, Norway, Vox, Sweden, Brilliant Harmony, Japan

Choir of the University of Environmental and Life Sciences in Wroclaw, Poland

Cantus Vokalensemble, Sweden

15:30-17:00

Concert

Venue: Peer Gyntsalen / Grieghallen

E STudio Girls` Choir, Estonia, Oslo Domkirkes Ungdomskor, Norway

Skule Choir, Canada, Kammerpikene, Norway, SSE Riga Choir, Latvia

20:00 -21:00

Grieg Grand Prix Finale and finale NINA Solo Competition

Venue: Griegsalen

The contestants will be chosen by the jury from the participating choirs in Grieg International Choir competition, together with three finalists from Nina Solo competition.

21:00 – 22:00

Closing event/competition results

Sunday 27. September

11:00-12:00

Church service

*Bergen Domkirke: Oslo Domkirkes Ungdomskor
Johanneskirken: Brilliant Harmony*

13:30-15:00

Concert
Venue: Johanneskirken

Fryd, Norway, Young Voices, Slovakia, Carl Johans Kammarkör, Sweden, Brilliant Harmony, Japan

Adjudicators



Ragnar Rasmussen – Norway

Ragnar Rasmussen is a choral conductor, university professor and composer based at NTNU Music in Trondheim, Norway. He is currently conductor/artistic director of the professional ensemble Nidaros Vokal (N) and the international Utopia & Reality Chamber Choir (EU). He is a former conductor of Norway's National Youth Choir and the World Youth Choir, Vokal Nord, Stavanger Symphony Orchestra Chamber Choir and Kilden Vocal Ensemble in Kristiansand. He regularly gives lectures at music academies, seminars for choirs and choral conductors, judges choir and choral conducting competitions, and guest-conducts professional choirs. He has worked with ensembles such as the BBC Singers, State Choir Latvija, Estonian National Male Choir, Turkish State Choir, the Slovene Philharmonic Orchestra and Choir, the RTV Slovenia Symphony Orchestra, Ulster Orchestra (UK), Concerto Farinelli (Germany), Arctic Symphony Orchestra, Trondheim Symphony Orchestra, Kristiansand Symphony Orchestra and many more. In recent seasons, his work has taken him from Svalbard (NOR) in the north to Jakarta (IND) in the south, via Istanbul/Ankara (Turkey), Poznan/Bielsko-Biala (Poland), Preveza (Greece), Barcelona (Spain), Derry (Northern Ireland), Arezzo/Siena/Piuro (Italy), Ljubljana (Slovenia), Varna (Bulgaria), Beijing/Hong Kong/Shenzhen/Xi'an (China), Copenhagen (Denmark), London (UK), Marktoberdorf (Germany) and many beautiful concert venues across Norway.

Helene Stureborg – Sweden

Helene Stureborg worked from 1990 to 2022 as a choral conductor and pedagogue at Stockholms Musikgymnasium / Kungsholmens gymnasium. She was also conductor of the Stockholms Musikgymnasium Chamber Choir (SMK) from 2002 to 2022. After receiving a Master of Fine Arts in Church Music and a Postgraduate Diploma in Choral Conducting from the Royal University College of Music, she began as a church musician in a Stockholm parish and later became conductor of Kongl. Teknologkören at the Royal Institute of Technology. In 2011, she founded Helene Stureborgs Chamber Choir (HSK), which has won the Grand Prix at both the Cork Choral Competition in Ireland and the Grieg Choral Competition in Norway. For many years, she taught choral conducting at the Royal University College of Music in Stockholm and on courses in Sweden and abroad. In January 2023, she became Head of Artistic Planning for the Swedish Radio Choir while continuing her freelance work as a conductor, coach, workshop teacher and adjudicator. In August 2023, Helene launched Storkyrkans Kammarkör, a choir for talented young singers aged 17–26 at Stockholm Cathedral. The choir placed second in the Tolosa competition in 2024 and has already developed a varied and challenging repertoire, participating in concerts and workshops in Stockholm. She has also frequently served as an adjudicator at choir and conducting competitions in Maribor, Arezzo, Tolosa, Bergen, Torino and elsewhere.

Jan Schumacher – Germany

Jan Schumacher has been University Music Director and Honorary Professor at Goethe University Frankfurt/Main since 2015. Since 2024, he has also been Artistic Director of the Frankfurter Singakademie and, since 1999, conductor of Camerata Musica Limburg. Between 2009 and 2025, he taught at various universities. His extensive teaching experience led to the publication of “Dirigieren. Proben. Singen” by Carus Verlag. He has also edited 20 choral collections for major publishers including Bärenreiter, Carus, Helbling, OUP and Peters. Jan is a sought-after guest juror and seminar leader for choirs, orchestras and conductors nationally and internationally. He has worked with leading choral organisations and ensembles across Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas, and has led conducting courses in numerous countries. In the 2025/2026 season, his engagements include the Türkiye State Choir, Ensemble Aleron in the Philippines, the Lithuanian State Music Academy, and festivals and masterclasses in Austria, Germany, Singapore and Taiwan. For many years, Jan was a member of the board and music commission of the European Choral Association – Europa Cantat. Since 2019, he has chaired the Choral Advisory Board of the German Music Council, serving as artistic director and jury chair of the German Choral Competition. Since 2020, he has also been a vice-president of the International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM). He is appointed jury president for three editions of the prestigious International Chamber Choir Competition in Marktoberdorf, beginning in 2027.

Katie Thomas – Great Britain

Katie Thomas is Chorus Director at Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra, Sweden. She also conducts the 12-voice professional Gothenburg Symphony Vocal Ensemble. Previously, Katie was Vocal Coach of the BBC Symphony Chorus in London for nine years. Her freelance work has included the BBC Singers (guest conductor), MDR Rundfunkchor (guest chorus master), National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (guest conductor), Junior Royal College of Music (conductor), Association of British Choral Directors (tutor in choral conducting technique) and INTERKULTUR (adjudicator). She also served as interim guest senior lecturer in Choral Conducting at the University of Gothenburg. As a singer, Katie was a member of the UK's finest professional choirs, including The Monteverdi Choir, Polyphony and Academy of Ancient Music, touring major concert venues across Europe and the US. With London Voices, she recorded numerous film and video-game soundtracks, chiefly at Abbey Road Studios, as well as broadcasting extensively on television and national radio. Katie is a graduate of Cardiff University and the Royal Academy of Music in London. In 2020, she was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music (ARAM) for distinguished service to the music profession and significant contributions to conducting and choral music.

Ole Faurschou – Denmark

Ole Faurschou made his conducting debut in 2003 at the Royal Danish Academy of Music, following his studies in the choir conducting class of Prof. Dan-Olof Stenlund. He is also a graduate in orchestral conducting from the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, where he studied under Prof. Uroš Lajovic. He currently serves as Cantor at Helsingør Cathedral and conductor of the Copenhagen-based university choir Lille MUKO. His repertoire ranges from passions and masses by Mozart, Bach, Händel and others to numerous symphonic works. With Academic Choir Aarhus, he has conducted several hundred concerts, winning numerous first prizes, including the award for Best Conductor at the 8th International Choir Festival in Beijing and the Grand Prix in Rome (2015). Ole has conducted most of Denmark's professional orchestras and toured across Europe, China and the United States. He has also worked as Chorus Master of the Royal Opera Chorus and conducted several operas. Ole Faurschou is a highly sought-after instructor and adjudicator internationally, regularly invited to lead masterclasses, workshops and competitions worldwide. He is deeply committed to music education for children and young people.

Participating choirs

Acta Musicae, Norway

Conductor: Irina Ødegaard Korchuganova

Acta Musicae is a women's choir from Kongsberg, founded in 1997. The choir currently has around 30 active singers and is led by conductor Irina Ødegaard Korchuganova. The name Acta Musicae means "musical acts", reflecting the choir's artistic approach and commitment to performance. Its vision, "We want to shine", expresses a desire to share singing joy, musicality and quality with both singers and audiences. Musical experiences are at the heart of the choir's work, with a strong emphasis on ensemble playing, vocal colour, musical expression and communication. At the same time, the choir provides a safe and inclusive environment where each singer can develop individually, with plenty of humour and fellowship. Its varied repertoire ranges from folk and classical choral music to sacred music, pop, jazz, songs and spirituals. The choir has competed in Norway and abroad and has released two CDs.

Bergens Kvinnelige Studentersangforening, Norway

Conductor: Regine Cornelia Forthun

Bergens Kvinnelige Studentersangforening is a young adult choir with a rich history and strong ambitions for the future. Founded in 1942 and re-established in 2022 after a period of inactivity, the choir is today made up of 28 dedicated singers with varied experience from student choirs in Bergen and other Norwegian cities. Together with its brother choir, Studentersangforeningen i Bergen, it serves as an official representative choir of the University of Bergen. The choir aims for a high musical standard and an adventurous repertoire spanning classical music, folk music, jazz, ballads and pop. Its work is also inspired by the Nordic academic choral tradition. Across its projects, particular emphasis is placed on vocal technique, musicality and blend. Each year, the choir presents several concerts and undertakes commissioned performances.

Brilliant Harmony, Japan

Conductor: Ko Matsushita

Brilliant Harmony was established in 1988 and is led by Musical Director and conductor Ko Matsushita. The ensemble continually explores new possibilities and deeper forms of expression for the female choir. It has performed widely in Japan and abroad and has received major national and international recognition, including the Grand Prix at the Tolosa Choral Contest and the Best Equal Voice Choir Award at the Seghizzi International Choral Singing Competition. In 2005, Brilliant Harmony became the first Asian female choir to be nominated for and participate in the European Grand Prix for Choral Singing. The choir has also performed internationally at events including MusicFest Vancouver. In 2013, it toured Norway, singing at venues such as Bergen Cathedral, Troidhaugen and Grieghallen, and collaborating with CANTUS. In 2017 the ensemble performed the film theme music of Sekigahara. Recently they have actively promoted new repertoire for female choirs through commissions for new arrangements of renaissance choral works, which they have performed.

Cantabo, Norway

Conductor: Tove Annette Holter

Cantabo is a women's choir founded in Bergen in 2018 and consists of experienced singers from the city and surrounding region. The choir is committed to maintaining a high musical standard while exploring a broad repertoire across genres and periods. Its

programmes combine a variety of musical styles and are shaped by a desire to create strong artistic experiences for both singers and audiences. Cantabo also has ambitions to participate in competitions in Norway and abroad and has achieved good results in the competitions it has entered. Under the skilled leadership of conductor Tove Annette Holter, the choir works continuously to refine its sound, musical expression and ensemble skills.

Cantus Vokalensemble, Sweden

Conductor: Birgitta Urbán

Cantus Vokalensemble is a mixed choir from Sweden with around 30 singers aged 18–35. Based in Alnö församling, in the northern part of Medelpad, the ensemble grew out of a youth choir, with some members having sung together for more than a decade. This long-standing connection has created strong social unity and a well-developed musical blend. The choir has a particular foundation in church music and regularly participates in Sunday services at Alnö Church, as well as performing in other churches in the region. Its repertoire ranges from classical works by Händel, Mozart and Vivaldi to contemporary choral music by composers such as Ola Gjeilo, Kim André Arnesen and Sven-David Sandström. With a warm, balanced sound and broad musical range, Cantus Vokalensemble seeks to deepen the experience of worship and move audiences through both traditional and contemporary choral music. The choir is conducted by Birgitta Urban, cantor of the congregation, who has led the ensemble since its foundation.

Carl Johans Kammarkör, Sweden

Conductor: David Molin

Carl Johan Chamber Choir, formerly known as Härlanda Chamber Choir, was founded in Gothenburg in 2007 and is led by conductor David Molin. The choir brings together singers aged 20–40 with extensive choral experience and a strong ambition to perform at the highest level. It is known for excellent resonance, a warm and inviting sound, and a strong stage presence. The repertoire ranges from newly written contemporary works to well-known classics. Many singers are also instrumentalists or soloists, allowing the choir to incorporate instruments and solo performances into its programmes. Carl Johan Chamber Choir has participated in several international competitions, including Jürmala, Tolosa and Marktoberdorf, with strong results. Its Christmas album *A Bright Star Shined* has received excellent reviews and reached around half a million streams on Spotify, and a new recording is scheduled for release in 2026. In autumn 2024, the choir performed on Swedish Television's best-known classical music programme.

Choir of the University of Environmental and Life Sciences in Wrocław, Poland

Conductor: Alan Urbanek

The Choir of the University of Environmental and Life Sciences in Wrocław has worked with artistic director and conductor Professor Alan Urbanek since 2009. Its members are mainly students of the university, together with students from other institutions in Wrocław. The choir is an active part of the city's musical life, presenting art projects, participating in New Year gala concerts and performing large-scale oratorio works with other academic choirs. Its repertoire includes a cappella music, particularly by Polish composers, as well as vocal-instrumental works. The choir has achieved numerous international competition successes, including first prizes in Lloret de Mar, Freamunde and Korfu, as well as awards in Rimini and Preveza. It has also toured extensively in Europe, the United States, Canada and China, including performances with Polish artist Piotr Rubik and at the European Capital of Culture events in Wrocław. In 2024, the choir received a third prize in folklore and a silver medal in sacred music at Canco Mediterranea in Lloret de Mar.

Dragefjellets damekor, Norway

Conductor: Maria Therese Bersås

Dragefjellets Damekor is a women's choir founded by neighbours from Nøstet, Nordnes, Sydnes and Møhlenpris in 2013 and was formally established under its current name in spring 2016. Since then, the choir has performed extensively in the local community and collaborated with other choirs in Bergen. Its repertoire is broad, ranging from classical music, jazz, songs and medieval ballads to folk music and pop. In 2024, the choir prepared a mass together with two other choirs, with a similar project planned for spring 2026. Since spring 2023, Maria Therese Bersås has been the choir's permanent conductor. The choir has around 30 members spanning a wide range of ages and rehearses every Monday in central Bergen. Each semester it also holds a Saturday rehearsal seminar followed by social activities. Dragefjellets Damekor regularly takes part in New Year concerts and Norwegian Choir Association events. In connection with its tenth anniversary in 2026, the choir is preparing to enter a competition for the first time.

Dysonans Chamber Choir. Poland

Conductor: Magdalena Wdowicka-Mackiewicz

Dysonans Chamber Choir traces its history back to 1991, when a group of young people decided to form a choir. Since the beginning, the ensemble has been led by Professor Magdalena Wdowicka-Mackiewicz, pedagogue and director of the Conducting Institute at the I.J. Paderewski Academy of Music in Poznań, with Michał Plichta as second conductor. Dysonans performs across Europe and regularly takes part in leading international choral competitions. Recent highlights include the Grand Prix at the Gaude Cantem International Festival of Choirs in 2022, three first prizes at the Cançò Mediterrània International Choral Festival the same year, and major awards at the Seghizzi competition in 2016. Success at Gaude Cantem also led to an invitation to the Stefan Stuligrosz Grand Prix of Polish Choral Music in Poznań. The choir's 2025 activities included a recording of E. Wagner's Salve Regina and a trip to Mexico for an international choir festival.

E STuudio Girls' Choir, Estonia

Conductor: Külli Lokko

The third generation of the E STuudio Girls' Choir has been active since 2022 and has quickly established itself on the international choral scene. The choir achieved second place in the youth category at the Tallinn International Choral Festival in 2023, followed by first place in the same category in 2025. In 2024, the ensemble won the youth choir category at the Kalamata International Choir Competition and Festival in Greece, took second place in sacred music and advanced to the Grand Prix round. In 2025, the choir won the youth category and the gold champion title in contemporary choral music at the World Youth & Children's Choir Festival in Hong Kong, as well as the festival's Best Equal Voice Choir award. The choir also performed at the International Choral Festival in Missoula, USA, in 2023. Its members are young women aged 16–21, almost all with formal music education and years of solo and choral experience. Founder and conductor Külli Lokko has worked with choirs for 38 years; Bergen marks her 50th international concert tour and competition outside Estonia.

Female Choir Usmev, Slovakia

Conductor: Daniela Januchova

Female Choir Usmev developed from the former children's and girls' choir of the same name, one of Slovakia's most successful youth ensembles in the 1980s and 1990s. The adult choir began its new chapter in 2017 and has since performed throughout Slovakia and elsewhere in Europe. Its recent achievements include gold prizes and overall winner titles at Slovakia's Viva il canto competition, two gold diplomas at the Rimini International Choir Competition in 2019, category wins at Music & Sea in Greece and

gold diploma at the International Festival of Advent and Christmas Music in Bratislava in 2024. In 2025, the choir received two category winner titles and a special award for outstanding dramaturgy and sensitive interpretation of tradition at Canto sul Garda in Italy. The repertoire covers sacred and secular music from the baroque period to contemporary works, with a special focus on Slovak folk-song arrangements. The choir has 23 active members and is led by conductors Anezka Balušinská and Daniela Januchová.

Fjellkoret, Norway

Conductor: Jan L. Jacobsen

Fjellkoret is a mixed choir from Øygarden, just outside Bergen on Norway's west coast. For more than four decades, the choir has been an active cultural contributor in the local community and has developed a reputation for ambitious productions, musical versatility and a warm stage presence. Musical storytelling, artistic collaboration and the joy of singing together are central to its identity. The repertoire ranges from classical choral music and Nordic folk traditions to sacred music, contemporary works and popular musical theatre. In recent years, Fjellkoret has presented large-scale themed concerts and stage productions, including Broadway-inspired programmes and anniversary projects connected to Norwegian culture and emigration history. The choir regularly collaborates with musicians, soloists and cultural institutions in the Bergen region. With singers from different generations and backgrounds, Fjellkoret aims to create meaningful musical experiences that connect people through harmony, energy and genuine singing joy.

Fryd, Norway

Conductor: Jorunn Bakke Nydal

Fryd is a women's choir from Florø on the west coast of Norway. It was established in August 2007 as part of the Flora Municipal School of Music and Performing Arts and became an independent choir in 2014. As of January 2026, the choir has 37 members aged 25–65 and is affiliated with the Norwegian Choir Association. Its stated aim is to create high-quality choral singing and support musical development in a positive social environment, while contributing an engaging and innovative cultural offering to the local community. The choir works across many genres, including classical, sacred, folk, jazz, ballads and musical theatre. Over the years, Fryd has collaborated with artists such as Berit Opheim, Trio Mediæval and Brass Brothers, and has performed works including Benjamin Britten's A Ceremony of Carols and Ellen Andrea Wang's Magnificat. The choir is conducted by Jorunn Bakke Nydal, who has 25 years of experience as a musician and conductor and has led several major productions.

Kammerpikene, Norway

Conductor: Hege Monica Eskedal

Kammerpikene is a women's chamber choir of 21 singers from Vesterålen in Northern Norway, led by conductor Hege Monica Eskedal. Primarily an a cappella ensemble, the choir focuses on high musical standards and a repertoire rooted in classical and contemporary music, complemented by Norwegian folk songs, smooth jazz and selected pop songs. Commissioned works have played an important role in several of the choir's projects. In 2017, Kammerpikene created Requiem in Requiem with Cellolyd, combining Henrik Ødegaard's newly commissioned "Eit nynorsk requiem", with texts by Jon Fosse, and Gabriel Fauré's Requiem. In 2022, the choir toured Vesterålen with "E du nord", a programme of ten Northern Norwegian song treasures specially arranged for the ensemble. Kammerpikene regularly competes nationally and internationally, notably received an award for best dramaturgy and several gold diplomas at the 2018 Bratislava competition, and won the women's A class at the Norwegian National Competition for Choirs in 2023. Recent projects include Vinterlys with Ensemble Blå and Magnificat with Ellen Andrea Wang at Sortland Jazz Festival in 2025.

Korensamblet Stas, Norway

Conductor: Rannveig Skillingstad

Korensamblet Stas was established in 2018 and is a mixed regional amateur choir from Trøndelag in Norway led by conductor Rannveig Skillingstad. They enjoy tight harmonies and playful tonality, and perform varied repertoire, from folk songs to classical pieces and popular music. Stas is a Norwegian term meaning joy or enjoyment, which they try to live by in their music.

Kören Decibel, Sweden

Conductor: Roger Rådström

Decibel is a mixed choir based in Östersund, Sweden, founded in 1998 and led by conductor Roger Rådström. Rådström is an accomplished arranger and composer whose work for chamber ensembles, orchestras and choirs has helped shape the ensemble's distinctive sound and ambitious repertoire. The choir consists of experienced amateur singers aged roughly 25–60 and is known for musical versatility, technical precision and expressive performance. Its repertoire ranges from serene, lyrical music to dynamic and powerful arrangements, often featuring five to eight vocal parts and wordless rhythmic elements. In addition to annual Christmas and spring concerts, Decibel regularly performs at corporate events and conferences and has sometimes served as a backing choir for well-known Swedish artists. Originally a 12-member vocal ensemble, the group has grown into an established mixed choir with success in the Swedish Choral Championships and the international Tampereen Sävel competition in Finland.

Mixed Choir of the Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, Latvia

Conductor: Lauris Goss

The Mixed Choir of the Stockholm School of Economics in Riga was founded in 1994, the same year as SSE Riga, and has played an important role in the school's social and cultural life ever since. The choir continues the rich choral tradition of the Baltic region and brings together current and former students from Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania who share a passion for singing. As a multicultural ensemble, the choir's repertoire crosses national, historical and stylistic boundaries. Its programmes may include medieval and Renaissance music, sacred repertoire, jazz, popular music and musical traditions from India, Africa, Indigenous Australia and Native America. The choir has toured widely in Europe and takes part in the Latvian Song Festivals, Baltic Student Song Festivals and many other events.

Ole Bull Kammerkor, Norway

Conductor: Halldis Rønning

Ole Bull Chamber Choir is a Bergen-based ensemble with a strong passion for classical choral music. Its repertoire spans a wide range of a cappella works, from the 1500s to the present day, including newly written pieces and world premieres. The choir brings together singers from Bergen and the surrounding areas and is normally led by conductor and artistic director Jon Flydal Blichfeldt. At the festival, the guest conductor is Halldis Rønning. Ole Bull Chamber Choir also aims to make classical choral music accessible beyond traditional rehearsal and concert settings. Since 2023, the choir has developed activities throughout the year that include workshops for children and young people, informal concerts, performances in nursing homes and free admission for students at integration schools. The initiative is supported by the Grieg Foundation. Through these projects, the choir seeks to make choral music a meaningful part of everyday life and to contribute to well-being and community across generations in Bergen and the surrounding region.

Os Vocalis, Norway

Conductor: Ørjan Hartveit

Os Vocalis is a women's choir in its prime. The choir maintains a high level of activity; they organize their own concerts, travel abroad, and recorded a Christmas album a few years ago. This year's program features Fauré's Requiem, a choir café event, and the Edvard Grieg International Choir Festival. The choir places great importance on performing high-quality music and having a fun time together. Conductor Ørjan Hartveit sings professionally with the Edvard Grieg Choir. In addition to being a highly inspiring and knowledgeable conductor, he has also earned the title of "Norway's most patient man." We look forward to singing for the audience and fellow singers at the choir festival!

Oslo Domkirkes Ungdomskor, Norway

Conductor: Sindre Hugo Bjerkestrand

Oslo Domkirkes Ungdomskor (ODU) was founded in 1987 by Heidi Granlund and Terje Kvam and is a choir for young singers aged 16–30. The ensemble performs a varied repertoire with a particular emphasis on art music and folk songs, while aiming to provide its singers with a steep and rewarding musical learning curve. In addition to its own concerts, ODU regularly sings at services in Oslo Cathedral and takes part in tours in Norway and abroad. The choir also participates in international festivals and competitions. The ensemble is currently led by conductor Sindre Hugo Bjerkestrand.

Salhuskoret, Norway

Conductor: Jan L. Jacobsen

Salhuskoret was founded in 1987, and for nearly four decades we have been firmly rooted in our local community in Bergen. The choir consists of 25 singers who meet every week to sing, laugh and enjoy the special sense of fellowship that only a choir can offer. We love moving between pop, rock and a cappella, creating concert programmes that range from heartfelt ballads and catchy crowd-pleasers to rich, multi-part harmonies and challenging a cappella pieces. Our goal is always the same: to give our audience a musical experience that warms the heart. We are a choir that thrives on stage, and we greatly enjoy travelling together. Performances throughout the region, choir festivals and trips abroad are an important part of our choir life. In 2027, we are planning a special trip to London to celebrate the choir's 40th anniversary.

Sandefjord Vokalensemble, Norway

Conductor: Erlend Leinan Lund

Sandefjord Vokalensemble is an ambitious women's choir from Sandefjord, founded in autumn 2000. The ensemble consists of around 24 experienced and well-trained singers and aims to give audiences powerful musical experiences through focused work and high artistic standards. Its varied repertoire ranges from classical sacred music to contemporary Nordic works, with particular emphasis on choral sound, musicality and communication. Sandefjord Vokalensemble has established itself both nationally and internationally, winning the women's choir class at the Norwegian National Competition for Choirs in 2021. The choir has also achieved strong results in several international competitions, most recently earning two gold diplomas in Lisbon in 2023. The ensemble is conducted by Erlend Leinan Lund, who trained as a conductor at the Norwegian Academy of Music and has a background as both singer and conductor. He provides clear artistic direction and focused work on sound and expression, always with a touch of humour.

Seim Songkor, Norway

Conductor: Arild Rohde

Seim Songkor is a mixed choir from Seim village north of Bergen. Founded in 1974 by enthusiastic singers who wanted to share their love of music, the choir has grown into a well-known and much-loved part of the regional cultural scene. Today, the ensemble has 26 members and has been conducted by Arild Rohde since 2018. Its repertoire ranges from traditional folk songs to modern popular music, combining a warm and powerful choral sound with the individual expression of its singers. The choir has presented ambitious local productions, including “Cats in Lindås” and “Dampen”, the latter developed with former conductor Leif Egil Vatnøy, and has also participated in competitions abroad. Seim Songkor places strong emphasis on creating performances that engage audiences emotionally while maintaining a distinctive ensemble sound.

Skule Choir, Canada

Conductors: Amanda Yu, Lauren Levorson-Wong, Elaine Wang

Skule™ Choir is a SATB mixed chorus based in the University of Toronto that performs a wide range of music. We hold a major concert every semester and perform at various university events, striving to provide students with a unique community and musical experience! We have travelled to New York to perform in Carnegie Hall and the Lincoln Center, and debuted Ola Gjeilo's new work, Twilight Mass, both internationally and in Canada. We partner with talented artists from across Turtle Island, and provide musical opportunities to all people in the University of Toronto community!

Stavanger Studentsangforening, Norway

Conductor: Åsta Sirnes

Stavanger Studentsangforening (SSS) is the official choir of the University of Stavanger and the city's only academic choir. As one of the region's largest mixed choirs, it brings together singers from the student community and beyond. The ensemble hosts its own concerts throughout the year and regularly performs at public and private events. SSS is an active part of the academic choral tradition and takes part in gatherings such as the Nordic Student Singer Summit and Akademisk kortreff, both of which it has also hosted. The choir has been conducted by Åsta Sirnes since 2009. Under her direction, SSS has received national recognition, including first prize in the mixed choir category at the Norwegian National Competition for Choirs, and has performed at international festivals. Sirnes combines musical precision with an inclusive and expressive approach.

Studentersangforeningen i Bergen, Norway

Conductor: Ole-Andreas Førde

Studentersangforeningen i Bergen is a male choir founded in 1935 on the initiative of Bergen Student Society, eleven years before the University of Bergen was established. The choir has retained a strong connection with the university and the city's student community and serves as an official representative choir of the University of Bergen. It regularly performs at university and Studentersamfunnet events and maintains close contact with the other student choirs in Bergen. The ensemble is part of the Nordic academic choral tradition and has longstanding exchange with university choirs across Norway and the Nordic countries. Studentersangforeningen i Bergen is also an active participant in the local Bergen choral scene. For many years, one annual highlight was the 17 May concert at Bergen City Hall, a tradition that continued for more than five decades before a brief interruption during the pandemic. The choir also undertakes representative assignments for Bergen Municipality, especially during international Hanseatic Days.

Vox, Sweden

Conductor: Josefine Domargård

Vox is a women's choir based in the Råda congregation just outside Gothenburg. Founded in 2011, the choir has 30–35 singers of different ages and has been conducted by Josefine Domargård since 2018. Domargård is an organist and conductor educated at the Academy of Music and Drama at the University of Gothenburg. The choir sings one- to four-part repertoire, both a cappella and with accompaniment, with classical music as its foundation and jazz, hymns, folk and sometimes world music and gospel. Three pillars for the choir are musical development, social platform and spiritual forum. A defining feature of Vox is its commitment to the idea that every voice matters and is needed. The name Vox means “voice”, and through its concert projects the choir seeks to create dialogue between the past, the present and the future.

Young Voices, Slovakia

Conductor: Zuzana Dirbáková

Young Voices Slovakia is a girls' choir founded in 2017 from older singers of the Lienka Children's Choir. Based at the Private Elementary School of Arts “Múza” in Humenné, the ensemble now has 28 singers aged 12–22 and is led by conductor Mgr. art. et Mgr. Zuzana Dirbáková, with Nadežda Spišáková DiS.art. as accompanist. The choir has built an impressive competition record, with gold and silver bands, category victories and Grand Prix appearances at events in Slovakia, Greece, Italy and Spain. Highlights include international success at Music & Sea in Paralia, the Perugia competition and an international competition in Calella, as well as awards at Slovakia's Mládež spieva and Musica Camerata competitions. In 2025, the choir received a gold plaque in Serbia, two gold medals and special awards in Olomouc, and the City Award from the Mayor of Humenné. Most recently, in May 2026, Young Voices won another gold band and a regional award for programme dramaturgy.

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