

Summer Session 2009 - Recruitment of Singers (1)

The World Youth Choir 2009 will welcome 80 singers from all over the world. The singers will be recruited as follows:

1. Re-invited singers who took part in the 2008 session in Hong Kong, China
2. NEW SINGERS proposed by partners around the world.

Conditions of participation

- Participants must be **17 to 26 years old** on the 1st of July, 2009
- Events will be conducted in English, and a good knowledge of the language is required

From arrival to departure, accommodation, transportation and all material needs are provided by the organization.

Participants are responsible for:

- Travel from home to the camp place in Gent, Belgium and back home;
- Visas and all official requirements;
- Pocket money for private expenses.

1. National Audition (Deadline 15 Feb 2009)

All candidates have to pass a live audition in front of a national jury in their home country. National (choral) music organizations can put together a jury and organize the auditions.

With the help of the material provided by the WYC office in Namur (here enclosed), the national juries will select a maximum of 12 singers per country: S (3); A (3); T (3); B (3).

Every candidate should prepare (and record at the audition) the following:

- **Sight-reading exercise** (enclosed hereafter):
All applicants should record the melody as a piece of sight reading
 - a. One minute is allowed to look it through
 - b. It must then be recorded at first attempt in front of the jury.
The singer must sing a cappella.

• **Range test:**

One short exercise sung *forte* and a *cappella*, on an open vowel, presenting the entire voice-range.

- **Prepared score:** excerpt from Rex: *Gloriose Martyrum* by Otto Olsson (enclosed hereafter):

The candidate should record his/her part in Latin, the other parts are in the piano reduction. This score should be provided in advance (mail) to the candidates, in order to let them demonstrate their best ability in preparing a score at home.

- **Aria, Lied, folk song, pop song or ethnic music piece** of the candidate's choice:

Candidates must present an aria, Lied, folk song, pop song or ethnic music piece with or without piano accompaniment, showing their best artistic and vocal abilities. The prepared score must be sung in the correct octave and proper key for the voice part for which a candidate is auditioning.

NOTE:

Here, we strongly advise the candidate to present an excerpt that fits his/ her voice and vocal style in order to present his/ her best artistic potential rather than an attempt to sing a difficult opera aria.

Audition material to be sent to the ICCM, Namur by the local recruitment organization (for each candidate) not later than 28th of February 2009:

We would appreciate if you could send the material at your earliest convenience!

1. ONE CD (preferred), or digital files (mp3) or high-bias standard cassette tape done with the best available recording equipment **FOR EACH CANDIDATE** with the recording of the audition. Do not record with ambient noise in the background. Clearly mark the name of the candidate and voice part on the recording. On the recording cover: mark candidate's name, city and country, voice part, and title of the prepared solo.
If you provide the material on CD: Listen to the CD on several devices before sending it, to make sure it will work.
If you provide the material on tape: Rewind it before sending it. Audition CDs or tapes will not be returned.
The material must be recorded in front of the jury, music teacher or other recruiter.
Please provide the recording in the above listed order!
2. A copy of the score of the Aria, Lied, folk song, pop song or ethnic piece sang by the candidate.
3. Audition form (enclosed hereafter) filled in by the jury, singing teacher or third audition party.
4. Application form followed by the declaration of participation (enclosed hereafter), a copy of the first page of the passport and 2 ID photographs in JPG format for each candidate.
5. Complete Curriculum Vitae for each candidate (maximum 100 lines, in English), including:
 - Personal data
 - Education/Languages
 - School/Employment
 - Accomplishments (as a musician, choir singer, diploma obtained)
 - Other
6. A letter of motivation of maximum 20 lines, written in English by the candidate, explaining the reasons why he/she wants to join the WYC.

This material is obligatory! Incomplete applications will not be considered.

NOTE: additional information

By the decisions of the WYC Committee some of the audition rules have been changed to adopt to specific situations:

a. In countries where no national jury is formed or audition organized

If there is no possibility to form a jury, candidates can apply (send the material) directly to ICCM office but must pass the audition with their own singing or music teacher, according to the rules of the general audition process mentioned above.

The candidate must have the approval of the ICCM office in Namur, to be able to apply directly with the audition (Ask the office for the approval by e-mail).

The singing teacher must complete the audition form.

All required material must be sent to the ICCM office as stated above until the given deadline.

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b. In case there is no possibility for the candidate to attend the national audition process

In exceptional cases (no possibility to attend the national jury, living more than 200 km from the jury place, sickness at the time of the national audition, etc.), ICCM may allow a singer to audition as described in case a.

c. It has been decided that all former and present WYC singers can participate actively in the recruitment of singers by: finding and guiding new singers, advertising the project or even auditioning.

2. International Jury: End of March 2009

After all national (or individual) auditions are done and all material has arrived at the ICCM office in Namur (deadline 28th of February), an international jury will proceed in the final selection of singers in Namur.

This selection will include chosen singers as well a reserve list of singers, who will have the right to join the project after the cancellation of singers from the first list. All recruitment partners, selected singers and singers on the reserve list will be notified about the results of the selection of the international jury.

Re-invitation and Re-audition for 2010

All singers who participate in the summer session 2009 have the right to be re-invited for the summer session 2010 but not automatically. The evaluation process of each singer will be done after the session by the conductors, section leaders and the WYC management. According to the results of the evaluation singers will be informed of their status.

Singers from the reserve list, will have to re-audition in any case if they want to join the summer session 2010.

Singers have the right to apply every year, including if a former application has been refused by the jury.

Re-audition material can be sent directly to the office in Namur, without passing in front of the national jury (except if required differently by the national organization, e.g. for granting financial help).

WYC International Jury members

- Ms. Ana Maria Raga
Conductor, Venezuela
- Mr. Johan Duijck
Conductor, Belgium
- Mr. Fred Sjöberg
Europa Cantat representative, Sweden
- Mr. Jean Claude Wilkens
IFCM Secretary General, Belgium
- Mr. Vladimir Opacic
World Youth Choir project/session manager, Serbia

Please send the application and the audition material to:

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