



## **AUDITIONS FOR 2018 SESSION IN CHINA, INNER-MONGOLIA**

**REHEARSAL SESSION IN HOHHOT AND  
CONCERT TOUR IN INNER MONGOLIA, BEIJING  
AND GUIZHOU PROVINCE**

**4 - 25 JULY 2018**

Stichting (Foundation) World Youth Choir  
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## **WORLD YOUTH CHOIR AUDITIONS - Summer 2018**

### ***"Singing the World"***

World Youth Choir is looking for young, talented, experienced singers from all over the world, interested in improving their skills of choral singing while touring China in the second half of July 2018.

### **WE ARE LOOKING FOR SINGERS WHO:**

- are passionate and experienced high level choral singers or soloists;
- **are between 17 and 26 years old on July 1, 2018 (obligatory);**
- have basic or professional music education;
- are ready to improve their singing and social skills;
- are ready to meet new friends all over the world;
- are ready to accept diversity of world cultures;
- are eager to learn in a multicultural environment;
- are ready to spend one month with great people.

**Does it fit you? In that case the World Youth Choir is the place to be and sing!**

### ***Why should you join?***

Beyond the project itself, the World Youth Choir is a way to network with choral youth in the world. Selected singers/session participants are considered cultural "ambassadors" of their country. In return they make friends with young people from all over the world, learn of new/different singing techniques, improve interpretation as well as stage performance capacities while singing choral music of various styles, time periods and the many genres of each continent, learn about other cultures and bring back home choral music from different world countries.

The World Youth Choir by its music, performances and presence (sessions) in different regions of the world, each or every other year, sends a message of peace, brotherhood, and the vitality of life itself. UNESCO named the World Youth Choir "Artist for Peace" in 1996, recognizing its success as a platform for intercultural dialogue through music.

**Auditions for the 2018 session are open only until February 15, 2018!**

## Practical Information

**Location:** The 2018 session will take place in **Inner Mongolia, China, supported by the Inner Mongolia Bureau of National Art Troupes**. The rehearsal session will be in Hohhot, and the concert tour will follow through Inner Mongolia, Beijing, and Guizhou province (details will be confirmed in April 2018). The tour will end with the choir singing at the opening ceremony of China's 14th International Chorus Festival in Beijing.



**Dates:** 04 July 2018 (arrivals) to 25 July 2018 (departures tbc).

### Repertoire:

- Nordic and European choir music from the 20th century;
- Asian folk and popular music.

**Participation fee:** The participation fee for singers is 100€, to be paid to the World Youth Choir Foundation after the results of the international jury by the selected singers. There will also be a possibility to apply for a scholarship (in the form of exemption of the participation fee) to be able to join the project.



## Conductors



### **HELENE STUREBORG**

Helene Stureborg graduated with a Master of Fine Arts in Church Music in 1990 and a Postgraduate Diploma in Choral Conducting in 1993 at the Royal University College of Music. She studied conducting with professor Gustaf Sjökvist, professor Eric Ericson and professor Kjell Ingebretsen.

Since 1990 Helene has been working as a conductor and music teacher at the Stockholm's Musikgymnasium. In 1994 she became the conductor of Kongl Teknologkören at the Royal Institute of Technology and held that position until December 2002 when she became the conductor of the Stockholm's Musikgymnasium Chamber Choir. The choir has won several prizes at competitions abroad, is often invited to festivals and is highly

respected. In 2011 she started Helene Stureborg's Chamber Choir which won the Cork International Choral Competition in 2016. The two choirs are often engaged together in larger concerts and have sung with Andrea Bocelli, Ennio Morricone, Chess in Concert and others.

Helene has also been teaching choral conducting at the Royal University College of Music between 1996 and 2014, and between 2014 and 2017 she was a member of the Artistic Council of Statens Musikverk. Helene is frequently engaged to work with the Swedish Radio Choir, Eric Ericson Chamber Choir and other choirs and also works as conducting teacher and choral pedagogue at varying courses. In October 2017 she was appointed Choir Conductor of the Year by Gehrman's Musikförlag and the Swedish Choral Conductors Association.



### **JONATHAN VELASCO**

Jonathan Velasco is a much sought after choral conductor, clinician and adjudicator in the world today. He studied at the University of the Philippines College of Music and at the Berliner Kirchenmusikschule in Germany. He was a member and assistant conductor of the World Youth Choir, and, for the 1996 summer session, became its first Asian conductor.

Velasco regularly holds choral clinics and workshops all over the world. Together with his choirs, he has won first prizes in choral competitions in Maribor, Cork, Marktoberdorf, Tolosa, Torreveja, and Riga. He has also been a member of the jury in prestigious choral competitions in Europe and Asia. He currently conducts the Ateneo Chamber Singers.

Velasco is an adviser to the board of the International Federation for Choral Music and is the Philippine representative to the World Choir Council. In 2008 he was elected the first President of the newly-formed Philippine Choral Directors Association.

## Recruitment Information

**The World Youth Choir 2018 will welcome a maximum of 60 singers from all over the world. Singers will be recruited as follows:**

- SINGERS who applied for the 2017 session, but were not selected or are former singers of WYC, should apply with the new materials. Only the choral pieces need to be submitted;
- SINGERS who were selected members of the 2017 session should request a direct application, and only the choral pieces need to be submitted.
- NEW SINGERS need to be fully auditioned and proposed by partners or apply directly.

### **INFORMATION FOR RECRUITERS:**

All applications have to be sent in **before February 15, 2018**. If you wish to organize national auditions, you are welcomed to do so. If you do not have time to organize national auditions, please encourage the singers to apply directly. You will find information about the different possibilities for recruiters (live or digital recruitment and others), as well as the application procedure for direct applications, on the new website of the choir: [www.worldyouthchoir.org](http://www.worldyouthchoir.org)

### **INFORMATION FOR SINGERS:**

If there is no national audition organized in your country, you have the possibility to submit your application directly. You have to send in your application, with a recording, **before February 15, 2018**. You can find information about the application procedure on the website of the choir: [www.worldyouthchoir.org](http://www.worldyouthchoir.org)

### **RESULTS:**

The results of all applications will be communicated directly to the singers by the end of March and to the recruiters shortly after this.

### **CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION AT SESSION 2018:**

- Events will be conducted in English. Intermediate level of English is required.
- From arrival at the venue until departure, all accommodation, meals, transportation and music materials are provided by the organization.

### **SELECTED PARTICIPANTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR:**

- Travel to and from the host country/final concert tour destination (all travel details will be communicated with chosen singers directly after the final international selection).
- A 100€ session participation fee which needs to be paid by the selected singers to the World Youth Choir Foundation before the session begins.
- Full preparation of the chosen repertoire before coming to the session. Music material (digital pack) will be sent to all selected singers by mail before the end of May 2018.
- Visas and all official documents - health and travel insurance, etc.

- Pocket money for private expenses.

**Foundation World Youth Choir:** [www.worldyouthchoir.org](http://www.worldyouthchoir.org); [info@worldyouthchoir.org](mailto:info@worldyouthchoir.org)

**2018 Session Management:** Inês Moreira, [manager@worldyouthchoir.org](mailto:manager@worldyouthchoir.org)

**General inquiries about the WYC:** Blasko Smilevski, [president@worldyouthchoir.org](mailto:president@worldyouthchoir.org)



## World Youth Choir IN SHORT!

*“Building bridges between young singers from diverse cultures”*

**A message of peace to the world** The World Youth Choir was appointed Artist for Peace by UNESCO in 1996. Without speeches, without banners, the World Youth Choir presents its message of music, international peace, and brotherhood in perfect artistic unity.

**The world on stage** Since its creation in 1989, the World Youth Choir (WYC) has established itself as one of the most interesting musical and intercultural experiences offered to young musicians. About 100 young choral singers from all over the world, between ages 17 and 26, constitute one of today’s most original and important choirs. Year after year the number of participating countries increases. Today, more than 40 different nationalities are present in the choir, ensuring that six continents are represented.

**A genuine educational and social experience drawing on many vocal traditions aiming at the highest artistic level** The artistic scope of the project is in itself a major achievement, but the World Youth Choir also represents for its members a unique experience in terms of personal relationships. Regardless of political or cultural differences, young people holding a common attraction to music and a love for singing share one month of life together. This allows work and leisure, conversation and debate. From this community of singers evolve friendships that will continue to grow and may be lifelong.

### Highlights

1992. Olympic Gala performances in Barcelona.

1996. Awarded the prestigious title “Artist for Peace” by UNESCO.

2002. Awarded the prestigious Robert Edler Prize.

2004. The 60th anniversary of the Normandy landings in WWII, known as the D-Day’.

2008. Olympic Equestrian Games in Hong Kong, opening gala performances.

2009. 20th Anniversary celebration, Sweden.

2011. Nobel Peace Prize award giving ceremony, and Nobel Peace Prize concert performances.

**Summer sessions** Each summer, the World Youth Choir comes together in a different country of the world for a week or two of rehearsals. Following these rehearsals, the choir tours within the host country and neighbour countries, presenting concerts in major cultural centers and prestigious concert halls.

**Internationally renowned conductors** The artistic responsibility lies with an international committee of eminent specialists appointed by the International Federation for Choral Music, Jeunesses Musicales International and European Choral Association - Europa Cantat. The World Youth Choir engages the most renowned choral conductors for the sessions.

Since its inception, the choir has been conducted by Anton Armstrong, Frieder Bernius, Filippo Maria Bressan, Peter Broadbent, Bob Chilcott,

Peter Dijkstra, Johan Duijck, Péter Erdei, Eric Ericson (†), Gunnar Eriksson, Gary Graden, Georg Grün, Maria Guinand, Aharon Harlap, Florian Heyerick, Ayis Ioannides, Felipe Izcaray, Sidumo Jacobs, Robert Janssens, Tonu Kaljuste, Eri Klas (†), Anthony Leach, Eduardo Mata (†), Albert McNeil, Denis Menier, Zoltán Pad, Theodora Pavlovitch, Grete Pedersen, Johannes Prinz, Ana Maria Raga, Ragnar Rasmussen, Ole-Kristen Ruud, Cecilia Rydinger Alin, Robert Shaw (†), Fred Sjöberg, Stefan Sköld, Paul Smith, Robert Sund, Ward Swingle (†), Nobuaki Tanaka, André Thomas, Jonathan Velasco, Josep Vila I Casanas, Ken Wakia, Michele Weir, Hak Won Yoon and Steve Zegree (†).

Project of *the FOUNDATION WORLD YOUTH CHOIR*

**WYC Patrons:**

International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM) [www.ifcm.net](http://www.ifcm.net)

Jeunesses Musicales International (JMI) [www.jmi.net](http://www.jmi.net)

European Choral Association - Europa Cantat (ECA-EC) [www.eca-ec.org](http://www.eca-ec.org)