



COMPETITION ANNOUNCEMENT

68th International Choral Competition Polifonico Guido d'Arezzo

26-29 August 2020



The “**Guido d’Arezzo**” Foundation announces the 68th International Choral Competition “**Guido d’Arezzo**”, to be held from 26 to 29 August 2020.

The Competition is reserved to non-professional choral ensembles (see the Regulation, Art. 1), divided in two categories and respective sections:

CATEGORY A: “COMPETITION”

Open to the following ensembles: mixed choirs (from 16 to 36 singers), vocal ensembles (from 4 to 16 singers), equal-voice choirs (from 16 to 36 singers), childrens’ choirs (from 16 to 36 singers; participants born not before 01/01/2004).

Choirs registered in this category must participate in Section 1 and at least two other sections chosen from 2, 3 and 4.

Section 1, Compulsory Programme

- *1a mixed choirs*
- *1b vocal ensembles*
- *1c equal-voice choirs*
- *1d childrens' choirs*

Section 2, Sacred music programme

Section 3, Secular music programme

Section 4, Monographic programme

Meals and accommodation will be offered by the organization to the choirs admitted to Category A.

In addition to Category A, choirs can participate in one or more sections of Category B.

CATEGORY B: “FESTIVAL”

Open to all type of choral ensembles.

Choirs can register in one or more of the following sections:

Section 5, Arezzo Colour Prize [Arrangements of Pop music, Jazz, Gospel, Spiritual etc.]

Section 6, International Festival of Choral Folk Music [Traditional and folk music]

Section 7, Micrologus Prize [Monophonic Christian medieval music]

Section 8, Arezzo Vision & Innovation [Show choir, Musical, Polyvocal Performing Arts, Polyvocal multimedia projects etc.]

Choirs registered in Category B cannot participate in Category A.

Meals and accommodation will be at the expense of the choirs admitted to Category B.

PRIZES*

Category A, Section 1 – Compulsory programme

sez. 1a	single prize 1500 €
sez. 1b	single prize 1500 €
sez. 1c	single prize 1500 €
sez. 1d	single prize 1500 €

Category A, Section 2 – Sacred music

- First prize 1500 €
- Second prize 1000 €
- Third prize 500 €

Category A, Section 3 – Secular music

- First prize 1500 €
- Second prize 1000 €
- Third prize 500 €

Category A, Section 4 – Monographic programme

- First prize 1500 €
- Second prize 1000 €
- Third prize 500 €

Category B, Section 5 - Arezzo Colour Prize

- Listening commission prize 1500 €
- Audience prize 1000 €

Category B, Section 6 - International Festival of Choral Folk Music

- Listening commission prize 1500 €
- Audience prize 1000 €

Category B, Section 7 – Micrologus Prize

- Listening commission prize 1500 €

Category B, Section 8 – Arezzo Vision & Innovation

- Listening commission prize 1500 €
- Audience prize 1000 €

Special prizes*

Category A, Section 1, 2, 3 and 4 – for the best performance of a Renaissance composition, 500 €

Category A, Section 2 and 3 – for the best performance of a living Italian composer, 500 €

Category A, Section 4 – for the most interesting programme, 500 €

Category B, Section 5, 6 and 8 – for the best choreography coupled with music performance, 1000 €

Gran Premio Città di Arezzo*

3000 € and the right to participate in the “European Grand Prix for Choral Singing” of 2021

* All prizes are to be intended as a contribution to the choir and will be sent later, by bank transfer; in case of ex-aequo the prizes will be divided among the ex-aequo winners.

CATEGORY - A

“Competition”

Section 1

Compulsory programme

All scores will be provided in the website www.polifonico.org [pdf file]

Section 1a - Mixed choirs, from 16 to 36 singers

The choir must perform the following programme:

ORAZIO TIGRINI, *Son figlie de l’Aurora* (SSATTB, transcription Lara Inguscio)

ALESSANDRO SCARLATTI, *Ad te Domine levavi* (SATB, transcription Nikos Betti)

MAX BRUCH, *Musicaklang*, Op. 71 n. 5 (SSATTB)

Section 1b - Vocal ensemble, from 4 to 16 singers

The choir must perform the following programme:

Mixed vocal ensemble – Ensemble vocale misto

PAOLO DEL BIVI DETTO ARETINO, *Quanto dolce e soave saria* (SATB, transcr. Luciano Tagliaferri)

ALESSANDRO SCARLATTI, *Justitiae Domini* (SATB, transcr. Nikos Betti)

MAX BRUCH, *In der Christnacht*, Op. 60 n. 1 (SATB)

Female vocal ensemble – Ensemble vocale femminile

PAOLO DEL BIVI DETTO ARETINO, *Caligaverunt oculi mei* (SSAA, transcr. Rodobaldo Tibaldi)

FRANCESCO FEROCI, *Ecce sacerdos magnus* (SSAA)

MAX BRUCH, *Christi Geburt*, Op. 92 n. 2 (SSAA e pianoforte)

Male vocal ensemble – Ensemble vocale maschile

PAOLO DEL BIVI DETTO ARETINO, *Caligaverunt oculi mei* (TTBB, transcr. Rodobaldo Tibaldi)

FRANCESCO FEROCI, *Ecce sacerdos magnus* (TTB)

MAX BRUCH, *In der Nacht*, Op. 72 (TTBB)

Section 1c – Equal-voice choirs, from 16 to 36 singers

The choir must perform the following programme:

Female choir – Coro femminile

PAOLO DEL BIVI DETTO ARETINO, *Sicut ovis* (SSAA, transcr. Rodobaldo Tibaldi)

FRANCESCO FEROCI, *Dextera Domini* (SSAA)

MAX BRUCH, *Christi Geburt*, Op. 92 n. 2 (SSAA e pianoforte)

Male choir – Coro maschile

PAOLO DEL BIVI DETTO ARETINO, *Sicut ovis* (TTBB voci, transcr. Rodobaldo Tibaldi)

FRANCESCO FEROCI, *Dextera Domini* (TTB)

MAX BRUCH, *In der Nacht*, Op. 72 (TTBB)

Section 1d – Childrens’ choir, from 16 to 36 singers (born not before 01/01/2004)

The choir must perform the following programme:

CRISOSTOMO RONDINI, *Candidi facti sunt* (2 voices and accompaniment)

HENRY PURCELL, *An Ape, a Lion, a Fox* (3 voices)

CHARLES GOUNOD, *Sub tuum praesidium*, (2 voices and accompaniment)

Section 2

SACRED MUSIC

- Each choir must present two pieces of sacred music of free choice, from different historical periods. Duration between 6 and 12 minutes. Use of piano and organ provided by the organization is permitted.
- This category also includes a special award for the best performance of an Italian living composer.
- The winner of this category will have to compete for the “Città di Arezzo” Grand Prize.

Section 3

SECULAR MUSIC

- Each choir must present two pieces of secular music of free choice, from different historical periods.
- Duration between 6 and 12 minutes. The use of piano and/or small percussion instruments is allowed. The piano is provided by the organization.
- This category also includes a special award for the best performance of an Italian living composer.
- The winner of this category will have to compete for the Gran Premio “Città di Arezzo”.

Section 4

PROJECT PROGRAMME

- The choir must present a monographic programme, of a single composer, born between 1450 and the present day. Duration between 10 and 15 minutes. The use of instruments up to a maximum of 4 is allowed; the organization will provide the piano and/or the organ.
- The winner of this category will have to compete for the Gran Premio “Città di Arezzo”.

----0000----

CATEGORY - B

“Festival”

Performances of this category will be judged by a listening commission. In sections 5, 6 and 8 there will be prizes awarded by the audience.

Section 5

Arezzo Colour Prize

- The choir must submit two arrangements of jazz, spiritual, gospel, song, pop, a cappella or with piano accompaniment. Duration between 8 and 12 minutes.

Section 5 takes place in two phases:

- Two pieces ‘a cappella’, duration max 10 minutes.
- A selection of pieces for a duration between 10 and 15 minutes. The use of instruments up to a maximum of 4 it is allowed; the organization will provide the piano.
- The use of pre-recorded accompaniment tracks is allowed.
- The use of choreographies is allowed and encouraged.
- The winner of this category DOES NOT compete for the Gran Premio “Città di Arezzo”.

Section 6

International Festival of Choral Folk Music

- The choir must submit a selection of arrangements of traditional music of its own country or region. The use of instruments of the folk tradition will be allowed.

Section 6 takes place in two phases:

1. Two pieces ‘a cappella’ up to a maximum duration of 10 minutes.
2. A selection of pieces for a duration between 10 and 15 minutes. The use of instruments up to a maximum of 4 is allowed; the organization will provide the piano.
3. Wearing traditional costumes from the choir’s native country is appreciated and welcomed
4. The winner of this category DO NOT compete for the Gran Premio “Città di Arezzo”.

Section 7

Micrologus Prize - Gregorian chant – Monophonic medieval liturgic prize

- The choir has to submit a selection of medieval monophonic liturgical songs of free choice, for a total duration between 10 and 15 minutes.
- Submitting a coherent programme resulting from research is appreciated and welcomed
- The winner of this category DOES NOT compete for the Gran Premio “Città di Arezzo”.

Section 8

Arezzo Vision & Innovation

- The choir has to submit a selection of free choice pieces proposing an innovative and immersive vision of choral performance. The programme will be totally free, presenting pieces from different genres of music for a duration between 10 and 15 minutes.
- The use of audio-video pre-recorded accompaniment tracks will be allowed.
- The performance will be held in a theatre.
- Wearing traditional costumes is appreciated and welcomed.
- The winner of this category DOES NOT compete for the Gran Premio “Città di Arezzo”.

----0000----

“Città di Arezzo” Grand Prize

The participation in the competition for the “Città di Arezzo” Grand Prize is compulsory for the winner choir/s of the First Prize in the Category A Sections 1: 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 2, 3 and 4. The Jury has right to admit to the “Città di Arezzo” Grand Prize also the winners of the second or third prize. According to the rules set out in the European Gran Prix for Choral Music Regulation, groups made up of less than 12 singers will not be allowed to compete for the “Città di Arezzo” Grand Prize.

Each group will have to submit a free programme for a duration between 15 and 20 minutes agreed with the Artistic Director. It may be only one song already presented in competition. The winner of the “Città di Arezzo” Grand Prize will have to participate in the 2020 edition of the European Gran Prix for Choral Music.

----0000----

CALENDAR

The calendar could be varied according to the number of choirs registered to the single sections.

	26 August 2020	27 August 2020	28 August 2020	29 August 2020	30 August 2020
9-12		Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	
14-17	Arrival	Section 4	Section 6	Section 5	Departure
17-19			Section 7	<i>Città di Arezzo Grand Prize</i>	
Evening	<i>Concert of participant choirs</i>	Section 6	Section 5	Section 8	

REGULATIONS

Art. 1 - **Only non-professional singers and vocal ensembles can participate in the competition**, attested by the declaration of the choir's conductor in the application form. This restriction does not apply to conductors or instrumentalists whose participation is required by the programme.

Art. 2 - Participants missing from a selection once admitted will be disqualified from all other sections.

Art. 3 - The repertoires selected may be evaluated by the Jury. The parameters taken into account will be difficulty of performance and aesthetic level of the repertoires.

Art. 4 - The participation of instrumentalists (if necessary) will have to be assessed by the Jury.

Art. 5 – Should the number of choirs admitted to any of the categories or sections be insufficient, the Fondazione Guido d'Arezzo may decide to suppress that particular category or section. The choirs will still be allowed to participate in other categories or sections to which they had been admitted.

Art. 6 - The members of children choirs **will have to appear to the competition with a document of identification containing a photograph**, issued by a competent authority. This document must be shown to the designated officer before appearing on stage.

Art. 7 - The stay of the choirs in Arezzo and their participation in the competitions will be organized as follows:

Category A

- a) **During their stay in Arezzo the choirs will be offered meals and accommodation.** The Fondazione Guido d'Arezzo will accommodate the groups within a range of 40 Km from the town of Arezzo. Different accommodations are to be paid by choirs;
- b) the stay will be offered, besides the singers, to 3 more people: 1 conductor, 1 fellow and 1 driver (only in case the choir is travelling by bus).
- c) meals and accommodations will be offered starting from the dinner of the day before the choir's first performance until the morning following the choir's last performance in competition;
- d) all travel expenses are to be paid by the choirs;
- e) for organizational reasons, during the days of the Competition the choirs will not be allowed to participate in other festivals, nor to leave Arezzo, unless they have been previously authorized.

Category B

- a) **Meals and accommodation will be paid for by the choirs.** The Foundation will assist with organizational matters, should the choir request it.
- b) All travelling expenses must be paid by the choirs admitted to the competition
- c) During the duration of the competition the choral groups may not take part in other activities; nor may they leave Arezzo without having received previous authorization.

Art. 8 - The composition of the choirs may vary according to the different pieces to be performed, provided the limits of the single sections are respected.

Art. 9 - The Secretary of Jury must be immediately informed of any substitution made among the members of a given choir. Substitutions will have to be approved by the Secretary of Jury.

Art. 10 - The request of replacement of one or more songs in the contest may be submitted to the Secretary of Jury of the Foundation within the 15th of June 2020; the Artistic Director reserves the right to accept or refuse any request.

Art. 11 – The order of exhibition of the choirs will be decided by drawing lots. During the competitions the songs must be performed according to the order resulting from the program. Any eventual exception must be previously agreed with the Secretary of Jury.

Art. 12 - All the competitions will be subject to the judgement of an International Jury made up of experts mainly coming from foreign countries.

Art. 13 - During the Competition, other choral music concerts (programs to be defined) may organized in the area. The choirs admitted to the Competition will have to participate in the concerts. The concerts will be scheduled according to the competition timetable.

Art. 14 - All the concerts and competitions will be open to the public and visible with a live streaming on the website of the Fondazione Guido d'Arezzo (www.polifonico.org).

Art. 15 - The Fondazione Guido d'Arezzo reserves all rights of recording the music performed during the competitions, the Festival and the concerts, and of radio or TV broadcasting, both in Italy and abroad, without any obligation to remunerate the choirs.

THE JURY

Category A “Competition”

Art. 16 - The Jury will be made up of well-known experts in the international music world. The Jury will nominate its President, electing him among their components.

Art. 17 - For Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4, the Jury will be made up of at least 7 members having the right to vote. The majority of the jury members will not be Italian. No more than 2 jury members can be citizens of the same nation [in compliance with the President of the Council of Ministers mem. no. 10 of 5 December 1994 - published in the Italian Official Gazette, no. 16, 20 January 1995]. For Category 7 the Jury will be made up of at least 3 members having the right to vote.

Art. 18 - At the end of each round, judgement will be expressed as a numerical score, resulting from the average of the scores assigned by each jury member. The highest and lowest scores will be excluded.

Art. 19 - The Jury will have to express a judgment at the end of each round. The judgment will take into consideration the following parameters:

- a) technical quality
- b) interpretation quality

Each jury member will express a judgment in /100 for parameter a) and for parameter b).

Art. 20 - The classification of the competitions will be determined by the sum of the scores obtained by each group for parameters a) and b). Therefore the final results will be expressed in /200. The Jury will have the faculty not to assign any prizes to the groups whose scores are lower than:
180/200 for First Prizes; 160/200 for Second Prizes; 140/200 for Third Prizes.

Art. 21 - A Secretary, nominated by the Fondazione Guido d'Arezzo, will put on record the operations of the Jury.

Art. 22 - The members of the Jury can be changed in the course of each competition only under circumstances of force majeure.

Art. 23 - The judgment of the Jury is irrevocable and definitive.

Art. 24 - Before the beginning of the Competition, the Jury will gather, at the presence of the Artistic Director, in order to make uniform the criteria of evaluation relative to the parameters of judgment.

Art. 25 - If a choir exceeds the time available, as set out in this Regulation for each section of the competition, the Jury will apply a penalty in the final score of 1/200 for each extra minute; for Section 5 and 6, in which the prize is awarded by the audience, the penalty will be 20 votes less for each minute more. The playing time is measured without including the pauses between pieces.

Category B “Festival”

Art. 26 - The Listening Commission will be made up of well-known experts in the international music world. The Commissions will nominate their President, electing him among their components.

Art. 27 - The Listening Commission (as regard sections 5, 6, 7 and 8) will be made up of at least 3 members having the right to vote.

Art. 28 - At the end of each round, judgement will be expressed as a numerical score, resulting from the average of the scores assigned by each jury member. The highest and lowest scores will be excluded.

Art. 29 - In the analytical evaluation, the Listening Commission will take into consideration technical quality, interpretation quality and artistic value of the performance as well as the compliance with the duration of pieces submitted.

Art. 30 - The classification of the competitions will be determined by the sum of the scores obtained by each group. The Listening Commission will have the faculty not to assign any prizes.

Art. 31 - A Secretary, nominated by the Fondazione Guido d'Arezzo, will put on record the operations of the Listening Commission.

Art. 32 - The members of the Listening Commission can be changed in the course of each competition only under circumstances of force majeure.

Art. 33 - The judgment of the Listening Commission is irrevocable and definitive.

Art. 34 – Before the beginning of the Competition, the Listening Commission will gather, at the presence of the Artistic Director, in order to make uniform the criteria of evaluation relative to the parameters of judgment.

Art. 35 – The audience prizes will be assigned through direct scoring on sheets, previously delivered.

General rules

Art. 36 - The Fondazione Guido d'Arezzo reserves the faculty of modifying, under circumstances of force majeure, the announcement and the regulations.

Art. 37 - Any complaint will have to be written and presented immediately to the President of the Fondazione. Complaints will be examined with the assistance of competent authorities.

Art. 38 - In case of complaints regarding the announcement and the regulations, reference must be made to the Italian version of the texts.

Art. 39 - Disputes of any kind will have to be regulated by the Court of Arezzo.

HOW TO APPLY

1

Applications must be made using the special form. They must arrive within **April 15 2020** together with a receipt attesting payment of the entry fee of € 100.

The application form and receipt of payment of the entry fee should be sent to the email address of the Foundation *concorsi@polifonico.org*

Category A

The choirs admitted to the Category A “Competition” will have to pay the following participation fee as a contribution to organizational expenses:

€ 200 for ensembles of a maximum of 12 singers, € 400 for choirs of a maximum of 24 singers and € 600 for choirs of a maximum of 36 singers.

The participation fee must be paid within 20 days after being admitted, penalty of exclusion.

The entry and the participation fee are non-refundable.

Category B

The choirs admitted to the Category B “Festival” will have to pay a participation fee of € 150.

The participation fee must be paid within 30 days after being admitted, penalty of exclusion. The entry and the participation fee are non-refundable.

Payments of the amounts mentioned above, with the reason “Tassa Concorso Polifonico Internazionale 2020”, must be made to Fondazione Guido d’Arezzo by bank transfer to UBI Banca IBAN: IT88E031111410000000092272 - BIC/SWIFT: BLOPIT22

Specify the name of the choir in the reason for payment.

2

Each group must include the following with the application:

- a) receipt of payment of the entry fee (Euro 100);
- b) name list of the choir members, indicating their profession, in order to certify the essential feature of an amateur choir; children choirs must also indicate date of birth and gender of each member; the list must be signed by the choir president or conductor, who will thus be responsible for the information provided;
- c) an English version of the curriculum vitae of the choir and of the conductor, indicating (where applicable) their participation and results obtained in other competitions.
- d) A short version of the CV (max. 50 words) is also required;
- e) 1 picture in colour of choir and conductor;
- f) 1 copy of the scores of each piece selected for the competitions (pdf file);

- g) the translations into Italian or English of the texts of each piece chosen by the choir. No translation is required for latin texts;
- h) a recent recording audio or audio/video, with a detailed list of the pieces recorded. It is also accepted a link on youtube.

The application for participation in the competition should be sent within **15 April 2020** by using the specific online application form to concorsi@polifonico.org.

3

The pieces that the choir intends to perform must be indicated in the application form. For each piece the following information must be provided:

- a) name, surname, place and date of birth, and place and date of death (where applicable) of the composer and/or transcriber;
- b) translation into Italian or English of the title. No translation is required for Latin texts;
- c) duration;
- d) publisher;
- e) instrument (where applicable).

The Artistic Director reserves the right to ask choirs to substitute the pieces proposed if they not comply to the Regulation.

4

The admission or exclusion from the competition will be communicated to the choirs **within 30 April 2020**. The decision of the Artistic Director above the admission to the competition is unappealable.

5

Nine scores of each of the pieces chosen for the competition must come **within 15 June 2020** from each choir admitted. The organization declines all responsibility for any reproduction of scores covered by international copyright.

6

After the announcement of results, the choirs admitted of the “Città di Arezzo” Grand Prize will have to agree with the Artistic Director the program they wish to perform in the final competition for the “Città di Arezzo” Grand Prize.

7

The application implies complete acceptance of all the rules of the competition.

Fondazione Guido d'Arezzo

Corso Italia, 102 - 52100 AREZZO

Tel. 0575 356203 - Fax. 0575 324735

e-mail of Secretary of the Competition: concorsi@polifonico.org

(for any information of artistic and technical nature)

e-mail of Organizing Secretary: polifonico@fondazioneguidodarezzo.com

(for any information of a general and organizational nature)

www.polifonico.org

www.fondazioneguidodarezzo.com

[www.facebook/polifonicoarezzo](https://www.facebook.com/polifonicoarezzo)