

The Associazione Musicale Harmonia Gentium of Lecco
presents
The 13th European Festival of Youth Choirs “GIUSEPPE ZELIOLI”
to be held in Lecco and other Provinces of Lombardy
from 3rd to 8th July, 2018

REGULATIONS
13th European Festival of Youth Choirs
Lecco 3rd – 8th July 2018

THE APPLICATION FORM MUST BE SENT BY REGISTERED MAIL AND MUST ARRIVE IN LECCO NO LATER THAN 15th DECEMBER, 2017 AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

Associazione Musicale Harmonia Gentium
c/o Raffaele Colombo Piazza Cappuccini, 9
23900 Lecco Italia

The submission of the Application Form **denotes full acceptance of the terms and conditions of the Regulation.**

It can also be sent via email to the following address of the Associazione Musicale Harmonia Gentium [seq. *Harmonia Gentium*]: festivalzelioli@pecplic.com info@harmoniagentium.it.

When you submit the application form the FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS and AUDIO MATERIALS must be attached:

1. The Application form as available from the *Harmonia Gentium* website; www.harmoniagentium.it – duly completed and signed.
2. A recording in one of these formats – MP3, DVD or WAV – of at least 4 pieces recently recorded by the choir and posted on YouTube, together with a scanned copy of each score recorded.
3. An up-to-date Curriculum Vitae of **both the Choir and the Director** (max. 1000 characters including spaces).
4. A recent photo of the Choir and Director in JPG or TIF format.
5. A statement signed by the Director that he is agrees to fully prepare all the collective pieces as requested by the Organizing Committee and that he agrees to all parts of the regulations.

The organising committee of *Harmonia Gentium* will evaluate all applications. All choirs will receive written confirmation of acceptance or exclusion no later than **19th January, 2018.**

From 16th June, 2017 all required music will be available in PDF format on the *Harmonia Gentium* websites: www.harmoniagentium.it and www.festivalzelioli.it.

1. – REGULATIONS

1.1 – NATURE OF THE FESTIVAL The Festival is non-competitive and, for this reason, all judgments of merit (with relative score) expressed by the International Artistic Jury, will not constitute any kind of ranking among the participating choirs, which will be awarded with a participation certificate and a plaque.

1.2 – TWO CATEGORIES OF CHOIRS ARE ADMITTED TO THE FESTIVAL:

Category A: Boy and/or Girl choirs with a maximum of 30 choristers. If choristers are solely girls, they must not be older than 19 years of age.

Category B: Mixed choirs with Boys and/or Girls and Men.

- **Boys/Girls and Men** (aged 9-24 – classic male choir) with a maximum of 40 choristers, of which at least 25 choristers (62.5%) are Boys no more than 16 years old, or Girls not older than 19 years, with (Countertenors) Tenors and Basses not over 24 years of age.

A particular preference will be given to the classic male choir (i.e. Boys – with Tenors and Basses or Countertenors, Tenors and Basses).

Harmonia Gentium reserves the sole right to accept the applications received, and also to accept other choirs. Their decision in merit will be regarded as final.

1.3 – THE ARTISTIC JURY - The Artistic Jury consists of 5 members from different countries, with proven experience in choral and vocal performance, plus the Artistic Director of the Festival and a secretary.

- The Artistic Jury will attend the planned auditions and write a short evaluation of each performance, to the exclusive purpose of improving the artistic level of the choir.

- As a combined evaluation of the different aspects of the performances, the Jury will express its final grades in points, which will range between 1 and 100.

Depending on the resulting evaluation, choirs will be awarded prizes according to the following criteria:

- 1- 60 points 4th prize
- 61-70 points 3rd prize
- 71-80 points 2nd prize
- 81-90 points 1st prize
- 91-97 points 1st prize *cum laude*
- 98-100 points 1st prize *summa cum laude*

The Jury will assess the choirs based on the following aspects of performances:

- a. Vocality of the choir both as an ensemble and of each individual section;
- b. Intonation;
- c. Accuracy of rhythm, dynamics and expressive flexibility of time (agogics) in the interpretation of the selected pieces;

- d. Style and technical accuracy of the selected pieces;
- e. Level of difficulty of the selected pieces (to avoid disparity when assessing the choirs – concerning singers that are more experienced and singers that are of a younger age – assessment will be based on the difficulty of interpretation of the selected pieces;
- f. General presentation of the choir.

- At the conclusion of the solemn Holy Mass choirs will receive a certificate of participation.
- Each choir will later be sent a brief report prepared by the International Artistic Jury with suggestions and comments on performances.

1.4 – COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS:

- Preparation of all the collective pieces for the solemn Holy Mass, as well as for the Festival opening and closing Ceremonies;
- Participation of all choirs at the general rehearsals in the Basilica and to be present, for the duration, at all the individual events;
- No independent concerts may be performed, unless specifically authorized by *Harmonia Gentium*. Violation of any of these obligations may incur, at the sole discretion of the organizers, withdrawal of all free hospitality.

1.5 - ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS FOR THE CHOIRS DURING THE FESTIVAL:

• Proposal 1:

- For choristers under the age of 18 (i.e. born after 3rd July 2000), lodging is offered free, while for all meals the organisers require an inclusive fee of €50 (fifty) per person for duration of the Festival. These young choristers will be accommodated either in families in the city or nearby, or in hostels or in religious institutions, from the evening meal of 3rd July until lunch on 8th July 2018. All other drinks, food or services must be paid by the choir in full directly to the hotel or other institution before departure.

- For young singers over the age of 18, (i.e. born before 2nd July 2000), for singers under the age of 18 exceeding the expected number (in any case not more than 5) and for all other people joining the choir in a personal capacity, the costs of all food and accommodation is to be borne entirely by the choir. These people will be accommodated in hostels or religious institutes with full boarding from the evening meal of 3rd July until lunch on 8th July 2018 at a special price of €65 (sixty-five) per day per person, which includes lodging, breakfast, midday and evening meals with mineral water. All other drinks, food or services must be paid in full directly by the choir to the hotel or other institution before departure.

• Proposal 2

If all members of the choir wish to be housed in the SAME ACCOMMODATION (i.e. building), all costs are to be borne by the choir. In this case, the cost per day per person in hotels will be €40 (forty) and in religious institutes €35 (thirty-five) for Bed & Breakfast (5 nights), plus an inclusive fee of €50 (fifty) for meals is required as above. All other drinks, food or services must be paid for in full by the choir directly to the hotel or other institution before departure.

- In both proposals the costs of meals (excluding drinks) and lodging for the director, for the organist, for 2 managers in each choir, and for 2 bus drivers, will be borne entirely by *Harmonia Gentium*. However, all other drinks, food or services must be paid for in full directly to the hotel or other institution before departure.

1.6 - REGISTRATION FEE

The registration fee for the Festival is:

- €400 (four hundred Euros) per choir.

This fee must be paid by bank transfer to the bank account of the ASSOCIAZIONE MUSICALE HARMONIA GENTIUM, directly following confirmation of participation by *Harmonia Gentium*.

1.7 – RECORDING OF PERFORMANCES - *Harmonia Gentium* reserves all rights to all audio/video recordings of all events and other music performed by choirs during the Festival. No payment of any kind may be requested, for any reason, by directors, choirs and/or other associations. Upon confirmation of participation, the legal representative of the choir admitted to the Festival, must sign a release declaration prepared by *Harmonia Gentium*, pursuant to the provisions of legal Copyright (the Performing Rights Society for Italy) concerning all matters related to any live broadcasts by radio or television, and/or audio and video recordings by public and/or private broadcasters licensed by *Harmonia Gentium*.

2 – FESTIVAL: MAIN EVENTS

- Opening Ceremony;
- Gala Concert in the *Basilica di San Nicolò in Lecco*, which is open to the public and the Artistic Jury;
- Choir Auditions by the International Artistic Jury;
- Compulsory collective rehearsals by choirs to prepare the music for the solemn Holy Mass at the end of the Festival;
- Concerts of individual groups in various locations in Lombardy;
- European Folk Show;
- Solemn Holy Mass at the end of the Festival
- Closing Ceremony and delivery of certificates.

3 – REQUIRED MUSICAL PROGRAMME

3.1 – For the Gala Concert in the *Basilica di San Nicolò in Lecco* (in the presence of an audience and the Artistic Jury)

- 2 freely chosen sacred, polyphonic, a cappella works – maximum duration 7' – of which one must have been composed after 1970
- 1 freely chosen sacred work, with organ accompaniment – maximum duration 4';
- 1 freely chosen monodic piece, from Gregorian, Ambrosian, Orthodox or other liturgical repertoires – maximum duration 3'.

3.2 – For the Choral Audition (in the Crypt of the *Santuario di Nostra Signora della Vittoria in Lecco*):

- 1 freely chosen sacred, a cappella work composed after 1970, from the composer's country of origin (even in the original language) – maximum duration 5’
- 1 freely chosen sacred a cappella work composed before 1970 – maximum duration 4’;
- 1 profane piece with piano accompaniment composed before 1970 – maximum duration 3’;
- 1 freely chosen secular (non-religious) a cappella work by any composer, written at any time previous to 1970 – maximum duration 4’.

NOTE: a digital piano will be made available by the organizers

3.3. – The works performed in the *Basilica of San Nicolò* (par. 3.1) may not be repeated in the audition referred to in par. 3.2.

3.4. – During the audition, the works will be performed in any order preferred by the Director of the Choir after informing the Jury. The Jury may also request the performance of one of the collective pieces.

3.5 – By Sunday **4th March 2018**, the admitted choirs must send by mail letter to address of Harmonia Gentium 1 scanned copy of the complete scores each work that will be performed during the two auditions which will take place in the presence of the International Artistic Jury.

Any changes that may made to the announced repertoire must be promptly communicated to the Festival Secretariat and the relative copies of the new sheet music sent via email, must arrive no later than **18th May 2018**. Within the same period of 45 days, choirs admitted to the Festival must pay the registration fee to the bank account, as per indications that they will receive from *Harmonia Gentium*. The non-receipt of the registration fee within this deadline will be considered as grounds for exclusion from the Festival.

3.6 – For the European Folk Show, 2 popular pieces from the choir's own country – maximum duration 6’.

3.7 – Once they have been accepted by the Festival Artistic Jury, none of the freely chosen works may be changed.

3.8 – Compulsory Collective Pieces. The collective scores for Solemn Holy Mass at the end the Festival will be available from the organization's website www.harmoniagentium.it in PDF format from 15th June 2017.

By **22th June 2018**, all selected choirs must mail a CD or an MP3 file of the collective pieces for the solemn High Mass at the end the Festival to the address of the *Musical Association Harmonia Gentium*; non-receipt of these recordings will signify exclusion from the Festival.

3.9 – Concerts in the various hosting locations. Choirs must offer a programme of sacred and secular music (maximum duration: 50’) for the concert to be performed in the hosting location, or in other cities in Lombardy, to be approved by the Welcoming Committee. This program must be attached to all the other documentation sent by the choir.

4 – EUROPEAN FOLK SHOW

On the evening of Saturday 7th July 2018, the Festival will include a parade through Lecco of the choirs dressed in their own national costumes or performance clothing. At the end of the parade each choir will present two popular pieces from their own country – of no more than 6’.

A piano will be available, although it would be preferred that the pieces be performed with popular instruments from their own country.

5 – CLOSING CEREMONY

The Festival will end on Sunday 8th July 2018 with the following programme:

- 10.15 am meeting of all choirs on the *Sagrato della Basilica di San Nicolò* (the square in front of the Basilica);
- 11.30 am Solemn Holy Mass with a collective performance of the works that will be indicated before 15th June 2017;
- The general director of the choirs will be Cav. Pier Angelo Pelucchi, Artistic and Musical Director of *Harmonia Gentium*;
- At the offertory, delivery to the celebrant of representative gifts from the place of origin of each choir;
- At the end of the High Mass, the Closing Ceremony will take place, with the delivery of certificates of participation.

6 – FINAL DETAILS

The choirs will be divided into two groups: Group A and Group B

- The *Harmonia Gentium* Committee will draw the Groups by lot on 25th May 2018 and the following day it will communicate the results to the choirs with a detailed timetable for all choirs, which will be then published on the website of the Festival.

- All choirs must use their own bus during the whole Festival for all transfers related to the Festival. For those arriving by plane, a bus reservation is required through the Secretariat of *Harmonia Gentium*. The cost is of roughly €2.800 (two thousand and eight hundred Euros) for the duration of the Festival (5 days), including all transfers to and from the airport, concerts, tours, and transfers to and from the hosting locations.

- All expenses relative to extra activities during free time, including leisure trips, excursions and the like, as well as eventual costs for drinks, extra food or for other services in hotels or other institutes, must be completely paid for by the individual choirs before departure.

- *Harmonia Gentium* will designate a hostess or a steward to each choir, who will provide communication between them and the Secretariat and help in any possible way concerning issues related to the events of the Festival.

- *Harmonia Gentium* declines all and any responsibility for accidents involving persons or property that may possibly involve choirs both travelling to or from Lecco or the Provinces of Lombardy and during their stay in Italy.

- *Harmonia Gentium* reserves the right to make any changes to these regulations deemed necessary, giving timely information to the participating Choirs. If for reasons of force majeure, the Festival could not be held the choirs will be refunded the registration fee and sum paid for the stay and meals.

Any compensation for the participating choirs is excluded.

To ask for information send email to *The secretariat*: info@es-servizi.com

Lecco, 28 October 2016.

NOTE : changes highlighted in yellow approved on April 7, 2017