

Documents for the ECA board election 2021 – 2024

A short letter with the motivation for being a candidate (including a possible field of focus)

Choir and singing have been a part of my life ever since I was born. I grew up in a musical family and we were all constantly singing. During my years in High School I started to get to know more of the classical choir repertoire and discovered the beauty of a cappella choirs for myself. I was always very curious, so it didn't take long until I discovered the Youth Choir scene on a state and national level, until I finally learned of the Eurochoir. That was the moment that the international choir scene opened itself to me and I fell in love with the scene immediately.

Having the chance to freely meet people from other countries and to learn from each other in so many different ways is a real blessing and hasn't always been as self-evident, as it is now. That's why I agree 100% with the foundation of friendship as a way to avoid wars, the idea that the European Choral Association (ECA) was built on. I support the vision and mission statements of ECA and would love to have the chance to be actively involved in the association for three more years!

The pandemic has showed us once more how important it is to stick together in the choir scene as a whole. Networking and getting to know as many initiatives in the scene is therefore an important part of my mission. I'm proud that I get to work for those goals both in my honorary positions for ECA and the Deutsche Chorjugend, as well as my job as project manager for INTERKULTUR.

During the coming three years in the board I would like to focus on helping to develop further strategies for sustainability in the choir scene, a process we have already started in the last term of the board. Furthermore I would like to stay involved with organizing the next Eurochoir sessions and youth involvement in the association.

Questions to be answered by the Candidates

1. Why are you interested in becoming a Board member of the European Choral Association - Europa Cantat? What makes you a good Board member?

I would be honored to get to be a board member of the European Choral Association for three more years because I stand behind the values, projects and goals of ECA and would love to get the chance to actively help ECA to reach the set goals. Being part of such an inspiring team of fellow board members, Youth Committee members and members of the office is very motivating when it comes to creating content for the European and International choir scene.

I would consider myself a good board member, because I'm always open to new ideas and input, love to network and I try to always be a good team player when it comes to including people in discussions or events.

2. How can you contribute to the development of the federation and what would you like to focus on during the period on board?

During my last mandate I was part of the team developing ideas on how the choir scene could become more environmentally friendly. This discussion has been continued in the SHIFT program and several other seminars and interviews. I would love to help further that discussion into concrete actions. Additionally, I would like to keep working on developing the Eurochoir and the Youth Committee. These two projects have brought me to the association and I'm confident that they have the potential to connect many more young people in Europe and bring creative minds to ECA.

Finally, I was also involved as member of the Steering Committee for the Europa Cantat Festival, in the "SingTank" and in the working group for the "Benefits of Singing" Campaign. If there are opportunities to get involved in these areas some more, I am absolutely happy to contribute again.

3. What is your vision about the European Choral Association - Europa Cantat and its activities?

The past two years have shown us how important it is to connect the choir scene as a whole, to stand strong together, even when we can't meet for live events or sing together. Hundreds of initiatives from virtual choirs over programs for online rehearsals to creative ideas how to sing together with carefully thought through safety measures have shown that singing gives people so much strength that they will go through a lot of hassle to stick to their hobby.

I see the European Choral Association and all of its partners and members in a good position to spread and advocate the benefits of collective singing to as many people as possible through cooperation, good networks and passion. The new EU funded project plan of IGNITE and other programs will be a big influence on this path.

Flannery Ryan – Biography

Education:

- Born in Darmstadt, Germany in 1989, raised bilingually (English-German)
- School education until the „Abitur“ in Bensheim, Germany
- Bachelor in **Musicology** and **English** from the Ruprecht Karls University of Heidelberg (2015)

Work experiences:

- Internships in **stage management** and **dramaturgy** at different opera houses (Wiesbaden State Opera, Theatre and Orchestra Heidelberg and Volksoper Vienna) (2011 – 2015)
- **Project assistant** at the artistic management’s office of the Wiener Symphoniker (2015/16)
- Internship at the **artistic management’s office** of the Wiener Konzerthaus (2016/17)
- Staff member of the **customer service department** of the Vienna Konzerthaus (2017 – 2019)

- Occasionally **translator** English-German, **writer** of booklet texts and articles and **singer** in semi-professional ensembles and as a soloist.
- **Project Manager** at INTERKULTUR (2019 – now)

Honorary positions:

- Chair of the **German Youth Choir Association** (Deutsche Chorjugend), closely linked to the board of the **German Choral Association** (Deutscher Chorverband) (2014 – 2017)
- Member of the **Youth Committee** of the European Choral Association (2013 – 2018)
- Representative for European issues at the **German Youth choir Association** (Deutsche Chorjugend) and member of the working group “European Youth Policy Group” at the **German Federal Youth Council** (2018 – now)

- **Singer** in many different choirs and ensembles both national and international

Languages:

- German (fluent)
- English (fluent)
- French (good)



DEUTSCHER CHORVERBAND

Deutscher Chorverband e. V. • Karl-Marx-Straße 145 • 12043 Berlin

European Choral Association
Haus der Kultur
Weberstr. 59a
53113 Bonn
Germany

Geschäftsführung
Veronika Petzold
E-Mail: veronika.petzold@deutscher-chorverband.de

Geschäftsstelle
Karl-Marx-Straße 145
12043 Berlin

Telefon: 030 8471089-0
Fax: 030 8471089-99

E-Mail: info@deutscher-chorverband.de
Internet: www.deutscher-chorverband.de

Datum: Berlin, 30. September 2021

Election for the board of the European Choral Association

Dear members of the European Choral Association,

With this letter we would like to support Flannery Ryan as candidate for the board of the European Choral Association. Her work of the past three years has been beneficial for the choir scene as a whole and as networking link between the organizations.

We are confident that these ties will only get stronger in the coming years and that her involvement especially in the fields of environmental sustainability, youth involvement and networking will help the European Choral Association and its members.

Kind regards,

Deutscher Chorverband e. V.

Veronika Petzold

Präsident:
Christian Wulff
Bundespräsident a. D.

Sitz: Berlin
Amtsgericht Charlottenburg
VR 27678 B

Deutsche Bank
Privat- und Geschäftskunden AG
Konto 564 202 000 BLZ 100 700 24
IBAN DE64100700240564202000
BIC/SWIFT DEUTDE33HAN

Partner des DCV

