

Press Release – Bonn, 09/12/2024

Choral TIES Enters Its Second Year

A Project for Professionals in Collective Singing

Choral TIES (choralties.eu) has been running for a full year! The project runs from **1 December 2023 to 31 May 2026** and is coordinated by the European Choral Association (DE). It brings together the partners Carus-Verlag (DE), the Croatian Cultural Association (HR) and the Estonian Choral Association (EE). **Choral TIES** is co-funded by the EU.

Choral TIES offers **Cross-border Training on International and European level** for professionals in the field of **Collective Singing**. It promotes physical, hybrid and online training for choral conductors / vocal leaders and managers, as well as youth participation. The project's training is adapted to different needs and possibilities and a new online training tool is being introduced.

What has happened so far...

Events

- **Summer Course for Choral Conductors** | Haapsalu, Estonia – 12-15 August 2024

[Link to the website](#)

The Estonian Choral Association ran the Summer Course for Conductors, which hosted inspiring workshops, lectures and concerts in a cosy seaside town of Estonia! It included the Choral TIES session *Choirs after COVID – recover, rebuild, renew*, led by Daphne Wassink, Netherlands.

- **Seminar for Choral Conductors** | Rijeka, Croatia – 6-8 September 2024

[Link to the website](#)

The Croatian Cultural Association organised a seminar for choral conductors as part of Choral TIES, led by Jan Schumacher (DE) and Tomislav Fačini (HR) in Rijeka. The seminar also featured a presentation of the digital conductor training tool, *Conductor's Coach*, designed by the German publishing house Carus Verlag, another partner in the Choral TIES project.

- **Study Tour to Georgia and/or Armenia** | Tbilisi, Georgia & Yerevan, Armenia – 14-26/09/2024

[Link to the website](#)

With the option to travel to Georgia or Armenia, or both, the European Choral Association invited conductors to discover the wonderful heritage of countries that are somewhat remote and therefore all the more remarkable in their heritage of choral traditions. Through exchanges with choirs, composers, workshops and concerts, they enriched their knowledge, repertoire and personal treasury of experiences.

Webinars

Three of the eight webinars of the project have taken place and are now available to view online on the European Choral Association YouTube channel:

- **“Choose your repertoire wisely”** | European Choral Association | 16 April 2024 | [Watch it on YouTube!](#)
- **“Choirs after covid – recover, rebuild, renew”** at the Haapsalu Summer Course | Estonian Choral Association | 13 August 2024 | [Watch it on YouTube!](#)
- **"Creating Choral Music: Talking about the Requirements of Choral Repertoire"** | European Choral Association in cooperation with IFCM | [Watch it on YouTube!](#)

Practice Aids for Choir Conducting

Carus has developed practice aids for choir conducting, including a handbook together with a practical manual written by conductors Anne Kohler, Jan Schumacher and Klaus Brecht, plus the world's very first conducting app. The practice aids enable students of choral conducting – in fact, any conductors, music teachers or interested amateur choral conductors – to develop their conducting techniques and working methods, resulting in confident performances in front of every choir!

- [The app](#) is already available in English and German
- [Video on How to Use the App](#)
- The handbook is currently only available in German but an English translation is coming soon!

Meeting of European and International Youth Committees

The Youth Committees of the European Choral Association and the International Federation for Choral Music met together in Istanbul on 23–24 November 2024. Aiming to create international connections and exchange at youth level in the collective singing field, Choral TIES provided the opportunity for the two youth committees to engage in fruitful discussions on topics such as gender equity, diversity, inclusion, and environmental sustainability.

What is coming up...

The Choral TIES project comprises:

- Five more webinars organised by the project partners for choral conductors / vocal leaders, managers and composers
- Hybrid and physical trainings, including in the Baltic and Balkan regions and at Leading Voices 2025
- Peer-to-peer training offering European conductors the opportunity to work with choirs on other continents
- The continued development of an international youth network through the European Choral Association Youth Committee and YOUNG IFCM, as well as the YOUNG programme at the IFCM World Choral Expo and the Leading Voices YEMP programme
- Cross-border workshops and study tours

Stay Up-to-Date on Choral TIES Opportunities

Keep visiting the project website at choralties.eu and subscribe to the [European Choral Association newsletter](#) to stay up-to-date on the Choral TIES project!

Meet the Choral TIES Partners



The [European Choral Association](#) is the coordinator of the Choral TIES project and is a network of 60 regional and national organisations and institutions in the field of collective singing. Through the Friends of the European Choral Association it also reaches choirs and individual professionals in the field.

[Carus-Verlag](#) is a family business, run by the Graulich publishing family, engaged in supporting music-making in society. Over the last 50 years they have built up a catalogue of sheet music for vocal and choral music which is unique worldwide, consisting of around 45,000 works, mainly vocal. The programme reflects the development of five centuries of choral music.

The [Croatian Cultural Association](#) (founded 1948) is an NGO that supports amateur reproductive performing activities in the Republic of Croatia, including music (vocal and instrumental), dance (contemporary and folk dance), theatre, literature and art. As of today, the organisation brings together 1.045 associations and 214 individuals.

The [Estonian Choral Association](#) is the umbrella organisation for Estonian choirs, conductors, music teachers and wind orchestras, uniting over 47.000 members all over Estonia. Founded in 1982, it works for development of choral singing in Estonia and also at the international level, organises choral events, festivals, competitions, conferences and conductors' courses.



Co-funded by the
European Union

Some of the activities will be promoted in cooperation with the [International Federation for Choral Music - IFCM](#)