

# International Masterclass for Choral Conducting with Conducting Competition

## Application information

The MODfestivals e.V. as the organiser of the International Chamber Choir Competition Marktoberdorf invites interested choir conductors to apply for participation in the International Masterclass for Choral Conducting with Conducting Competition from **10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> June 2025**.

### Target group

The event is aimed at experienced choir conductors who would like to expand and deepen their knowledge and expertise with outstanding experts at a high level. They should have studied choral conducting/conducting or already be at the end of their studies.

### Application and admission

Applications for participation in the International Masterclass for Choral Conducting with Conducting Competition 2025 must be submitted by **30<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 23:59 CET** via the online form at [www.kammerchorwettbewerb.org](http://www.kammerchorwettbewerb.org) and the necessary supplementary documents must be sent to the festival office by e-mail.

The Artistic Director of the Marktoberdorf International Chamber Choir Competition, Prof Jürgen Budday, and the Artistic Director of the Masterclass, Prof Georg Grün, will decide on admission by **15<sup>th</sup> January 2025**. Applicants will be informed of the result and travel/stays will be organised in consultation with the festival office.

### Procedure / Active and passive participation

20 conductors will be invited to the masterclass. It starts on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 11:30 am. at the Bavarian Music Academy Marktoberdorf. After getting to know each other, there will be an audition, which will determine whether participation in the masterclass will be active or passive.

In the daily main choir rehearsals, which are conducted alternately by Prof Georg Grün and Yuval Weinberg, the ten active participants are given the opportunity to conduct themselves. They also take part in the rehearsal preparations and the evening lectures. The passively participating choir conductors observe the rehearsals in the background and analyse them with the other masterclass director. They also take part in the evening lectures.

A further selection will take place on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025, which will determine which four to six conductors will continue to actively participate and thus conduct at the final concert on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> June 2025. The final concert with prize giving ceremony of the Conducting Competition will mark the end of the masterclass. Departure will be on Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

### Studio choir

A participating choir from the 19<sup>th</sup> International Chamber Choir Competition Marktoberdorf will be available as a studio choir for the entire duration of the masterclass.

### Contents

- Conducting techniques
- Vocal training
- Voice and register coaching, work on a specific choral sound
- Intensive rehearsal of the pieces prepared for the masterclass
- Familiarisation with choral scores
- Contact with other choir conductors on an international level
- Final concert to present what has been learnt and to determine the winners

## Leadership team

### Prof Georg Grün (Germany) - Conductor

Georg Grün can count himself among the internationally demanded choral conductors and choral sound specialists. He founded the KammerChor Saarbrücken in 1990 and is still its artistic director. From 2000 to 2013, Georg Grün held a professorship for choral conducting at the Musikhochschule Mannheim, with whose newly founded chamber choir he also won numerous international prizes. In 2012 he followed a second call and moved to the Hochschule für Musik Saar as professor, at the same time taking over the direction of the BachChor Saarbrücken. Georg Grün travels the world as a guest conductor, guest professor, adjudicator and lecturer of international master classes for choral conducting. He has been a mentor of the Conductors' Forum at the German Music Council since 2010 and was jury chairman of the Marktoberdorf International Chamber Choir Competition from 2015-2019. He is increasingly involved in improvisation (piano/organ) and performance and is also active as a composer and arranger.

### Yuval Weinberg (Germany/Israel) - Conductor

Yuval Weinberg studied choral conducting with Jörg-Peter Weigle at the Hanns Eisler University of Music in Berlin and with Grete Pedersen at the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo. He then began his training in orchestral conducting and singing at the Buchmann-Mehta Academy of Music at the University of Tel Aviv. From 2015 to 2017 he was the conductor of the NOVA Chamber Choir in Oslo and the Norwegian National Youth Choir. Since summer 2019 he has been principal guest conductor of the Norwegian Soloist Choir and artistic director of EuroChoir. In October 2019 he was appointed chief conductor of the SWR Vocal Ensemble and will take up his post at the beginning of the 2020/21 season. He also regularly conducts the Bavarian Radio Chorus in concert and on recordings. He has taken rehearsals for conductors such as Bernard Haitink, Herbert Blomstedt, Ottavio Dantone, Keri-Lynn Wilson and Tõnu Kaljuste. As a scholarship holder and finalist of the German Conductors' Forum, supported by Tenso, the European network for professional chamber choirs, he has collaborated with such renowned choirs as Cappella Amsterdam, the Chorus of the Deutsche Oper Berlin, the MDR Radio Choir, the Netherlands Chamber Choir, the NDR Choir, the RIAS Chamber Choir, the Berlin Radio Choir and the Swedish Radio Choir.

### Bobin Kim (Germany/South Korea) - Assistant

Bobin Kim has been working as a choral assistant and répétiteur at the Semperoper Dresden since the 2024/25 season. She studied choral conducting at the Korea National University of Arts in Seoul and completed her master's degree with honours at the Frankfurt University of Music and Performing Arts. In March 2024, she received her concert exam in choral conducting at the Saar University of Music and also completed a degree in orchestral conducting at the HfMDK Frankfurt. She gained professional experience as a répétiteur at the Städtische Bühnen Frankfurt and as an assistant to the choir director at the Deutsche Oper Berlin. She has worked with renowned orchestras and choirs such as the Göttinger Symphonieorchester, the Staatsorchester Rheinische Philharmonie, the Symphonieorchester Gießen as well as the WDR Rundfunkchor, the Chorwerk Ruhr, the Chor der Oper Frankfurt and the Kammerchor Saarbrücken. In 2023, she won 1st prize at the International Masterclass for Choral Conducting with Conducting Competition in Marktoberdorf and was accepted into the Germany-wide 'Forum Dirigieren' support programme by the German Music Council in 2022. In 2024, she was accepted into the 2nd funding stage of the programme.

## Jury

- Prof Georg Grün
- Yuval Weinberg
- Prof Jürgen Budday (Artistic Director of the International Chamber Choir Competition)
- Bobin Kim
- Representative of the studio choir

## Language

The International Masterclass for Choral Conducting with Conducting Competition will be held in German and English.

## Prices

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize: Hospitation and assistance at the International Masterclass for Choral Conducting with Conducting Competition 2027 in Marktoberdorf
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: Hospitation at the Zürcher Sing-Akademie
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize: Participation in the HfM Saar 2025 Summer School

## Costs

Active participation: 350,00 Euro (reduced 250,00 Euro for students)  
Passive participation: 150,00 Euro (reduced 100,00 Euro for students)  
Accommodation/Meals/Scores: 295,00 Euro

## Sheet music

A reader with all the required sheet music will be sent to all choir conductors after admission. This must be available for the event in digital or printed form.

## Venue / Accommodation

The venue is the Bavarian Music Academy Marktoberdorf (Kurfürstenstr. 19, 87616 Marktoberdorf). Accommodation during the Masterclass will be in shared rooms. Single rooms can be booked for an extra charge in nearby hotels or - if available - in the Bavarian Music Academy.

## Arrival and departure

Travelling to and from Marktoberdorf is at your own expense.

## Combination offer

Interested choir conductors can attend the 19<sup>th</sup> International Chamber Choir Competition Marktoberdorf from 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> June in the run-up to the masterclass.

The costs for accommodation/meals (four nights in a shared room, breakfast and lunch) and transport amount to 220,00 Euro. There is an additional charge of 115,00 Euro (reduced 95,00 Euro for students) for the festival pass, which allows admission to all events. The above prices are only valid in combination with participation in the International Masterclass for Choral Conducting with Conducting Competition.

## Organiser and contact

MODfestivals e.V. | Phone: +49 8342 42048-12 | E-Mail: [office@modfestivals.org](mailto:office@modfestivals.org)

The International Masterclass for Choral Conducting with conducting competition 2025 takes place in cooperation with the Goethe Institute and the Bavarian Music Academy Marktoberdorf.

**Status: September 2025 - subject to change.**

**In case of dispute, the German version of the announcement is valid.**