

Rules of 17th International Warsaw Choir Festival "Varsovia Cantat"



Warsaw 6th -8th November 2026

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The festival is organised by Artistic Agency MELODY in cooperation with Lira choir
2. The festival will take place from 6th to 8th November 2026 (Friday-Sunday) in Warsaw according to the following schedule:

Friday 6.11.2026 Arrival in Warsaw (In the evening additional concert in church, if your arrival allows)

Saturday 7.11.2026

10.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. Competition in categories (Culture Centre)

In the evening choirs can perform joint concerts in Warsaw churches or in the region.

Sunday 8.11.2026 ca. 11- 12.00 a.m. Gala concert with prize giving ceremony. In the evening possible additional concerts (on request)

3. The festival is open for all amateur choirs from Poland and abroad.

4. Choirs may participate in **1 category** chosen from below list:

A. Mixed choirs adults - minimum 20 singers

B. Female & Male choirs - minimum 12 singers

C. Youth choirs 13-19 years old, minimum 20 singers

D. Children Choirs 6-15 years old, minimum 20 singers

E. Chamber Choirs - no age limit – 12-20 singers|

X. Non-competitive choirs - participation in Gala and 2 additional concerts

In all categories 15% of the singers may be older or younger than above requirements

5. All singers must be amateurs. This rule does not apply to conductors.

6. The **maximum** time of the performance on stage (including getting on and off stage) is **15 minutes** – which means no longer than **ca. 12-13 min pure singing time**. Each choir prepares the repertoire consisting of 4 song. At least one song must be a cappella in the following order:

song a) sacred or classical song

song b) folk song or song inspired by folklore of your country sung in your country language.

song c) song composed after 1960

song d) one freely chosen song

At least one song must be a cappella. Piano /electronic piano will be provided on stage

II. JURY

1. The performances of the choirs will be evaluated by Jury consisted of 3-5 experienced musicians. Jury members are shown on our web page.
2. Jury evaluates: intonation, voice emission, interpretation, diction and general artistic effect.
3. The decisions of Jury are final and shall not be appealed
4. The jury taking into account the artistic reasons may not award some prizes.

III. PRIZES

1. There are the following prizes in categories :

90,00-100,00 points GOLDEN DIPLOMA

80,00-89,99 points SILVER DIPLOMA

65,00-79,99 points BRONZE DIPLOMA

2. GRAND PRIX & Golden LYRE Statuette & **1000,00 EURO** for the best choir of the festival which received **Golden Diploma**.

3. Jury with agreement of organizers of festival may award some additional prizes.

4. All choirs which don't receive any prizes will get the diploma of successful participation in festival.

IV. Organising Information

1. The choirs are responsible for eventual copy rights of scores used during the performance at the festival.

2. Choirs will be asked to sing at concerts which accompany the festival. The concerts would be mostly in Warsaw Churches on Friday, Saturday or Sunday. Please prepare 15-20 minutes **sacred**/classic program.

3. The base for participation in the festival is submission of application form with attachments till **30.06.2026**.

The applications should be sent to: **info@varsoviacantat.pl**

or by registered mail/courier company to:

MELODY

Ogrodowa 27A

05-509 PIASECZNO, POLAND

4. To the application there must be attached copy of the registration fee which is **200 EURO per Choir**

The fee must be paid to:

Holder of account: **Melody**

Holder's address: **Ogrodowa 27A, 05-509 Piaseczno, POLAND**

Account no. **PL88 1090 1694 0000 0001 1554 3717**

Bank's Name : **SANTANDER BANK POLSKA S.A. al. Jana Pawła II 17, 00-854 Warszawa. POLAND (ERSTE BANK)**

Swift Code: **WBKPPLPP**

(you pay **all** transfer fees). **I case the choir is not qualified the registration fee will be returned.** We do not return the application fee to choirs which resign from participation.

5. The decision if the choir is qualified to take part in festival will be given no later than till 15.07.2026. Please do not make any travel arrangements before your choir is qualified.

6. The choirs are responsible to cover all travel and accommodation costs during the festival

7. For organisational reasons (concerts, flexible timetable of singing, shortage of hotel rooms in Warsaw, costs of the festival) all choirs must to arrange accommodation through organizers - *agency MELODY*. The prices of accommodation and meals are fixed and they are published on the second page of application form. The 50% deposit for your accommodation is due 30.08.2026. 60 days before the festival all the deposits are non-refundable.

8. Questions please direct by email: **info@varsoviacantat.pl**, +48 603 36 16 16 - 9.00-17.00 CET