



***63rd “SEGHIZZI” INTERNATIONAL
CHORAL SINGING COMPETITION
GORIZIA - ITALY
2026***

Announcement and Regulations

Promoter and organising body

ASSOCIAZIONE CORALE GORIZIANA CESARE AUGUSTO SEGHIZZI

with the sponsorship, contribution and collaboration of the following:

**ITALIAN MINISTRY OF CULTURE - FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA REGION –
MUNICIPALITY OF GORIZIA – CA.RI.GO. FOUNDATION**

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CALENDAR

Thursday 8th of July 2026

- at 10.00 Workshops, Masterclasses, Performances, Concerts, Exhibitions
- at 12.00 Official presentation of choirs and jury members to the press and authorities
- at 21.00 Opening Concert – 63rd “Seghizzi” International Choral Singing Competition
- at 21.00 22nd Seghizzinregione – Choral Concert Festival across Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Slovenia

Friday 10th of July 2026

Performances by groups enrolled in the following categories:

- 09.30 Category 2a - Profane polyphony from the Renaissance and from the 17th Century (1400 – ca. 1650) - Castello di Gorizia, Borgo Castello 36
- 11.00 Category 2b - Profane polyphony from Classicism to the present day (ca. 1650 - present day) - Teatro Verdi, Via Garibaldi 2A
- 15.00 Category 3 - Spirituals and gospels, pop and jazz music
Teatro Verdi, Via Garibaldi 2A
- 17.00 Category 5 - Contemporary music (compositions selected by the Jury of the Seghizzi International Composition Contests) - Teatro Verdi, Via Garibaldi 2A
- 21.00 Category 6 - 22nd Seghizzinregione – Choral Concert Festival across Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Slovenia

Saturday 11th of July 2026

Performances by groups enrolled in the following categories:

- 10.00 Category 1a - Sacred polyphony (a cappella) from Renaissance to Baroque (1400 – ca.1750) - Duomo of Gorizia – Cattedrale dei Santi Ilario e Tiziano, Corte S. Ilario
- 11.30 Category 1b - Sacred polyphony from Classicism to the Present (ca. 1750 – present day) - Duomo of Gorizia – Cattedrale dei Santi Ilario e Tiziano, Corte S. Ilario
- 14.30 Category 4 - Folk songs and choral arrangements of folk and traditional songs
Teatro Verdi, Via Garibaldi 2A
- 21.00 Dinner party offered by the Organising Committee to all participating choirs, guests and jury members

Sunday 12th of July 2026

- 11.00 Free concerts & performances / 22nd Seghizzinregione – Choral Concert Festival
- 15.00 **36th GRAND PRIX SEGHIZZI** - Teatro Verdi, Via Garibaldi 2A
- 20.45 Award ceremony - Teatro Verdi, Via Garibaldi 2A
- 21.15 Gala concert of the winning choirs - Teatro Verdi, Via Garibaldi 2A

Monday 13th of July 2026

- 21.00 Category 6 – 22nd Seghizzinregione – Choral Concert Festival across Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Slovenia

Due to logistical reasons, the organising committee reserves the right to change the venue and the timetable for categories 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 3, 4 and 5. New venues will still be within the city of Gorizia.

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BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE COMPETITION

Main aspects of the competition:

- ❖ Choirs and vocal groups submitting programmes divided in musical genres and historical periods.
- ❖ Choirs are admitted after a selection of the application material.
- ❖ Choirs admitted to the competition will be assessed by an International Jury that defines merit lists.

- ❖ The competition is divided in the following categories:

Category 1a - Sacred polyphony (a cappella) from Renaissance to Baroque (1400 – ca. 1750)

Category 1b - Sacred polyphony from Classicism to the present day (ca. 1750 - present day)

Category 2a - Profane polyphony from the Renaissance and from the 17th Century (1400 – ca. 1650)

Category 2b - Profane polyphony from Baroque to the present day (ca. 1650 - present day)

Category 3 - Spirituals and gospels, pop and jazz music

Category 4 - Folk songs and choral arrangements of folk and traditional songs

Category 5 - Contemporary music (compositions selected by the Jury of the Seghizzi International Composition Contests)

Category 6 - 22nd Seghizzinregione – Choral Concert Festival across Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Slovenia

- ❖ One of the selection criteria for acceptance is the number of categories a group registers in (except for the Grand Prix).
Please note that the Seghizzinregione Choral Concert Festival is included in the Competition (Category 6).

- ❖ **The Organiser will give a partial refund of expenses according to the number of choristers and the distance from the choir's hometown to the competition venue.**

- ❖ Choirs can also participate in the SEGHIZZINREGIONE Choral Concert Festival which will take place across Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Slovenia on 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th of July 2026 according to the specific regulations included in the Application form.

- ❖ Choirs admitted to the Seghizzi International Choral Singing Competition will have free **exhibition spaces** at their disposal in order to expose their own promotional material (CDs, records, DVDs, books, publications, scores, projects, proposals, gadgets, etc.). Choirs are responsible for arranging, looking after and managing their materials. Choirs interested in this proposal must fill in the specific box included in the Application form.

REGULATIONS

PART ONE

application procedure (art. 1-4)

Art. 1

Only **non-professional** groups can take part in the competition.

The "non-professional" definition does not include conductors and possible instrumentalists.

Art. 2

There is no limit to the number of choirs and groups taking part in the competition **with exception of category 2a, where a maximum of 12 singers are allowed to perform.**

Art.3

Groups wishing to participate in the competition have to email their **application form in PDF format** to info@seghizzi.it. The remaining materials (in particular scores and audio-video recordings), must also be **sent in digital format** to the above mentioned e-mail address or shared via a Google Account.

The **closing date** for receipt of completed applications is **midnight of 28th February 2026.**

The application must include all the details specified in the application form as well as the following **in digital formats**:

- a) a perfectly readable **copy** of each submitted score in the PDF format (for the Artistic Board);
- b) a recent **photograph** of the choir and of the Conductor in digital format (preferably jpg);
- c) **audio-video recordings** of a recent choir's performance (please write the date and place of the recording, is possible), along with a declaration by the director stating the authenticity and the date of the performance. It is desirable that the music recorded pertains to the type of repertoire the choir wants to perform in the competition. It will be appreciated a reference to a recent performance of the choir, video recorded and uploaded on the internet (please provide the link).

Art. 4

- a) By **15th March 2026**, the Organising Committee, in agreement with the Artistic Director, will inform choirs about the **acceptance** to / or exclusion from the competition. In this selection phase the Artistic Director can avail himself of the cooperation of some musicians commissioned by the president of the Organising Committee.
- b) A **valid artistic programme** is an essential condition for the acceptance of the choir.
- c) The Artistic Direction reserves the right to recommend the **replacement of the submitted scores.**
- d) Manuscripts of regularly published scores will not be accepted, except for Renaissance music; in this case the transcribers' name must be indicated. The choirs take all responsibility for the copyright protection of the performed material.

- e) The successful applicants must pay **an entry fee by Monday 31st March 2026** via bank transfer on the account n. 100000002714 ABI 03069 CAB 12499 CIN N
Bank branch: Intesa Sanpaolo S.p.A. Corso Verdi 104, 34170 Gorizia
Bank account holder's name: Associazione Corale Goriziana "C.A. Seghizzi"
IBAN number IT59N0306912499100000002714
BIC/SWIFT code BCITITMM.

Please note that any bank charge related to the payment of the entry fee must be paid by the choir admitted to the competition.

f) **The entry fee has to be paid according to the following:**

- ✓ Euro 150,00 (in total)
for the registration into one or two categories;
- ✓ Euro 100,00 (in total)
for the registration into three categories;
- ✓ Euro 50,00 (in total)
for the registration into five or six categories;

PART TWO

Programmes – performances - jury (art. 5-11)

GENERAL RULES

- (a) The overall duration of the performance for each category must **not exceed 20 minutes**. This rule does not apply to categories 5, 6 and Grand Prix.
- (b) Mixed-voice, male, female and children's choirs are allowed to participate in all categories.
- (c) One of the selection criteria for acceptance is the number of categories a group registers in.
- (d) When choosing the musical programme for the competition, choirs and vocal ensembles are invited to read carefully Part Three of the Competition Regulations (**Special prizes**).
- (e) All performances are open to the public.
- (f) Where compositions require an instrumental accompaniment, the Organiser will provide a piano, while an organ will be available for Category 1b (from Classicism to the present day)

Art. 5

The 63rd “Seghizzi” International Choral Singing Competition consists of two phases:

(A) Categories 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 3, 4, 5.

(B) Grand Prix Seghizzi

A - Every choir admitted to the competition and registered in one or more categories will take part in the A-phase. Choirs must perform a musical programme **not exceeding 20 minutes in total**, for each category they are registered in and have been admitted to.

B - Choirs with the best assessment in the Categories 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b and 5 (with the exception of categories 4 and 6) are admitted to the B-phase | Grand Prix.

Each phase has its own prizes and/or awards.

Art. 6

63rd “SEGHIZZI” INTERNATIONAL CHORAL SINGING COMPETITION Categories 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 3, 4, 5

The merit list of choirs participating in the 63rd “Seghizzi” International Choral Singing Competition 2026 will be based on the judgement given by the members of the International Jury appointed by the Organising Committee.

The judgement given by each member of the Jury is absolutely individual.

The Jury’s overall judgement will be expressed in hundredths by an arithmetical mark, resulting from the average of the points given by each member, excluding the highest and the lowest mark.

Prizes will not be awarded if the average mark will not meet the following criteria:

1 st prize	90/100
2 nd prize	85/100
3 rd prize	80/100

If more choir qualify for the first prize, the award will be given to the choir with the highest average mark, while the next group in the merit list will be given the second prize.

Second and third prizes will be awarded according to the above-mentioned rule.

A single prize will be awarded for each of the following competition categories: 3, 4 and 5 (as long as the highest average mark achieved is over 80/100)

In order to be admitted to the 36th Grand Prix Seghizzi, choirs must achieve a mark over 80/100.

Art. 7

There is no *ex-aequo* for any award of the competition. In the case of arithmetic *ex-aequo* we will determinate a ranking list by taking into account all types of marks given to the choir, as well as the choir's ranking in other categories and also the ranking given by each member of the Jury.

Art. 8

The judgement of the Jury is unquestionable. However, the members of the Jury will abstain from voting when their role turns out to be incompatible with respect to one or more contestants (choirs and/or conductors).

Art. 9

Choral ensembles not appearing at their performance at the fixed date and time, or not taking part in the categories they have entered, will be excluded from the competition. This exclusion entails the cancellation of any obligation for the Organising Committee, as provided for by these regulations.

Art. 10

Any claim against alleged infringements of these regulations must be promptly submitted to the Jury's Office, so as to allow a rapid examination of the matter. Oral complaints are allowed, provided that they are immediately followed by a written petition. Failure to comply with such formalities will lead to invalid the petition.

CATEGORY 1a

SACRED POLYPHONY FROM RENAISSANCE TO BAROQUE

Participating choirs must perform a significant musical programme consisting of **a cappella** pieces written between Renaissance and Baroque (1400 – 1750).

CATEGORY 1b

SACRED POLYPHONY FROM CLASSICISM TO THE PRESENT

Participating choirs must perform a significant musical programme consisting of pieces written between Classicism (ca. 1750) and the present day, with or without instrumental accompaniment.

CATEGORY 2a

PROFANE POLYPHONY FROM THE RENAISSANCE AND THE 17TH CENTURY

Participating choirs must perform a significant musical programme consisting of **a cappella** pieces written between the Renaissance and the 17th Century (1400 – ca. 1650).

No more than 12 choir members are allowed to perform in this category. Choirs consisting of more singers may enter this category with a reduced ensemble.

CATEGORY 2b

PROFANE POLYPHONY FROM BAROQUE TO THE PRESENT

Participating choirs must perform a significant musical programme consisting of pieces written between Baroque and the Present, with or without instrumental accompaniment (ca. 1650 - present day).

CATEGORY 3

SPIRITUALS AND GOSPELS, POP AND JAZZ MUSIC

- Participating choirs must perform a programme including spirituals and gospels, pop and/or jazz music.
- As for spirituals and gospels, the use of idiophonic or ethno-musicologically or historically justified instruments is allowed.
- As for pop and/or jazz music, the use of **instruments** is allowed as long as the number of instrumentalists is inferior to that of the vocal performers.
- **Electronic vocal amplification** is not permitted, and possible instrumental amplifications must be adequate to the vocal sounds.

CATEGORY 4

FOLK SONGS AND CHORAL ARRANGEMENTS OF FOLK AND TRADITIONAL SONGS

- Participating choirs must perform a programme including folk songs as well as choral arrangements of folk and traditional songs from the choir's native country.
- The use of idiophonic or ethno-musicologically or historically justified **instruments** is allowed.
- The combination of (stylistically justifiable) choreographic **movements** with singing is also permitted and desirable. This may deserve special merits.
- **Electronic vocal amplification** is not permitted, and possible instrumental amplifications must be adequate to the vocal sounds.

CATEGORY 5

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC PROGRAMME

Choirs registered in this category must perform **one or more** of the following scores selected by the Jury of the Seghizzi International Composition Contests:

A Christmas Carol – Roberto Berzero (Italia) – 22° Concorso Internazionale di composizione Seghizzi
Luna d'argento – Roberto Berzero (Italia) – 22° Concorso Internazionale di composizione Seghizzi
Winter's Wind – Claudio Ferrara (Italia) – 22° Concorso Internazionale di composizione Seghizzi

My River Runs To Thee - Giulio De Carlo – 23° Concorso Internazionale di composizione Seghizzi
Ti aspetto – Roberto Brisotto – 23° Concorso Internazionale di composizione Seghizzi
Do not stand at my grave – Stefano Puri – 23° Concorso Internazionale di composizione Seghizzi
La luna dei bambini – Daniela Nasti – 23° Concorso Internazionale di composizione Seghizzi

**The above listed compositions can be downloaded from to the Seghizzi Association's website.
In this category scores different from the above mentioned are not admitted.**

The Jury of the 63rd Seghizzi International Choral Singing Competition will judge the choir's performance quality of each composition. The choir obtaining the highest average mark among all the compositions will be declared the winner.

63rd "SEGHIZZI" INTERNATIONAL CHORAL SINGING COMPETITION

Category 6

**22nd Seghizzinregione – Choral Concert Festival across Friuli Venezia Giulia,
Veneto and Slovenia**

(please refer to specific regulations included in the Application form)

36th GRAND PRIX SEGHIZZI 2026

- a. The best qualified choirs **-with a mark over 80/100 obtained in the A-phase of the competition in categories 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 3 and 5 -** will be admitted to the 36th Grand Prix Seghizzi 2026. A maximum of 6 groups will be selected by the jury to perform on Sunday 12th of July 2026 at 15.00 o'clock in order to qualify for the 36th Grand Prix Seghizzi 2026.
- b. In case the first prize is NOT awarded in one or more categories or if a choir is already the best qualified in one or more categories, the choir in the next position will be admitted to the Grand Prix provided that it achieved a mark over 80/100.
- c. By 23.00 o'clock on Saturday 11th of July 2026, the Secretary of the Association, after having examined the results of the performances in the competition categories, will disclose the list of the choirs admitted to the 36th Grand Prix Seghizzi 2026.
- d. Choirs admitted to the Grand Prix must perform a programme consisting of **at least 2 new pieces** (i.e. not already performed in the A-phase) pertaining to categories 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 3 and 5.
- e. The jury of the 36th Grand Prix Seghizzi 2026 can be opened also to other Artistic Directors or professionals from the national and international musical scene and industry. Changes or integration of the jury members will be promptly communicated to the participants.
- f. The musical programme performed during the Grand Prix must **NOT exceed 25 minutes in total**.
- g. The winner of the Grand Prix Seghizzi 2026 will be announced at the end of the prize-giving ceremony and the gala concert on Sunday 12th of July 2026.

- h. The title of “Finalist of the “36th Grand Prix Seghizzi 2026” will be awarded to the other choirs.
- i. **Changes to the musical programme of both categories and the Grand Prix must be notified to the Secretary of the Association (specifying Author, Title and length of each piece) not later than 15th of June 2026.**

PART THREE

Prizes (Art. 11)

A-PHASE

The prizes listed below will be awarded for each of the following competition categories:
1a, 1b, 2a, 2b

1 st prize	Euro 1,500,00 Certificate and plate
2 nd prize	Euro 1,000,00 Certificate and plate
3 rd prize	Euro 500,00 Certificate and plate

Further **SPECIAL PRIZES** will be awarded during the event.

A single prize will be awarded for each of the following competition categories:
3, 4 and 5

Euro 1,000,00 Certificate and plate

Further **SPECIAL PRIZES** will be awarded during the event.

36th GRAND PRIX SEGHIZZI 2026

PRIZE

EURO 3,000,00 (three thousands)

Certificate and trophy

The **conductors of choirs admitted** to the Grand Prix acquire the right to be a Jury member in one of the next “Seghizzi” international choral competitions.

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR CHOIRS

"CHILDREN VOICE" PRIZE (certificate and medal)

Derived from the ranking obtained in the Categories and awarded to the children-voice choir with the highest absolute mark.

“MALE/FEMALE/MIXED VOICES” PRIZE (certificate and medal)

Derived from the ranking obtained in the competition categories and awarded to a male, female or mixed voice choir with the highest absolute mark.

SPECIAL PRIZE FOR THE BEST TRADITIONAL COSTUMES (certificate and medal)

Awarded to the group performing with the best costumes.

SPECIAL PRIZE FOR THE BEST CHOREOGRAPHIES

Awarded to the group that presents the best choreography during the performances.

AUDIENCE AWARD (diploma and medal)

Awarded to the choir that has obtained the highest approval from the audience present in the hall during category 4 (popular singing)

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR CONDUCTORS

SPECIAL PRIZE (certificate and plate)

For the ensemble's conductor. This prize is awarded by the Artistic Board for the **programme of highest artistic interest**.

SPECIAL PRIZE (certificate and plate)

Awarded to the best conductor of a choir performing in the A phase and Grand Prix.

SPECIAL PRIZE (certificate and plate)

Awarded to the most talented emerging conductor.

PART FOUR

Organisation – miscellaneous (art. 12)

Art. 12

Choirs are responsible for their own travel, board and lodging expenses.

The Organiser will give a partial refund of expenses according to the procedures outlined in art. 13.

On request, the Organising Committee will send a list of partner hotels, travel agencies or institutions.

The affiliated accommodations provided by the organizers will be assigned in chronological order of registration for the competition, until available. The date and time of receipt of the application, complete with all required documentation, will be considered valid. Therefore, we encourage you to register as soon as possible to ensure priority access to this benefit.

Upon request, the Organising Committee will make available an assistant for free.

Art. 13

13.a The Organising Committee will provide lodging at some Partner institutions (hostels or hotels) for choirs **consisting of maximum 13 members (conductor included)**.

Choirs are responsible for all other expenses.

No other types of reimbursement are provided for.

13.b Choirs with **more than 13 members (conductor included)** will receive from the Organising Committee a contribution for their board and/or lodging expenses, proportionally to the distance from the choir's home town to the competition venue, according to the following table:

<u>Distance</u>	<u>1 category</u>	<u>2 categories</u>	<u>3 or more categories</u>
Up to km 250	EURO 100,00	EURO 200,00	EURO 300,00
between 251 km and 500 km	EURO 300,00	EURO 600,00	EURO 900,00
between 501 km and 800 km	EURO 500,00	EURO 1.000,00	EURO 1.500,00
between 801 km and 1000 km	EURO 700,00	EURO 1.400,00	EURO 2.100,00
between 1001 km and 1500 km	EURO 800,00	EURO 1.600,00	EURO 2.400,00
between 1501 km and 2000 km	EURO 950,00	EURO 1.900,00	EURO 2,850,00
more than 2001 km	EURO 1.000,00	EURO 2.000,00	EURO 3.000,00

Such contribution will be paid by the Association directly to the accommodation facility.

PART FIVE

(Audio-Video recordings, legal rules)

- A. The Organising Committee reserves the right to record (audio-visual recordings) any performance given during the competition, even for radiophonic, television and discographic purposes, and for subsequent broadcast on radio/television both in Italy and abroad, without payment to the performing ensembles or their conductors.
- B. If strictly necessary, the Organising Committee reserves the right to modify the articles of these regulations due to reasons of force majeure, giving prompt communication to all participants.
- C. Participation in the competition implies full knowledge and acceptance of these regulations.
- D. For any litigation the place of jurisdiction is Gorizia and the Italian version of the announcement and regulations are the only authentic documents to be considered.

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