



7th World Choir Games Friendship Concerts Overview

The World Choir Games, the largest choral music competition in the world, takes place every two years. The 7th World Choir Games will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, from July 4-14, 2012. This is the first time the event will have been held in North America. More than 20,000 participants, including as many as 400 choirs, from more than 70 countries will compete in 23 categories of choral music. Inspired by the Olympic ideal, the goal of the World Choir Games is to unite people from all nations through singing in peaceful competition.

An important feature of the World Choir Games are "Friendship Concerts" provided by many of the participating choirs. These concerts create opportunities for the Cincinnati Organizing Committee to enable people from throughout the community to experience the Games for no cost. Each "Friendship Concert" is likely to include 3-4 choirs who are official participants in the Games. Each choir will perform 15 to 20 minutes, resulting in a 45 - 80-minute concert.

The Cincinnati Organizing Committee (COC) seeks community partners to host "Friendship Concerts" throughout the community. The COC anticipates being able to hold a significant number of "Friendship Concerts" from July 5-13, however, the actual number will not be confirmed until choir registrations have closed and choir attendance at the Games can be verified, approximately March/April 2012.

Organizations in the Greater Cincinnati area interested in hosting a 2012 World Choir Games "Friendship Concert" must apply for this opportunity. Please complete the **Friendship Concert Application** form and submit as indicated.

"Friendship Concerts" can only be confirmed by an official representative of the Cincinnati Organizing Committee. Such confirmations will be provided in writing.

Application Timeline:

- The Cincinnati Organizing Committee will accept applications **through 5 p.m., Wednesday, February 29, 2012.**
- The COC will begin assigning Friendship Concert locations in March 2012.
- Locations selected must agree to all financial costs associated with hosting a "Friendship Concert".
- Preference will be given to locations that:
 - ❖ Offer participating choirs an opportunity to have an additional experience at the "Friendship Concert" location.
 - ❖ Locations that are high traffic areas that will give participating choirs a high level of exposure.
 - ❖ Locations that demonstrate how the "Friendship Concert" and the World Choir Games will be promoted.