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Cincinnati choirs register for 2012 World Choir Games

CINCINNATI (OH) – Some of Cincinnati’s most visible choirs announced today that they have registered for participation in the 2012 World Choir Games in Cincinnati USA.

The World Choir Games is the largest international choral competition in the world, taking place every two years. The 7th World Choir Games will take place July 4-14, 2012, and will be the first-ever hosted in the United States. The event is expected to attract competitors from about 70 countries and have a local economic impact of \$73.5 million. Procter & Gamble is the first Presenting Sponsor of the World Choir Games.

The Cincinnati Boychoir Tour Choir, Cincinnati Children’s Choir, Cincinnati Kolping Saengerchor, Cincinnati Men’s Chorus, MUSE Women’s Chorus and the Fairfield High School Choraliers all registered this past week. Fairfield, which will participate this weekend in the National Show Choir finals in Indianapolis, announced last week that it would be the first to sign up for the new Show Choirs category, which is being added for the 2012 Games. <http://news.cincinnati.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/AB/20110422/NEWS01/104230316/>

The Southern Gateway Chorus was the first choir to officially register, and the Cincinnati Sound Chorus was second. Both will participate in the Barbershop category, which also is being added for the first time in 2012.

“It is so exciting to see some of the region’s elite choirs show their leadership by being the first choirs in the world to register for the 2012 World Choir Games,” says Lori Lobsiger, director of North American Markets for INTERKULTUR, the Germany-based organization that owns and produces the World Choir Games.

“The Games have been talked about for well over a year now, and it’s great to see this kind of commitment. We have had choirs all over the country – and the world – express interest in the 2012 Games, and we look forward to having others at home and abroad sign up.”

The announcement was made at Music Hall with the following representatives in attendance:

- **Cincinnati Boychoir Tour Choir:** Christopher Eanes, conductor (Mixed Choirs, The Champions Competition)
- **Cincinnati Children’s Choir:** Mary Kay Koehler, executive director (Youth Choirs of Equal Voices, The Champions Competition)
- **Cincinnati Kolping Saengerchor:** Carolann Mary Slouffman, director (Festival participant)
- **Cincinnati Men’s Chorus:** Patrick Coyle, conductor (Festival participant; will add competition registration after new conductor is named)
- **Cincinnati Sound Chorus:** Fran Furtner, member, Sweet Adeline’s International Board of Directors (Barbershop, The Champions Competition)

- **Fairfield High School Choraliers:** Kelly Walker, assistant director (Show Choirs, The Champions Competition)
- **MUSE Women's Chorus:** Dr. Catherine Roma, conductor (Women's Choir, The Champions Competition)
- **Southern Gateway Chorus:** David Beaudry, chorus president (Barbershop, The Champions Competition)

Before the press conference ended, Cincinnati Mayor Mark Mallory coaxed the eight representatives into forming an impromptu choir and singing the national anthem.

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ABOUT INTERKULTUR:

INTERKULTUR, based in Pohlheim, Germany, has ties to 120,000 choirs made up of 4.8 million choral singers around the world. In more than 20 years since INTERKULTUR was established, more than 5,500 choirs and some 250,000 singers from 100 nations have taken part in the World Choir Games and INTERKULTUR's regional choir competitions.

For more information about the 2012 World Choirs Games:

- www.2012worldchoirgames.com
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