

International Choral Contest
"TREASURE OF HELLAS. CHOIRS"

Greece, Rhodes
08-13 June 2024

The contest organised by the Academy of Arts and educational Innovations

The aim is to promote choral art in a broader range of events and enhance the experience of choir members.

The contest will be held at the highest level, and the jury will consist of experts from different countries who will evaluate the performances of each group and select the winners. In addition to the competitive performances at the municipal theatre, this event will include a rich educational program conducted by experts.

The best location, proven by the inspiration of magic island of the Sun, the beautiful Rhodes. It is an ideal place to host a festival, impressing with the archaeological sites and natural beauty of Greece. The land of myths and legends, the land of the God Apollo.

In addition to the contest, everyone is invited to join the cheerful encounters between the choirs, friendship performances and amazing excursions to Acropolis of Rhodes, city tour and Palace of the Grand Master of the Knights of Rhodes.

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About the Academy:

The Academy of Arts and Educational Innovations is an international non-profit organisation with significant experience in creating international art projects, including festivals, seminars, conferences, professional competitions, and concert tours. Every year, the Academy conducts international art projects with over 10,000 participants from Europe and Asia.

"Treasure of Hellas"

Since 2018, the Academy of Arts and Educational Innovations has been organising diverse festivals and competitions for children and adults in Greece under the brand of the "Treasure of Hellas" project. This project is supported by the Greek government, as this initiative is a significant cultural event for the country. The choir competition is a new direction for the project, allowing it to broaden its creative boundaries and the geographical reach of participants.

The program of the contest is unique:

- Participation is open to all kinds of choirs and vocal ensembles.
- The competition includes an Extra Non-Competitive Nomination, that allows certain choir groups to participate in the concert, educational and tourist programs, without competing against other groups.
- Choirs can choose from various repertoires, adhering to the contest's rules.
- Educational certificates have a registration number and hold international status.
- The package price includes one excursion.
- Accommodation is provided in a 5-star hotel Rhodes Palace Luxury, including full-board meals.
- Each 21st participant in large choir groups is exempt from accommodation fees.
- The program encompasses entertainment events, music parties, an award ceremony, and a traditional Greek-style feast.

This is a unique opportunity to combine a wonderful vacation at one of the best hotels on the sunny island of Rhodes with an extensive educational program led by international experts, participation in the competition, and musical performances on historical stages in Greece.

Who can participate?

This year, we are pleased to welcome professional, semi-professional, and amateur choir groups from around the world, along with their musical director/conductor, to our competition.

Categories and nominations*

Categories:

1. Children's Choirs (6-12 years old)
2. Youth Choirs (12-18 years old)
3. Adult Choirs (Mixed, Male, Female Choirs) - from 18 participants
4. Chamber Choirs - from 8 to 18 participants
5. Ensembles - up to 8 participants

Nominations:

- A. Musica Sacra
- B. Gospel, Spiritual
- C. Classical Music
- D. Jazz, Pop, Show
- E. Folklore

Extra Non-Competitive Nomination -

This is an additional category for choir groups that prefer **not to compete** with other groups. They can participate in the concert, masterclasses, tourist program and receive feedback from qualified jury members. Participants in this nomination will only receive a diploma confirming their participation in the competition without awards.

**In the application form, it is important to indicate both the category and the nomination for which your group qualifies.*

Requirements:

To participate in the competition, it is necessary to prepare a program of free choice, approximately 10 minutes in duration, regardless of the category and nomination.

Musical accompaniment:

The competition program can be performed a cappella, with piano accompaniment (choir groups can bring their own pianist or perform their program with the pianist provided by the competition), with accompaniment of other musical instruments, as well as to a background music recording.

**If you plan to perform with the pianist provided by the competition, you need to specify this in your participation application and send the sheet music of the pieces in PDF format to the email address treasureofhellasfest@gmail.com*

Experts Committee of the Competition:

An International Experts Committee consisting of at least three renowned Greek and foreign musicians will assess the competitive segment of the competition and evaluate each presentation based on the following:

- Technique (tempo, articulation, and sound's quality)
- Complexity
- Pitch accuracy
- Expression
- Stylistic allegiance

The Experts Committee assigns scores for the technical and artistic excellence of the selected program and the overall performance quality. It will also assess how effectively the choir engages with the audience during a performance. The outcomes of the evaluation process will be unalterable and indisputable in all aspects.

Awards:

- Laureate of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades
- Grand Prix
- Special Prizes (*best performance of orthodox chant, best folklore performance, best conducting etc.*)
- Certificate of participation (*for the extra non-competitive nomination*)

Diplomas, certificates of appreciation, trophies and souvenirs will be given to each applicant.

Awarding Ceremony:

All the prizes, certificates and diplomas will be announced and handed in at a special ceremony in the presence of audience and authorities, where the choirs selected by experts will perform one song.

Application Procedure:

- The deadline for submitting applications to the competition is **May 10, 2024**.
- Participants must complete the application online on the website <https://treasureofhellasfestival.com/choirs>
- Along with the application, please send some photos, videos or a short history of the group. These materials will be used for advertising (advertising messages, posters and flyers).
- After receiving your application for participation and prepayment, the organiser will send you an official invitation to participate in the contest. The rest of the entry fee must be paid immediately after the group's arrival in order to be eligible to participate.
- All participants must have international health insurance. Each leader is responsible for the behaviour of the members of his group in accordance with the policy of the hotel and the program of the events, and all losses caused by the participants during the contest are paid by the group.
- The organiser owns the copyright for the video and photo materials of the contest. The organiser reserves the right to change the program, about which the participants will be informed in a timely manner. By filling out the application you confirm that you accept all the conditions of the contest.

All the above material and sheet music in PDF format (for participants requiring an accompanist provided by the competition) are to be sent to the following email: treasureofhellasfest@gmail.com

The main events:

- The official opening ceremony in the concert hall.
- The competition at Dimotikon Theatre.
- The masterclasses with experts and local maestros.
- The Gala concert in the main concert hall of Rhodes.
- The award ceremony with a Greek traditional feast.

The program:

08.06.2024

- Arrival to Rhodes/ transportation to the hotel
- Official opening and organisational meeting for art directors, group leaders with the members of organising Committee and officials from Municipality
- Meeting party

09.06.2024

- Excursion time
- Rehearsal time
- Official opening event

10.06.2024

- The contest in Dimotikon theatre.
- The master classes
- The party time

11.06.2024

- Morning open class
- Rehearsal for the Gala
- The Gala concert

12.06.2024

- Excursion time.
- Awards ceremony /Diplomas, trophies, presents. Traditional Greek party
- Press conference for mass media

13.06.2024

- Free time
- Departure/ Transportation to the airport

Accommodation:

Accommodation is organised at "Rodos Palace", one of the best hotels in Rhodes! With five pools, restaurants, and amazing gardens, this place puts a long stretch of beach on your doorstep, and the time-stamped Rhodes Town is a 10-minute drive away. At this 5-star hotel, sheer happiness is not just a line. It is the way you feel, surrounded by dreamlike materials and surprising every sense.

The complete package includes:

- Accommodation and meals in the hotel Rodos Palace luxury 5*
- Meal FB
- Transfers only for the group from 8 people (airport, hotel, concerts, tour)
- Professional master classes
- All Events according to the program
- One excursion
- Award ceremony
- Festival fee

Per person

480 euro (4 - bed rooms)

490 euro (3 bed rooms)

520 euro (2 - bed rooms) for adults

600 euros (1 bed rooms) - limited

For groups of 20 participants, 21th is serviced free of charge.

Extra day

Per person:

60 euro (4 - bed rooms)

75 euro (3 bed rooms)

90 euro (2 - bed rooms) for adults

110 euro (1 bed room) – limited

**The international tourist overnight tax is 10 euro per room per night*

Participation fee for the group without accommodation

Participating fee for group – 150 euro

Travel Costs:

The contest does not contribute to a choir's travel costs to and from Greece.

**Join us at the International choral contest "Treasure of Hellas" and
receive a warm welcome and an unforgettable cultural experience!**

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