

Call for Expressions of Interest for PODIUM 2028 Co-Curators

What is Podium?

Podium is Choral Canada's national biennial bilingual choral conference and festival, bringing together participants from across the country and beyond who are passionate about group singing. As the country's premier meeting place for the choral and group singing sector, Podium creates space for networking, mobilizes knowledge through varied presentation formats, and fuels a love of group singing through new music, creative performances and innovative practices.

When and Where is PODIUM 2028?

The 2028 edition of Podium, co-hosted by Choral Canada and the Manitoba Choral Association, will be held in **Winnipeg, Manitoba** from May 18-21, 2028, in Treaty 1 Territory, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabeg, Inninewak, Anishinewak, Dakḥóta Oyáte and Dēnesųłíné peoples, and the National Homeland of the Red River Métis, with drinking water sourced from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation in Treaty 3 Territory.

Call for PODIUM 2028 CO-CURATORS

We are seeking **two (2) Co-Curators based in Manitoba** to shape the artistic vision and programming of PODIUM 2028. Local knowledge of the Manitoba choral and group singing community is a key asset for this role, helping ensure PODIUM 2028's programming resonates with the artists and ensembles of the host province.

The Co-Curators oversee the artistic direction of the Conference and Festival, and are responsible for:

- Shaping the overall artistic vision for the Festival and Conference programs including performances, masterclasses, roundtables, keynote sessions, etc. while respecting the arm's length process of the selection committees tasked with selecting artists and presenters.
- Working closely with staff and relevant sub-committees of the Organizing Committee to align artistic content with conference programming
- Ensuring PODIUM 2028 reflects a diversity of choral and group singing practices, styles and traditions
- Ensuring PODIUM 2028 offers content that appeals to all facets of the sector including conductors, singers, composers, administrators, publishers, retailers, etc.



Co-Curators will be asked to commit to a term running **November 2026 to May 2028**. This is a volunteer role; on top of weekly virtual meetings with the Core Team and monthly virtual meetings with the Organizing Committee, Co-Curators contribute roughly 5-10 hours a week, with time commitment increasing as the program is finalized closer to May 2028. In-person attendance at PODIUM 2028 is required – Co-Curators are responsible for their own travel and accommodation costs.

We would like to hear from individuals who bring strong artistic judgment and a deep knowledge of the choral and group singing landscape. They are collaborative, able to balance creative vision with the practical constraints of a large conference, and comfortable making curatorial decisions as part of a team. Experience programming concerts, festivals, or conference content is an asset.

Diversity of Voices

We are seeking individuals who represent a variety of backgrounds, lived experiences and perspectives. We value fresh points of view and original ideas. We strongly encourage people who identify as Indigenous, Black, Person of Colour, Disabled, 2SLGBTQ+, gender-diverse, and intersections of these identities to apply.

All are welcome and steps will be taken to ensure everyone feels respected, heard, and accommodated, so that they can be their full self in this important work.

Language

The working language of meetings of the Core Team and the Organizing Committee is English, but please note that many aspects of PODIUM 2028 are bilingual (English and French).

Submitting your Expression of Interest

If you are interested in serving as a Co-Curator, please apply by sending an email with the subject line “PODIUM 2028 Expression of Interest – Co-Curator” to info@choralcanada.org by **Friday, October 30, 2026**. Please include a brief summary of your background and experience, describing why you would like to serve in this role.

If you already have someone in mind you'd like to co-curate with, we welcome you to apply as a pair!



Selection

Co-Curators will be selected by staff and Board members from the two partnering organizations, Choral Canada and the Manitoba Choral Association. Selection will be based upon the candidate's expression of interest and the qualifications outlined above. All individuals who express interest in the Co-Curator positions will be contacted directly regarding the outcome of the process.

Our Commitment

Choral Canada and the Manitoba Choral Association are committed to accessibility, diversity, equity, and inclusion in all their work. They strive to build diversity and inclusivity into their teams, programs and services, and are committed to addressing decoloniality and anti-racism within their organizations and work. Choral Canada and the Manitoba Choral Association aim to foster a bilingual organizational environment in which all people wishing to participate in Podium may flourish.

Questions

If you have any questions about this role, or if you require any support submitting your expression of interest, please contact Choral Canada at info@choralcanada.org or (647) 606-2467.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Steven Bélanger
Executive Director
Choral Canada

Karla Ferguson
Executive Director
Manitoba Choral Association

Choral Canada's office is located in Tkaronto, Dish With One Spoon territory and covered by Treaty 13 and the Williams Treaties. We are grateful to work, live and make music on the traditional territory of many nations, including the Mississaugas of Credit, Anishnabeg, Chippewa, Haudenosaunee and Wendat.

The Manitoba Choral Association is grateful for the opportunity to work on lands covered by treaties 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5; the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Ininiwak, Anishininiwak, Dakota, and Dene Peoples; and the homeland of the Métis Nation. We acknowledge our responsibility to keep reconciliation and collaboration at the heart of all we do.