



XIX FESTIVAL CORAL INTERNACIONAL DE MEDELLÍN “JOSÉ MARÍA BRAVO MÁRQUEZ”

Festival Coral Internacional de Medellín “José María Bravo Márquez” is a non-competitive event organized by Corporación Ensemble Vocal de Medellín. It encourages friendship among choral groups through artistic enrichment and dialogue.

The nineteenth edition will take place between July 15 and 19 of 2020 and will have 21 participant choirs, 18 national and 3 international. Throughout the festival, free concerts will be offered at universities, theaters, museums, cultural centers, and churches all over the city. The closing event will be held at Teatro Metropolitano de Medellín José Gutiérrez Gómez.

Purpose

It is of utmost importance to promote the value of choral music as an educational resource, a cultural participation device, and a way to stimulate creativity and aesthetic sense. It motivates the artistic enjoyment through the study of the most accessible instrument to all human beings: the human voice.

Vocal practice at all ages fosters self-awareness of an individual's expressive abilities and helps develop social capabilities and personality. Therefore, it is essential to make it a habit and adopt it permanently within high-impact cultural institutions.

Festival Coral Internacional de Medellín “José María Bravo Márquez” is the consolidation of Medellín's choral tradition and positively influences its cultural ecosystem. It encourages the creation of new choirs and the artistic advancement of existing ones, which nurtures Colombia's cultural scene and responds to the country's social needs.

Corporación Ensemble Vocal de Medellín believes in coexistence and tolerance, **cultural outreach**, and **education of new audiences** as means to reject of all forms of violence. Festival Coral Internacional de Medellín “José María Bravo Márquez” strives to capture and convey these values through the music of different regions. It is a project of peace based upon choral music.

Historic Overview

The **first edition** of the festival took place between August 13 and 17 of **2002**. These were the participant choirs: Coro de Cámara U de M, Director Joaquín Zapata; Tonos Humanos, Director Cecilia Espinosa; Club de Estudiantes Cantores de la U de A, Director Ignacio Cano; Camerata Vocal de Medellín, Director Mauricio Balbín; Coral de Bellas Artes, Director Harry Astwood; Capella Nova, Director Jorge Hernán Arango; Ensemble Vocal de Medellín, Director Jorge Hernán Arango; Coro Universitario Adventista, Director Harry Astwood; Coral de Cámara Universidad Adventista, Director Harry Astwood; Arcadia, Director Cecilia Espinosa; and Grupo Vocal Contrapunto, Director: Aydeé Marín.



In 2006, the participant groups were: Iuventus Svitavy, from Czech Republic; Vocal Cuatro por Dos, from Argentina; and 20 choirs from Medellín.

In 2007, the participant groups were: Coro ESPOL, from Ecuador; Ballestrinque, from Bogotá, Colombia; and Coro Polifónico de la UPB, from Bucaramanga, Colombia; and several choirs from Medellín.

In 2008, the participant choirs were: Coro de la Facultad de Odontología de la Universidad Central de Caracas, from Venezuela; Coro de la casa de la cultura del Núcleo de Guayas, from Guayaquil, Ecuador; Coro Pedro Biava, from Barranquilla, Colombia; and 20 choirs from Medellín.

In 2009, the participant choirs were: A Capella and Ensamble Vocal Contrapunto, from Guadalajara, México; Close Harmony Friends, from Slovakia; Eco Vocal, from Pasto, Colombia; Quintaesencia and Vocal sin tiempo, from Cali, Colombia; and 19 choirs from Medellín. The audience over the 18 concerts of this edition was approximately 10.000 personas.

In 2010, the participant choirs were: Estudio Vocal Universitario de Mendoza, from Argentina; Vocal Magic, from Cancún, México; Sies Seis Vocal, from Caracas, Venezuela; Sociedad Coral de Boyacá, Colombia; and 24 choirs from Medellín.

In 2011, the participant choirs were: Coral Metropolitana, from, San Juan, Puerto Rico; Opus Cuatro, from Argentina; Escoralli Voces Oscuras y Ensamble Vocal Femenino Escoralli, from Venezuela; Grupo Vocal de Cámara Preludio, from Bogotá, Colombia; and 18 choirs from Medellín.

In 2012, the guest participant choirs were: Sopot Mundus Cantat, from Poland; Orquesta de Cámara de la U. de Guayaquil, from Ecuador; Close Harmony Friends, from Slovakia; Coral de la Iglesia Católica Anglicana Santa María de Caracas, from Venezuela; Coro Polifónico de la UPB, from Bucaramanga, Colombia; and Coro Compacto de Bogotá, from Colombia. The local choirs were: Arcadia, Camerata Vocal de Medellín, Capella Nova, Coro Infantil y Juvenil La Cantoría, Coro Infantil y Juvenil de la Red de Escuelas de Música de Medellín, Coro Iuventus Sirenaica, Ensamble Coral Tomás Luis de Victoria, Tonos Humanos, Grupo Musical Familia Bravo, Ensamble Vocal de Medellín, Coro Videns de la Fundación ¡Vivan los niños!, Voces blancas de Bello, Coral Alianza Francesa de Medellín, Coro de Cámara de la U. Adventista, y Coro de cámara AEDOS.

In 2013, the participant choirs were: Coro de la Universidad del Aconcagua, from Argentina; Vocal Leo de Cuba; Coro femenino de la Pontificia Universidad del Perú; Coro de la Universidad de Guayaquil, from Ecuador; Schola Cantorum and Coro Pedro Biava, from Barranquilla; and 16 choirs from Medellín.

In 2014, the participant choirs were: Vocal Universo, from Cuba; Coro de Cámara de la Universidad Adam Mickiewicz, from Poznań, Poland; Ensamble Vocal Veracruzano, from México; Coral San Francisco de la Universidad Católica de Azogues, from Ecuador, and Coral Polifónica Cajamag, from Santa Marta, Colombia.



In 2015, the participant choirs were: Camerata Vocal “Vox Lumini,” from Chile; University of Florida Chamber Singers, from the U.S.A.; Ensemble Vocal Buenos Aires, from Argentina; Ensemble Vocal Homines Urbi, from Venezuela; Ensemble Vocal CREA, from Mexico, and 18 Colombian choirs.

In 2016, the participant choirs were: Camerata Vocal Vox lumini, from Chile; Coro de la Universidad de Puerto Rico; Ensemble Vocal K´ay ha,´ from México; Syxtet, from Czech Republic; Camerata Cuarto Menguante, from Bogotá, Colombia; and 20 choirs from Medellín.

In 2017, the participant choirs were: Camerata Vocal de Puerto Rico; Orfeón Universitario de Puebla, from México; Choral Union of Florida, from the U.S.A.; Coral Altivoz de la Universidad de Rio de Janeiro, from Brazil; Vocal Monte de Sión, from Cuba; and 16 Colombian choirs.

In 2018, the participant choirs were: Ars Canendi, from Paraguay; Ensemble Vocal Bibani, from México; Vocálica, from Argentina; Chamber Choir of the Municipal Centre of Culture, from Stalowa Wola, Poland; and several Colombian choirs.

In 2019, the participant choirs were: CSU-Pueblo Chamber Choir, from Colorado, U.S.A.; University of Florida Chamber Singers, from the U.S.A.; Voce Chamber Choir of London, from the U.K.; Coral Universitaria UIS, from Santander, Colombia; and several choirs from Medellín.

Taking pride on the success of all the previous editions and our academic and professional experience, we are preparing the XIX **Festival Coral Internacional de Medellín “José María Bravo Márquez.”**

The festival will issue a collection edition of the program, including the repertoire and program notes of all concerts and articles about community outreach.

General Objective:

Promoting the value of choral music as an educational resource, a cultural participation device, and a way to stimulate creativity and aesthetic sense. And motivating the artistic enjoyment through the study of the most accessible instrument to all human beings: the human voice.

Specific Objectives:

- Spreading-out high-quality choral music with a clear artistic concept.
- Creating an adequate space to improve the quality of the national choral scene.
- Strengthening the Colombian choral tradition.
- Expanding the choral music audiences in Colombia through a community outreach programs.