

Bratislava
Spring
Festival
2026



PROGRAM

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BRATISLAVA
MUSIC AGENCY

19. - 22. 3. 2026
Bratislava, Slovakia



Bratislava Spring Festival

Medzinárodný hudobný festival
International Music Festival

19. - 22. 3. 2026, Bratislava, Slovakia

Festival sa koná pod záštitou primátora hlavného mesta Bratislavy Matúša Valla.
The festival is held under the auspices of the Mayor of Bratislava, Matúš Vallo.

Hlavný organizátor / Organiser:

BRATISLAVA MUSIC AGENCY

Umelecký riaditeľ / Festival Art Director:

Assoc. Prof. Milan Kolena, ArtD.

Medzinárodná porota / International jury:

Prof. Elżbieta Wtorkowska/Poland/
predsedníčka poroty / chairwoman of the jury
Assoc. Prof. Ondrej Šaray, ArtD. /SK/
Assoc. Prof. Milan Kolena, ArtD. /SK/

Spoluorganizátori / Co-organizers:

Bratislavské kultúrne a informačné stredisko
Hlavné mesto SR Bratislava
Spevácky zbor Apollo

Mediálni partneri / Media:

Kam do mesta
Citylife.sk

Fotograf/ Photographer:

Vladimír Kuric

PROGRAM FESTIVALU

19.3.2026 ŠTVRTOK / THURSDAY

19:00 OTVÁRACÍ KONCERT FESTIVALU / OPENING CONCERT

Archi con Brio /CZ/, Schola Gregoriana Bratislavensis /SK/, Youth Male Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/, Mixed Youth Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin / DE/

Hudobná sieň Klarisky / Klarisky Music Hall, Farská 4

20.3.2026 PIATOK / FRIDAY

17:00 FESTIVALOVÝ KONCERT / FESTIVAL CONCERT

Archi con Brio /CZ/, Arrieta /SK/, Spážatá /SK/, Tartu Boys Choir /EE/, Kodály Zoltán Gimnázium Énekkar /HU/

Mirror Hall of the Primate's Palace, Primaciálne námestie / Primatial square

19:00 FESTIVALOVÝ KONCERT / FESTIVAL CONCERT

Happy Dreams /UA/, Youth Male Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/, Mixed Youth Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/, Singing Friends /CZ/, Continuo Pardubice /CZ/

Mirror Hall of the Primate's Palace, Primaciálne námestie / Primatial square

21.3.2026 SOBOTA / SATURDAY

SÚŤAŽ SPEVÁCKYCH ZBOROV A ORCHESTROV

CHORAL AND ORCHESTRAL COMPETITION

Zrkadlová sieň Primaciálneho paláca, Primaciálne námestie / Mirror Hall of the Primate's Palace, Primatial square

Kategória: Mládežnícke orchestre do 21 rokov - Hudobné orchestre s voľnou inštrumentáciou

Category: Youth Orchestras up to 21 years - Music ensembles with free instrumentation

10:00 Archi con Brio /CZ/

Kategória: Mládežnícke zbory do 21 rokov (SATB)

Category: Youth choirs up to 21 years (SATB)

10:30 Mixed Youth Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Kategória: Chlapčenské zbory (SATB)

Category: Boys' choirs (SATB)

10:50 Tartu Boys Choir /EE/

Kategória: Sakrálna hudba a cappella

Category: Sacred music a cappella

11:10 Continuo Pardubice /CZ/

Kategória: Komorné zbory (9 - 24 spevákov)

Category: Chamber choirs (9 - 24 singers)

11:30 Youth Male Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/

11:50 Singing Friends /CZ/

Kategória: Zmiešané zbory dospelých (SATB)

Category: Mixed adult choirs (SATB)

12:10 Continuo Pardubice /CZ/

Nesúťažné zbory

Non competing choirs

12:30 Kodály Zoltán Gimnázium Énekkar /HU/

16:00 ZÁVEREČNÝ KONCERT / FINAL CONCERT

Archi con Brio /CZ/, Kodály Zoltán Gimnázium Énekkar /HU/, Singing Friends /CZ/, Continuo Pardubice /CZ/, Tartu Boys Choir /EE/, Youth Male Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/, Mixed Youth Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/

17:30 VYHLÁSENIE VÝSLEDKOV SÚŤAŽE / COMPETITION RESULTS

Mirror Hall of the Primate's Palace, Primaciálne námestie / Primatial square

22.3.2026 NEDEĽA / SUNDAY

Odchod medzinárodných speváckych zborov a orchestrov

Departure of international choirs and orchestras

Prof. Elżbieta Wtorkowska /Poland/ *chairwoman of the jury*

Elżbieta Wtorkowska is a Professor of Music. She serves as a professor at the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz and J. Grodek State High Vocational School in Sanok as well as a lecturer at the Postgraduate Choimaster Programme and Postgraduate Voice Production and Training Programme at the Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz. She is also a vocal consultant of the chorus of „Opera Nova” in Bydgoszcz. Since 1992, she is a lecturer at the Studies for Conductors of Polonia Choirs in Koszalin and is a member of



Artistic Council of the Society „Wspólnota Polska”. Since 2002, she is a conductor of the “Ojczyzna” (“Motherland”). She gives lectures and master classes at voice and choral workshops, at learning courses for conductors of Polish choirs in Belarus (1996-2009), Ukraine (1998-2009), Lithuania (2003-2009), Czech Republic (1999-2001, 2007 and 2008), the United States of America (2006 and 2007) and Great Britain (2008). During 2008, she lectured and ran choral workshops in Sydney, Australia in 2009 in Biggar (Scotland) and in Campeche, Mexico(2012). Since 1981, in Murowana Goślina (Poland), prof.Wtorkowska leads „Canzona” Girls’ Choir, since 2001 Female Choir „Canzona-Absolwent” („Canzona-Graduate”), she also serves as artistic support for Boys Choir „Canzona” and Chamber Choir „Canzona”. With “Canzona” choirs she gave concerts in Germany, Switzerland, Italy, the Netherlands, Greece, Sweden, Russia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Lithuania, Finland, Austria, England, Spain and Ukraine. She is the initiator and the director of the International Choral Festival of Rev. Edmund Szymański in Murowana Goślina (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012,2013, 2014). She guests as a lecturer at numerous seminars for vocalists, speech therapists, teachers and choir conductors, in Poland and abroad. She teaches vocal workshops for both amateur and professional choirs, children, youth and university choirs, boys, female, male and mixed choirs all over Poland.

MEDZINÁRODNÁ POROTA / INTERNATIONAL JURY

Assoc. Prof. Milan Kolena, ArtD. /Slovakia/

Milan Kolena is a conductor, artistic director of Bratislava Music Festivals, Associate Professor of choral conducting and Gregorian Chant at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava and the president of the Slovak Choral Association. With his choir Apollo and Schola Gregoriana Bratislavensis Milan Kolena visited many prestigious choral competitions. In 2014 he gave lectures at three American universities: Illinois Wesleyan University School, University of Missouri School of Music, Colorado State University with the topic: The Question of the Interpretation of Latin texts in Sacred Choral Music. He frequently works as a member of the jury at various international choral and orchestral competitions in Slovakia, Europe and Asia. He was awarded the best conductor special prize of the „Singing World“ choral competition in St. Petersburg, Russia in 2015. In the same year he held choral workshops in China and Hong Kong. He is a member of the International Council of the World Choir Games and Vice President World Youth and Children Choral Artists' Association.



Assoc. Prof. Ondrej Šaray, ArtD. /Slovakia/



Ondrej Šaray studied orchestral conducting with Zdeněk Bílek at the Conservatory in Bratislava. He also studied with Ladislav Slovák at the Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts in Bratislava. Since 1983 he has worked as the conductor of the Bratislava Children's Choir. In 1987 he established the Youth Choir Echo and in 1992 the Amadeus Choir Bratislava. Ondrej Šaray has won many significant domestic and international awards with these choirs. As a conductor, he has performed throughout Europe, Canada, Africa, the USA and he also cooperated with the noted orchestras of Slovakia (Philharmonic Orchestra, State Philharmonic Orchestra Košice, State Chamber Orchestra Žilina). He and his choirs appear regularly in vocal-instrumental compositions with the Slovak Philharmonic

Orchestra, Slovak Chamber Orchestra of Bohdan Warchal, Capella Istropolitana and Musica Aeterna. Ondrej Šaray has also made recordings for Slovak Radio, Slovak Television and BBC London. Besides conducting, he teaches at the Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts in Bratislava.

Archi con Brio /CZ/

Conductor: Mr. Jaroslav Rybáček

Archi con Brio was founded in 2010 by Irena and Jaroslav Rybáček. It is a string orchestra enriched with percussion instruments and piano. The ensemble's repertoire is very diverse, ranging from Baroque to contemporary compositions. The orchestra has received a number of important awards, including first place in the regional round of the National Competition of Czech Music Schools in 2012, 2015, and 2025. In addition, in 2015 it won first prize in the final round and was awarded the Czech Philharmonic Award. Furthermore, in 2024, Archi con Brio represented the high level of Czech music education through concerts in Germany.

Jaroslav Rybáček is a graduate of JAMU in Brno, Czech Republic, and the Hochschule für Musik Franz Liszt in Germany. He is a professional cellist who today works primarily as a teacher and, above all, as a conductor. He served as conductor of the

Novoměstská filharmonie from 1998 to 2023 and of the mixed choir Kácov from 2001 to 2011, with whom he successfully took part in numerous concerts as well as Czech and international festivals and competitions. He currently works as a cello teacher and as conductor of the student string orchestra Archi con Brio.



Competition programme

Mládežnícké orchestre do 21 rokov: Hudobné orchestre s voľnou inštrumentáciou

Youth Orchestre up to 21 years:

Ensembles with free instrumentation

1. Arr. Robert Buckley - Let the Bells Ring
2. Michael Korb - Highland Cathedral
3. Abreu Zaquinha - Tico Tico
4. Camille Saint-Saëns - Danse Bacchanale
5. Alan Menken - Beauty and the Beast



Continuo Pardubice /CZ/

Conductor: Mrs. Lucie Gregorovič Fárová

The **Continuo Pardubice Choir** was founded in 2004 and is regarded as one of the leading choirs in the Pardubice region. Since 2010, it has been conducted by choirmaster Lucie Gregorovič Fárová, who has continued the legacy of her grandfather, the respected conductor Vlastislav Novák. The choir's repertoire is wide-ranging, encompassing classical works as well as compositions by contemporary composers across various musical styles. Each year, Continuo Pardubice presents several traditional concerts, including the popular May Concert, and its activities also include benefit performances and a series of Christmas concerts with orchestra or organ accompaniment in churches throughout the Czech Republic. The choir regularly takes part in competitions and cultural events at home and abroad, appearing at festivals such as IFAS in Pardubice, Otevírání studánek in Tři Studně, and



Choralia Magna in Hradec Králové, and has toured internationally in Germany, Poland, and other European countries. In 2025, the choir was awarded second prize in Category A at the International Choir Competition in Zadar, Croatia.

Mgr. Lucie Gregorovič Fárová is a Czech choral conductor and music educator. She studied organ performance (with Václav Uhlíř) and conducting (with Vlastislav

Novák, Jaroslav Brych, and Jaromír M. Krygel) at the Pardubice Conservatory from 2002 to 2009. In 2011, she completed her master's degree at the Faculty of Education of the University of Hradec Králové, specializing in choral conducting and music education for secondary schools. Between 2005 and 2008, she led preparatory choirs of the Pardubice Children's Choir Iuventus



Cantans. As the granddaughter of the renowned choirmaster Vlastislav Novák, she later took over the leadership of the mixed and women's choir Continuo in Pardubice. Since September 2008, she has been working alongside Jiří Skopal, leading the preparatory departments and the main choir JITRO within the Hradec Králové Children's Choir. She regularly participates in choral conducting courses in the Czech Republic and abroad and is also active as a jury member at choral competitions.

Competition programme

Sakrálna hudba a cappella

Sacred music a cappella

1. Piotr Janczak - Kyrie
2. Vytautas Miškinis - Gloriosa
3. Antonín Tučapský - Pater Meus
4. Josu Elberdin - Cantate Domino

Zmiešané zbory dospelých (SATB)

Mixed adult choirs (SATB)

1. Zoltán Kodály - Turot eszik a cigány
2. Ivan Hrušovský - Zahučaly chladné vetry
3. Javier Busto - Sagastipean
4. Samo Vovk - Ta na Solbici

Mixed Youth Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/

Conductor: Mr. Daniel Ortuno-Stühning

The Youth Choir of the Goethe-Gymnasium Schwerin looks back on a 65-year tradition. It has been invited to music festivals and radio productions and has won numerous prizes at national and international competitions. Since 2015, the choir has been under the artistic direction of Dr. Daniel Ortuno-Stühning and, since 2022, Johann Friedrich Wendorf, with vocal training by Christiane Mikoleit and accompaniment by Yuko Ellinger. In addition to cultivating an a cappella repertoire from the Renaissance to the present – including numerous world premieres of works composed especially for the ensemble – the choir places great emphasis on collaborations with other ensembles, such as the Youth Symphony Orchestra Schwerin (JSO). In 2023, the choir had the honor of contributing musically to the central commemoration ceremony of the National Day of Mourning in the German Bundestag, attended by numerous national and international dignitaries. Recent achievements include the Golden Diploma at the 11th International Choir Competition Cracovia Cantans in 2022, a “very good” result at the German Choir Competition 2023 in Hanover, and the Grand Prix at the 32nd International Choir Competition in Verona in 2024. In 2025, the choir once again won the Grand Prix at the Young Bohemia International Choir Competition in Prague. The choir currently consists of 65 singers.

Dr. Daniel Ortuno-Stühning was born in 1979 in Bremen, Germany. From 1999 to 2005, he studied German and Music for the teaching profession, as well as Church Music (B program), at the University of Hanover. Between 2005 and 2013, he was engaged in academic research and teaching in musicology at the University of Weimar, where he completed his PhD in 2009 with a dissertation entitled *Christus Oratorios in the 19th Century*. In 2013-2014, he continued his scientific research and teaching at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. Since 2015, he has worked as a teacher and choir conductor at the Goethe-Gymnasium in Schwerin, Germany, and since 2022, he has also been a member of the Ministry of Education of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, where he teaches choral conducting and serves as a juror at national choral competitions.



Competition programme

Mládežnické zbory do 21 rokov (SATB)
Youth choirs up to 21 years (SATB)

1. Claudio Monteverdi - Cantate Domino
2. Robert Schumann - Schön-Rohtraut
3. Ēriks Ešņvalds - The Cloud
4. Dt. Volkslied, Arr. Werner Dossmann - Kein Feuer, keine Kohle
5. Martin Pollak - Maschinenmensch



Singing Friends /CZ/

Conductor: Mr. Roman Pallas

In 2012, a group of parents and supporters of the Puellae cantantes girls' choir began singing together. Soon, friends and colleagues joined them, and the group gradually developed into a choir named **Singing Friends**. The choir's name perfectly reflects who they are - a group of friends who enjoy meeting and singing together. Singing Friends performs several times a year, often in concerts with other choirs, and has participated in the Festival of Songs in Olomouc, Czech Republic, where it was awarded the Silver Medal twice. In addition, the choir took part in the Alta Pusteria International Choral Festival in Italy in 2016 and 2023.

Roman Pallas studied piano playing at the Teplice Conservatory and composition at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague. Since 1997 he is a conductor of successful girls' choir Puellae cantantes, in 2006 he founded chamber choir Syrinx and since

2012 he conducts also mixed choir Singing Friends. As a pianist and conductor, he focuses primarily on contemporary music. He teaches music theory and composition at the Teplice Conservatory.



Competition programme

Komorné zbory (9 - 24 spevákov)

Chamber choirs (9 - 24 singers)

1. Hans Leo Hassler - Cantate Domino
2. John Farmer - Fair Phyllis I Saw Sitting All Alone
3. Lidová, arr. Jaroslav Krček - Což se mně, má milá
4. Lidová, arr. Miroslav Hroněk - Prší, prší
5. Spirituál, arr. Otto Kaufmann - Go Down, Moses
6. Spirituál, arr. Mary McDonald - Amen! Tell It on the Mountain!



Tartu Boys Choir /EE/

Conductor: Mrs. Annelii Traks

Tartu Boys' Choir was founded in 1961. The choir operates in the choir school of Tartu Karlova School. Thanks to the flexible curriculum, it is possible to form different choir ensembles, practice ensemble singing and solo singing. All the boys also learn to play an instrument and play in a brass band or some other ensemble.

In cooperation with professional choirs



and orchestras, the choir has participated in the performance of such major works as L. Cherubini's Requiem in C minor, H. Honegger's oratorio "Joan of Arc at the Stake", C. Orff's oratorio "Carmina Burana", C. Kreek's Requiem, U. Sisask's Mass No. 5 "Chateau Rocher", G. Mahler's Symphonies No. 3 and 8.

The Tartu Boys' Choir has participated in the opera performances of the Vanemuine Theatre by G. Puccini "Tosca", "La bohème", "Turandot", J. Massenet "Werther", G. Bizet's "Carmen", G. Donizetti's "Linda di Chamounix", J. Stein's "Gypsy", R. Rodgers' "The Sound of Music", A. L. Webber's "Evita".

Annelii Traks is a choir conductor and music teacher, born on April 29, 1961, in Weimar. From 1982 to 1987, she studied choral conducting at the Tallinn State Conservatory in the class of Professor Kuno Areng. Between 1986 and 1992, she worked as a music teacher and choir conductor at Tallinn J. Westholm Gymnasium. Since 1992, she has been a music teacher and choir conductor at Tartu Karlova School, as well as conductor of the Tartu Boys' Choir, and since 1996 she has also served as director of the choir school at Tartu Karlova School. Since 1997, Annelii Traks has conducted eleven toddler choirs at the Estonian Song Festival and has served as chief conductor of toddler choirs at two festivals. She is also a member and mentor of the Estonian Choral Association.

Competition programme

**Chlapčenské zbory (SATB)
Boys' choirs (SATB)**

1. Thomas Caplin - Agnus Dei
2. Vytautas Miškinis - Jubilate Deo
3. Andres Lemba, Estonian folk song - Üles, üles, hellad vennad
4. Ola Gjeilo - The Rose



Youth Male Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/

Conductor: Mr. Daniel Ortuno-Stühning

The men's ensemble of the Goethe-Gymnasium Schwerin was founded in 2018 on the initiative of dedicated boys from the school's youth choir who were interested in exploring and performing the extensive male choir repertoire together. Shortly thereafter, teachers and parents of students also joined the group, so that



the men's ensemble now sings across generations. The focus of the musical work is on the romantic repertoire, but pop and gospel literature as well as several world premieres of compositions by students are also performed. In 2022, the ensemble went on a concert tour to Tallinn; regularly, the ensemble sings for UNICEF in the castle church of Schwerin and in Schwerin Cathedral. Currently, the men's ensemble has 16 members.

Dr. Daniel Ortuno-Stühning was born in 1979 in Bremen, Germany. From 1999 to

2005, he studied German and Music for the teaching profession, as well as Church Music (B program), at the University of



Hanover. Between 2005 and 2013, he was engaged in academic research and teaching in musicology at the University of Weimar, where he completed his PhD in 2009 with a dissertation entitled *Christus Oratorios in the 19th Century*. In 2013-2014, he continued his scientific research and teaching at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. Since 2015, he has worked as a teacher and choir conductor at the Goethe-Gymnasium in Schwerin, Germany, and since 2022, he has also been a member of the Ministry of Education of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, where he teaches choral conducting and serves as a juror at national choral competitions.

Competition programme

Komorné zbory (9 - 24 spevákov)

Chamber choirs (9 - 24 singers)

1. Hans Leo Hassler - Cantate Domino
2. Friedrich Silcher - Der alte Barbarossa
3. Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy - Beati Mortui
4. Trad. Irish, arr. John Rutter - O waly, waly
5. Duke Ellington, arr. Oliver Gies - It don't mean a thing

Arrieta /SK/

Conductor: Mrs. Yelizaveta Yanko
Non-competing choir

The Children's Choir Arietta was founded in 2023 at the Private Elementary School of Arts on Strečnianska 20 in Bratislava, on the initiative of Yelizaveta Yanko, a graduate of the Academy of Performing Arts. Since its establishment, the choir has been actively involved in the cultural life of the capital city. In 2024, it performed at the Spring Festival as well as at the Advent Festival in Bratislava, where its performance enhanced the festive atmosphere. In 2025, it also appeared at the Christmas markets in Petržalka with a celebratory program that delighted audiences and filled the winter evenings with music and light. From its very first years, Arietta Choir has been building a tradition of artistic quality, enthusiasm, and shared joy of singing.

Yelizaveta Yanko comes from Ukraine and currently works in Bratislava as the conductor of the Evangelical choir Alis and the children's choir Arietta. In 2025, she completed her studies at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava, where she obtained a Master of Arts degree in the study program Music Performance and Composition, specializing in Choral Conducting.

As a conductor, she has collaborated with the Slovak Philharmonic as part of the Junior Cycle project and is regularly engaged in both artistic and pedagogical activities in the field of choral singing.



Spážatá /SK/

Conductor: Mrs. Ľubica Špačková
Non-competing choir

The choir **Spážatá** of the Elementary Art School in Svätý Jur was founded in 2006. It is composed of students from the singing class as well as other students of the music department, with its membership changing from year to year. Its repertoire includes arrangements of folk songs alongside original compositions by teacher Mgr. art. Marek Spusta and other Slovak and international composers.

The ensemble regularly performs at concerts and events organized by the

Elementary Art School and the city of Svätý Jur. In October 2015, it took part in the Bratislava Cantat II competition, where it was awarded a silver medal in its category.

Spážatá is conducted by singing teacher **Mgr. Ľubica Špačková** and accompanied by Matúš Matiašovský, DiS. art., piano teacher at the Elementary Art School in Svätý Jur.



Kodály Zoltán Gimnázium Énekkar /HU/

Conductor: Sára Kempeski
Non-competing choir

The choir of Zoltán Kodály Secondary Grammar School has a rich history and plays a central role in the school's cultural life, upholding Hungarian choral traditions. Originally founded and directed by Csaba Balogh, the choir gained recognition both domestically and internationally. After a period of inactivity, the choir was revived in 1981 under the guidance of conductor Mónika Józsa, who led it until 1994. Nearly 30 years later, Sára Kempeski—a former student of the school—stepped in to lead the choir while still a secondary student herself. With her youthful energy and enthusiasm, she has since brought new life to the group, which she now conducts as a student at VŠMU. The choir's rehearsals, inspired by Kodály's legacy, offer students not only the joy of music but also a deep connection to Hungarian cultural heritage.

Sára Kempeski is a young conductor whose passion for music was nurtured from childhood, viewing it as a legacy from

her father. After graduating from secondary school, she was accepted into the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava (VŠMU), where she now studies choral conducting. Sára has led her high school choir for three years and also



works with children's and adult choirs. For her, it's important that each choir member finds comfort and peace in music. When conducting, she experiences moments where the world seems to quiet down, free from deadlines, responsibilities, and modern technology. Her goal with the Kodály choir is to support music education, which she feels has been undervalued in her country. She believes that music teaches us many things and compares choir singing to the work of bees in a hive—small yet indispensable, with a profound impact on the world.



Schola Gregoriana Bratislavensis /SK/

Conductor: Mr. Milan Kolena
Non-competing choir

Schola Gregoriana Bratislavensis was founded in 2002. Its activities and goals focus on semiologic interpretation of Gregorian chant according to the oldest semiologic sources from 9.-11. cent. and on presenting



Gregorian chants originated in Slovak 13.-15. cent. liturgic tradition. Among schola's important activities has been CD recording of three Bratislava antiphonaries from the end of 15. century, which was a part of UNESCO project World's memory in Slovak Republic. The Medieval Slovak manuscripts were thus for the first time presented to the cultural and professional audiences both home and abroad. One of the schola's concert highlights has been the participation in Gregorian chant festival in Florence (2008) where the schola presented with success also chants from the Bratislava antiphonary. The art director and founder of the schola is Dr. Milan Kolena.

At the Zilina Conservatory **Milan Kolena** studied piano, singing and choir conducting. After graduating with a degree in Choral Conducting at the University of Performing Arts (VSMU) in Bratislava under the tutelage of Prof. Peter Hradil, he continued his studies in sacred music at VSMU. He also continued his studies of Gregorian Chant with Prof. J.Kohlhaufel at the University for Music and Darstellende Kunst in Vienna where he is the author of the first Slovak professional publication on Gregorian chant: "Súčasné smery v interpretácii

gregorianskeho choralu" (Current Directions in Interpretation of Gregorian Chant). He actively cooperates in the interpretation of Gregorian chant with Prof. Dr. F.K. Prassl from Graz and Prof. Dr. J.B. Goschl from Munich. Milan Kolena was an assistant with the Chlapčenský zbor (Boys' choir) in Bratislava and was conductor of the Spevácky zbor bratislavských učiteľov (Bratislava Teachers' Choir). In addition, he currently serves as conductor of Schola Gregoriana Bratislavensis. Milan Kolena teaches choir conducting and Gregorian chant at VŠMU. Since 1998 Milan Kolena has been the Art Director of the International Sacred Music Choir Festival Námestovské hudobné slavnosti, Musica Sacra in Bratislava, Slovakia Cantat. He is active as a Jury member at national and international choral competitions in Czech Republic, Poland, Italy, Slovakia. He has led many workshops and seminars about vocal polyphony, Gregorian chant and Slovak contemporary music. During 2004-2006 together with Schola Gregoriana Bratislavensis recorded 3 CDs of Bratislava antiphons for Slovak National Library. Since 2013 he is the president of the Slovak Choral Association.



In 2014 he gave lectures at three American universities: Illinois Wesleyan University School, University of Missouri School of Music, Colorado State University, topic: The Question of the Interpretation of Latin texts in Sacred Choral Music.

KALENDÁR PODUJATÍ / MUSIC FESTIVAL CALENDAR

Zbory a orchestre 2026 - 2027 / Choirs and orchestras 2026 - 2027
Bratislava, Slovakia

BRATISLAVA SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL

Bratislava, Slovakia; 19th - 22nd March 2026
Bratislava, Slovakia; 18th - 21st March 2027

SLOVAKIA CANTAT

International Festival of Choirs and Orchestras

Bratislava, Slovakia; 23rd - 26th April 2026
Bratislava, Slovakia; 22nd - 25th April 2027

BRATISLAVA CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL

International Festival of Choirs and Orchestras

Bratislava, Slovakia; 11th - 14th June 2026
Bratislava, Slovakia; 10th - 13th June 2027

BRATISLAVA SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

International festival of choirs and orchestras

Bratislava, Slovakia; 30th June- 3rd July 2026
Bratislava, Slovakia; 7th July- 10th July 2027

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL I

Competition Festival for Children & Youth Choirs, Orchestras and Bands

Bratislava, Slovakia; 30th June- 3rd July 2026
Bratislava, Slovakia; 7th July- 10th July 2027

BRATISLAVA CANTAT I

International festival of choirs and orchestras

Bratislava, Slovakia; 20th - 23rd July 2026
Bratislava, Slovakia; 26th - 29th July 2027

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL II

Competition Festival for Children & Youth Choirs, Orchestras and Bands

Bratislava, Slovakia; 20th - 23rd July 2026
Bratislava, Slovakia; 26th - 29th July 2027

BRATISLAVA CANTAT II

International festival of choirs and orchestras

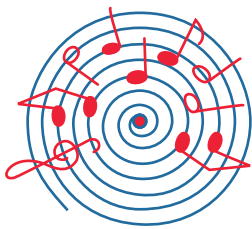
Bratislava, Slovakia; 8th - 11th October 2026
Bratislava, Slovakia; 7th - 10th October 2027

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Bratislava, Slovakia; 3rd - 6th December 2026
Bratislava, Slovakia; 2nd - 5th December 2027



We are celebrating 21 years!



BRATISLAVA
MUSIC AGENCY

Since 2005 we hosted:
more than 1300 choirs and orchestras
more than 42 500 musicians
more than 50 countries



Bratislava Spring Festival 2026

Medzinárodný hudobný festival
International Music Festival

19. - 22. 3. 2026, Bratislava, Slovakia

Festival sa koná pod záštitou primátora hlavného mesta Bratislavy Matúša Vallo.
The festival is held under the auspices of the Mayor of Bratislava, Matúš Vallo.

19.3.2026 ŠTVRTOK / THURSDAY

19:00 OTVÁRACÍ KONCERT FESTIVALU / OPENING CONCERT

Archi con Brio /CZ/, Schola Gregoriana Bratislavensis /SK/, Youth Male Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/, Mixed Youth Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/
Hudobná sieň Klarisky / Klarisky Music Hall, Farská 4

20.3.2026 PIATOK / FRIDAY

17:00 FESTIVALOVÝ KONCERT / FESTIVAL CONCERT

Archi con Brio /CZ/, Arrieta /SK/, Spážatá /SK/, Tartu Boys Choir /EE/, Kodály Zoltán Gimnázium Énekkar /HU/

Mirror Hall of the Primate's Palace, Primaciálne námestie / Primate's square

19:00 FESTIVALOVÝ KONCERT / FESTIVAL CONCERT

Happy Dreams /UA/, Youth Male Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/, Mixed Youth Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/, Singing Friends /CZ/, Continuo Pardubice /CZ/

Mirror Hall of the Primate's Palace, Primaciálne námestie / Primate's square

21.3.2026 SOBOTA / SATURDAY

SÚŤAŽ SPEVÁCKYCH ZBOROV A ORCHESTROV /

CHORAL AND ORCHESTRAL COMPETITION

Zrkadlová sieň Primaciálneho paláca, Primaciálne námestie / Mirror Hall of the Primate's Palace, Primate's square

Kategória: Mládežnícke orchestre do 21 rokov /Hudobné orchestre s voľnou inštrumentáciou/
Category: Youth Orchestras up to 21 years /Music ensembles with free instrumentation/

10:00 Archi con Brio /CZ/

Kategória: Mládežnícke zbory do 21 rokov (SATB)
Category: Youth choirs up to 21 years (SATB)

10:30 Mixed Youth Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/

Kategória: Chlapčenské zbory (SATB)
Category: Boys' choirs (SATB)

10:50 Tartu Boys Choir /EE/

Kategória: Sakrálna hudba a cappella
Category: Sacred music a cappella

11:10 Continuo Pardubice /CZ/

Kategória: Komorné zbory (9 - 24 spevákov)
Category: Chamber choirs (9 - 24 singers)

11:30 Youth Male Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/

11:50 Singing Friends /CZ/

Kategória: Zmiešané zbory dospelých (SATB)
Category: Mixed adult choirs (SATB)

12:10 Continuo Pardubice /CZ/

Nesúťažné zbory
Non competing choirs

12:30 Kodály Zoltán Gimnázium Énekkar /HU/

16:00 ZÁVEREČNÝ KONCERT / FINAL CONCERT

Archi con Brio /CZ/, Kodály Zoltán Gimnázium Énekkar /HU/, Singing Friends /CZ/, Continuo Pardubice /CZ/, Tartu Boys Choir /EE/, Youth Male Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/, Mixed Youth Choir of the Goethegymnasium Schwerin /DE/

17:30 VYHLÁSENIE VÝSLEDKOV SÚŤAŽE / COMPETITION

RESULTS

Mirror Hall of the Primate's Palace, Primaciálne námestie / Primate's square

22.3.2026 NEDEĽA / SUNDAY

Odchod medzinárodných speváckych zborov a orchestrov
Departure of international choirs and orchestras

Na všetky podujatia vstup voľný / Free entrance to all concerts
Zmena programu vyhradená / Programme is subject to change

Spoluorganizátori festivalu:
Hlavné mesto SR Bratislava
Bratislavské kultúrne a informačné stredisko
Spevácky zbor Apollo



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