

Building Bridges *and* Transforming Lives *through the* Power of Music

Madrid, Spain | June 13-17, 2028

Madrid Choral Festival



Artistic Director

Ms. Coty Raven Morris
Hinckley Assistant Professor of Choir, Music Education, and Social Justice at Portland State University

The Setting



The Artistic Experience

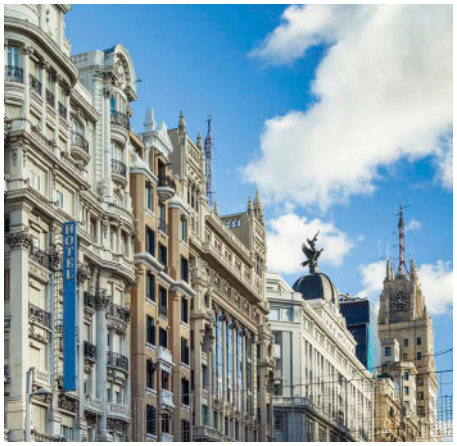
This choral festival celebrates the power of music through a program of works curated by our artistic director and brought to life under the direction of Coty Raven Morris. Community youth and high school mixed and treble ensembles will come together for a memorable concert experience in the heart of Madrid. With a thoughtfully planned rehearsal schedule, participants can immerse themselves in the music while discovering the artistic treasures, vibrant culture, and rich traditions of Spain. Ensembles may also extend their journey with a custom pre- or post-festival tour, designed around the unique interests and aspirations of each group.

The City

Madrid, Spain's dynamic capital, is situated in the heart of the Iberian Peninsula. Known for its grand boulevards, elegant plazas, and remarkable architectural heritage, Madrid blends centuries of history with a lively contemporary spirit. Once the center of the powerful Spanish Empire, the city flourished under the Habsburg and Bourbon monarchies, leaving behind magnificent landmarks such as the Royal Palace, Plaza Mayor, and the grand avenues of the historic center. Today, Madrid is celebrated for its world-class museums, welcoming atmosphere, vibrant neighborhoods, and celebrated culinary traditions.

Spain has played an influential role in the development of European music, with a rich heritage spanning sacred polyphony, Renaissance and Baroque compositions, zarzuela, and passionate regional traditions. Madrid has long been an important center for musical life, home to historic concert halls, renowned orchestras, and distinguished composers and performers. Its enduring artistic spirit makes it an inspiring setting for young singers to share their music.





The Organizers: Perform International

"Building Bridges and Transforming Lives through the Power of Music"

Boldly informed by the belief that music inherently speaks as an expression of the human spirit beyond borders and in all cultures, Perform International seeks to empower music directors and ensembles to realize meaningful and life-changing immersion experiences and performances around the world.

- We empower music directors, music ensembles and individual musicians to share and grow in their artistic expression and understanding of people and cultures.
- We design and create rewarding performances as well as educational and cultural immersion opportunities by building and maintaining relationships with domestic and international musicians and music education organizations.
- We partner with concert venues, publicity teams, airlines, hotels, and tour guides to plan and implement operational methods that enhance rather than distract from the artistic experience.
- We provide meaningful and life-changing performance tour experiences that are personal, thoughtful, and efficient in the processes of conceptual artistic and educational development.

Faculty



Ms. Coty Raven Morris

Artistic Director

New Orleans native **COTY RAVEN MORRIS** is a conductor, composer, poet, and community-centered music educator who believes deeply in the transformative power of collective singing. Her compassion for music-making in diverse communities fuels every aspect of her work—from the rehearsal room to the concert hall.

She is the Hinckley Assistant Professor of Choir, Music Education, and Social Justice at Portland State University, where she mentors the next generation of teacher-artists. A proud alumna of Texas State University-San Marcos, she studied with Drs. Lynn Brinckmeyer and Joey Martin, and earned her Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Michigan State University under Drs. David Rayl, Jonathan Reed, and Sandra Snow.

Before PSU, she led award-winning choral programs at Crosby High School in Houston, served as the Outreach Choir Director at MSU's Community Music School, and was Music Director at Grand Ledge United Methodist Church. Her ensembles consistently earned top UIL and festival honors and were known for their heart as much as their sound.

Morris is a two-time Music Educator Grammy Finalist (2024, 2025) and a Yamaha '40 Under 40' honoree. She was awarded the Hays CISD Linebarger Academic Recognition Award and Galena Park ISD's Dazzling Diamond Award for her outstanding mentorship and leadership. Her national presence continues to grow through frequent keynote appearances and clinician roles at ACDA and NAfME events.

A frequent speaker at conferences, her reach has extended through her partnership with Music Workshop, where she co-developed a national professional development curriculum centered on wellness, equity, and accessible teaching. She has served as a chorus master and artistic collaborator with Portland Center Stage, the Oregon Symphony Orchestra, and Choirs of America. She also hosts for All Classical Radio and the International Children's Arts Network (ICAN), fostering creativity and joy for listeners of all ages.

A newly published author and composer, her poetry and choral works have been performed by honor choirs and featured at festivals across the country. As Founder of Being Human Together, Morris cultivates spaces of honesty and connection in music education by exploring topics like mental health and inclusion.

And when she's not conducting, composing, or building community through song—you might find her in the boxing gym, leading with rhythm, resilience, and a whole 'lot of joy!













June 13-17, 2028

Madrid Choral Festival

Tour Itinerary

Day 1 - Tuesday, June 13, 2028 - USA to Madrid
You will begin your journey by boarding an international flight to Madrid, Spain's central capital. Meals and snacks will be served on the plane.

Day 2 - Wednesday, June 14, 2028 - Arrival Madrid
Arrive in Madrid and meet your Tour Manager and driver. Transfer to your hotel and settle in before gathering for dinner with the other participating festival choirs. Overnight in Madrid.

Day 3 - Thursday, June 15, 2028 - Rehearsals & Prado Museum
After breakfast, enjoy a visit to the renowned Prado Museum, home to one of the world's finest collections of European art. This afternoon, join the other festival choirs for your first rehearsal. Dinner is included, followed by an evening rehearsal. Overnight in Madrid.

Day 4 - Friday, June 16, 2028 - Rehearsals & Gala Concert
Begin the day with rehearsals, followed by some time at leisure. This afternoon, gather at the concert venue for the dress rehearsal in preparation for the evening's performance. After dinner, change into concert attire and take the stage for the festival's Gala Concert—a memorable opportunity to share your music with fellow singers and audiences in Madrid. Overnight in Madrid.

Day 5 - Saturday, June 17, 2028 - Depart Madrid / Start Post Festival Tour Programs
Depart Madrid or begin your selected post-festival tour program.

Pre/Post Festival Tour Programs

Optional pre- and post-festival extensions are available for groups of 20 or more passengers. These fully customized programs are designed around each choir's specific interests and needs and may include additional performance opportunities for ensembles.

Tour B - Valencia & Barcelona
Extend your journey with one night in Valencia and two nights in Barcelona. Highlights include a visit to Valencia Cathedral and the magnificent Sagrada Família in Barcelona.

Tour C - Granada & Seville
Add three nights to your journey and discover the beauty and heritage of southern Spain. Explore Granada's magnificent Alhambra and Seville's impressive cathedral, along with the distinctive architecture, culture, and atmosphere of these two celebrated Andalusian cities.

Schedule a Call >