



INTERNATIONAL
CONDUCTORS EXCHANGE
PROGRAM (ICEP)
2027



ACDA International Conductors Exchange Program (ICEP)

NZCF SELECTION CRITERIA for EMERGING or MID-CAREER CONDUCTORS

The NZCF Association of Choral Directors (ACD) will select six emerging or mid-career leaders of the choral profession to represent Aotearoa at the American Association of Choral Directors (ACDA) National Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 7-10, 2027. To be eligible for selection criteria, candidates must:

- 1) be a current Personal member of NZCF or ACD
- 2) be an active choral conductor with a minimum of 3 years and a maximum of 20 years in the profession
- 3) lead a choir or choirs with a demonstrated high standard of performance
- 4) exhibit a high level of empathy, respect, and cultural awareness

Candidates may come from a wide range musical backgrounds and experience (community, church, chamber choir, Barbershop, primary/secondary/higher education).

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Statement of Purpose (PDF)

Please outline your qualifications and desire to participate in the ICEP. Because ICEP is a reciprocal exchange, candidates from New Zealand will also host their US counterparts. In your statement of purpose, please share your vision of how you might structure an experience for a visiting conductor to benefit your wider choral community. In addition, please share how your experience in the United States might impact your future work and how you plan to continue to foster the relationships built.

2. Curriculum Vitae (PDF)

3. Two Letters of Recommendation (PDFs)

4. Video Submission. **See guidelines on the following page.**

VIDEO GUIDELINES FOR ICEP SUBMISSIONS:

REPERTOIRE

1. Two selections from different periods, genres or cultures.
2. Selections should represent two different languages.
3. Selections should be in contrasting tempo and style.

REHEARSAL

1. The applicant should rehearse the choir in such a way as to focus on gestural communication, rehearsal technique, and the artistic development of the music.
2. The NZCF/ACD selection panel will value effective communication, musically sensitive interpretation, the use of clear, purposeful gestures, and an efficient rehearsal technique that fosters a positive, inclusive, and collaborative atmosphere.

CAMERA ANGLE

1. The camera angle will show a full, front view of the applicant and all conducting movements.
2. The choral sound and comments of the applicant must be clearly audible on the video recording.
3. The applicant will begin each selection by announcing the title and composer of the work to be presented.

FORMAT & DURATION

1. The video recording will not be edited in any way except to edit the beginning and/or ending of each piece to adhere to the required length.
2. The video recording will show the applicant conducting and rehearsing for a minimum of 12 minutes and a maximum of 15 minutes in total.
3. The time should be divided equally between the two selections.
4. If desired, applicants may work with two different choirs – one for each piece.

[**CLICK HERE TO APPLY**](#)