We want to invite choirs, vocal ensembles, instrumental chamber ensembles, orchestras to participate in “Gratulationes” events.

“Laudate Dominum” – 7th International Sacred Music Choir Festival & Competition
1 – 7th of July, 2016
Short summary of the program:
Concert places:
Accommodation:
Excursions:
Deadlines:
About Competition “Laudate Dominum”
History of “Laudate Dominum”

“Musica Instrumentalis” – 3rd International Festival & Competition of Instrumental Ensembles and Orchestras
Short summary of the program:
Concert places:
Accommodation:
Excursions:
Deadlines:
About Competition “Musica Instrumentalis”

International Choral Music Camp-Retreat: “Sacred Music of Lithuanian Composers”
17 – 24th of July, 2016
Short summary of the program:
Information about the rehearsals:
Deadlines:

“Cantate Angeli” – 2nd Christmas Music Festival
December 27th 2016 – January 2nd 2017
Short summary of the program:
Concert places:
Accommodation:
Excursions:
Deadlines:

E-mail: info.gratulationes@gmail.com
More information: www.gratulationes.lt
The organizer “Gratulationes” is arranging the 7th International Choral Festival & Competition “Laudate Dominum” in Vilnius and Trakai, on the 1st – 7th of July, 2016. The festival is open for all choirs, both Lithuanian and foreign.

Short summary of the program:
- The choirs arrive in Vilnius on the 1st or 2nd of July;
- 1st – 6th of July – choirs will perform in various churches and concert halls;
- 2nd – 6th of July – choirs have excursions in Vilnius and Trakai;
- 3rd – 4th of July – competition days;
- Choirs depart on 6th or 7th of July.

The applicants may choose (one or both options) to:
- Prepare and deliver an individual concert (up to 25 minutes). Choirs, which will perform individually, must take into consideration the following requirements: all songs have to be carried out a cappella; in the program there should be pieces from 2 – 4 periods of sacred music; songs are selected by the conductor of the choir;
- Compete in the choir competition (see About Competition).

Each choir can perform individually and/or participate in the competition.

Concert places:
Vilnius University, Ciurlionio str. 21;
Church of St. Casimir, Didzioji str. 34;
Church of St. Catherine, Vilniaus str. 30;
Church of St. Therese, Ausros Vartu str. 14;
State Small Theatre of Vilnius, Gedimino ave. 22;
Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, Gedimino ave. 3;
Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Antakalnio str. 1/1;
Church of St. Raphael the Archangel, Snipiskiu str. 1;
Church of St. Philip and St. Jacob, Vasario 16-osios str. 10;
Russian Drama Theatre of Lithuania, Basanaviciaus str. 13;
Church of the Invention of the Holy Cross, Kalvariju str. 327;
Church of the Visitation of Virgin Mary, Birutes str. 5, Trakai;
Church of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Apostle and Evangelist, Sv. Jono str. 12.

Accommodation:
The participants will be accommodated in the 3 stars hotels, in double standard rooms or apartments. All accommodation buildings (hotels) are located in the center, or near the center (2-4 kilometers away).

Excursions:
- Vilnius Old Town and the Centre on Foot. One group, one guide (90 € for a group). You will see the astonishing Old Town (which is on the list of UNESCO), many nice churches and other places of interest.
- A trip to the old capital of Lithuania – Trakai (30 km from Vilnius). 90 € for guide, the ticket to see the inside of the castle costs 6 € per adult, 4 € for students with ISIC. With a guide you will see the beautiful city of Trakai and the amazing Trakai Castle.

The 1st of April, 2016 is the last day to apply.
Choirs must send their information via e-mail: info.gratulationes@gmail.com (see Application form).
Deadlines:
- 1st of April, 2016 – last day to apply (sending choir’s information via e-mail: info.gratulationes@gmail.com);
- 2nd of April, 2016 – choirs will get a confirmation by e-mail including bank details information;
- Choirs are required to transfer 30% of the cost until 15th of April. The cost includes accommodation and meals, participant fee, sightseeing with a guide;
- Choirs are required to transfer other 70% of the cost until 15th of May.

About Competition “Laudate Dominum”

3rd – 4th of July – competition days. Choirs participating in the competition perform three sacred songs (from your repertoire) and one obligatory song. The total length of three songs should not exceed 12 minutes. 4th song is obligatory. All songs have to be carried out a cappella. Participants should provide the organizer with a list of four songs (name of the song and its author with full names).

Prizes for the winners:
The winners of Grand Prix, first, second and third places will receive certificates and special prizes; For the best performance of the obligatory song choir will receive special prize and a certificate.

Obligatory songs:
For mixed choirs:
  Jurijus Kalcas “Laudate Dominum III”;
  Paulius Andriuskevičius “Pater noster”;

For female choirs:
  Jurijus Kalcas “Laudate Dominum IV”;
  Jeronimas Kačinskas “Rex Christe”.

For male choirs:
  Jurijus Kalcas “Laudate Dominum IV”;
  Teodoras Brazys “Animam meam dilectam”.

Depending on the choir’s type and possibilities, each participating choir must choose one song from these six compositions. But if you consider it too complicated, you can participate in competition in the category ‘Without obligatory song’. In that case you will not be able to win award for the best obligatory song’s performance.

Anthem of Festival:
Paulius Andriuskevičius “Laudate Dominum”.

All the participants must learn the anthem of the festival, which will be sung during the final concert and the awards.

The Jury:
Česlovas Radžiūnas
  Professor of Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre;
  Art leader of Choir of Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theatre.

Petras Bingelis
  Professor of Vytautas Magnus University;
  Art leader and main conductor of Kaunas State Choir.

Vaclovas Augustinas
  Professor of Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre;
  Art leader and main conductor of “Jauna muzika” Choir.

Jurijus Kalcas
  Professor of Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre;
  Art leader and main conductor of “Varpas” Choir;
  Composer of obligatory songs.

Tomas Ambrozaitis
  Art leader and main conductor of Siauliai State Choir “Polifonija”.
“Laudate Dominum” is an international sacred music choir festival & competition, which takes place every year in the beginning of July. 42 choirs from 16 European countries participated in the last six festivals-competitions.

**Participants:**

**Armenia**
- Mrakats State Choir (2013)

**Czech Republic**
- Choir “Vox Juvenalis” (2012)
- Decín’s City Choir (2014)
- Academic Choir of Ostrava’s Technical University (2015)

**Germany**
- Aachen’s City Chamber Choir (2014)

**Hungary**
- Paks City’s Choir (2011)
- Choir “Sol Oriens” (2011)

**Israel**
- Choir “Naama” (2015)
- Choir “Mate Asher” (2015)

**Italy**
- Choir “I Cantori del Caldone” (2012)

**Latvia**
- Choir “Sonore” (2010)
- Choir “Vox Animae” (2011)
- Choir “Zemgale” (2011)
- Choir “Dziesmuvara” (2012)
- Choir “Varaviksne” (2012)
- Choir “Mitava” (2014)
- Choir “Kaiva” (2014)

**Lithuania**
- Choir “Saluto” (2010)
- Chamber Choir of Kretinga Culture Center (2012)
- Choir “Cantate Domino” of Kaunas Vytautas Magnus Church (2013)
- Choir “Gintaras” (2015)

**Moldova**
- Choir “Renaissance” (2011)

**Poland**
- Academic Choir of the University of Gdansk (2010, 2014)
- Choir “Akolada” (2011)
- Choir “Halka” (2012)
- Choir “Presto Cantabile” (2012)
- Choir “Collegium Musicum” (2012)
- Choir of the Collegium Medicum Nicolaus Copernicus University (2012)
- Choir “Nadzieja” (2013)
- Choir “Sol Deo” (2013)
- Garwolin’s City Choir (2013)

**Romania**
- Choir “Vox Humana” (2011)
- Choir “Lira Maria Radna” (2011)

**Russia**
- Choir “Harmony” (2013)
- Choir “Small Capella” (2013)

**Slovakia**
- Choir “Rozkvet” (2015)

**Slovenia**
- Academic Choir of the University of Primorska (2012)

**Sweeden**
- Helsingborg's Vocal Ansamble (2011)

**Ukraine**
- Choir “Ave Musica” (2011)

6 international choir competitions and 25 sacred music concerts were organized. The competitions took place in the Church of St. Catherine in 2010, the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre in 2011, the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences in 2012 and 2013, the State Small Theatre of Vilnius in 2014 and 2015. The concerts were held in the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences (1), Vilnius University (1), the Russian Drama Theatre of Lithuania (1), the Church of St. Casimir (5), the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul (2), the Church of the Invention of the Holy Cross (4), the Church of the Visitation of Virgin Mary in Trakai (3), the Church of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Apostle and Evangelist (1), the Church of St. Theresa (1), the Church of St. Raphael the Archangel (2), the Church of St. Philip and St. Jacob (1), the Jewish Community of Lithuania (1).

The choirs were judged by Prof. Česlovas Radžiūnas (chairman in 2014 and 2015), Prof. Saulius Sondeckis (chairman in 2013), Prof. Povilas Gylys (chairman in 2011 and 2012), Prof. Petras Bingelis (chairman in 2010), Prof. Jurijus Kalcas (the composer of obligatory songs), Prof. Vaclovas Augustinas, Gediminas Ramanauskas, Tomas Ambrozaitis, Danguolė Aukseliene, Rasa Gelgotiene.
The organiser “Gratulationes” is arranging the 3rd International Festival & Competition of Instrumental Ensembles and Orchestras “Musica Instrumentalis” in Vilnius, on the 9 – 15th of July, 2016. The festival is open for all musicians, both Lithuanian and foreign.

Short summary of the program:
- Participants arrive in Vilnius on the 9th or 10th of July;
- 10 – 15th of July – participants will perform in various concert halls;
- 10 – 14th of July – participants will have excursions in Vilnius and Trakai;
- 11th of July – competition day;
- 15th of July – the last day of the Festival, departure.

The applicants may choose (one or both options) to:
- Prepare and deliver an individual concert (up to 35 minutes). The program is open for the interpretation of the head of the ensemble/orchestra;
- Compete in the competition (see About Competition).
Each instrumental ensemble and orchestra can perform individually and/or participate in the competition.

Concert places:
Vilnius University, Ciurlionio str. 21;
Church of St. Casimir, Didzioji str. 34;
Church of St. Catherine, Vilniaus str. 30;
Church of St. Theresa, Ausros Vartu str. 14;
State Small Theatre of Vilnius, Gedimino ave. 22;
Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, Gedimino ave. 3;
Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Antakalnio str. 1/1;
Church of St. Raphael the Archangel, Snipiskiu str. 1;
Church of St. Philip and St. Jacob, Vasario 16-osios str. 10;
Russian Drama Theatre of Lithuania, Basanavicius str. 13;
Church of the Invention of the Holy Cross, Kalvariju str. 327;
Church of the Visitation of Virgin Mary, Birutes str. 5, Trakai;
Church of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Apostle and Evangelist, Sv. Jono str. 12.

Accommodation:
The participants will be accommodated in the 3 stars hotels, in double standard rooms or apartments. All accommodation buildings (hotels) are located in the center, or near the center (2-4 kilometers away).

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<th>Hotel Type</th>
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<th>9-14th of July (5 n.)</th>
<th>9-15th of July (6 n.)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hotel***</td>
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<td>138 €</td>
<td>163 €</td>
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Cost includes accommodation, meals two time per day (breakfast and dinner) and participant fee for one person

Excursions:
We are offering two excursions:
- Vilnius Old Town and the Centre on Foot. One group, one guide (90 € for a group). You will see the astonishing Old Town (which is on the list of UNESCO), many nice churches and other places of interest.
- A trip to the old capital of Lithuania – Trakai (30 km from Vilnius). 90 € for guide, the ticket to see the inside of the castle costs 6 € per adult, 4 € for students with ISIC. With a guide you will see the beautiful city of Trakai and the amazing Trakai Castle.

The 1st of April, 2016 is the last day to apply.
Ensembles / orchestras must send their information via e-mail: info.gratulationes@gmail.com (see Application form).
Deadlines:

- 1st of April, 2016 – last day to apply (sending ensemble’s / orchestra’s information via e-mail: info.gratulationes@gmail.com);
- 2nd of April, 2016 – ensembles and orchestras will get a confirmation by e-mail including bank details information;
- ensembles / orchestras are required to transfer 30% of the cost until 15th of April. Cost includes accommodation and meals, participant fee, sightseeing with a guide;
- ensembles / orchestras are required to transfer other 70% of the cost until 15th of May.

About Competition “Musica Instrumentalis”

The 10th of July is the day for competition. The ensembles/orchestras participating in the competition will have to carry out three pieces (from your own repertoire). The total time of the performance should not exceed 45 minutes. The participants should provide the organizer with a list of those three musical works (the composition and author in full names). The winners of the Grand Prix, first, second and third places will receive certificates and special prizes. The participants will be grouped in separate cathegories according to the number of the musicians in the ensemble/orchestra.

Cathegories:
Instrumental Chamber Ensembles (up to 9 musicians);
Chamber Orchestras (up to 33 musicians);
Symphony Orchestras (up to 70 musicians).
The maximum number of the musicians is given without the conductor of the ensemble/orchestra.

The Jury:
Juozas Domarkas
Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of the Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra;

Gintaras Rinkevičius
Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of the Lithuanian State Symphony Orchestra since its establishment;

Martynas Staškus
Conductor at the Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theatre.
“Gratulationes” is organizing an International Choral Music Camp-Retreat “Sacred Music of Lithuanian Composers”. It will be held in Vilnius from July 17th to 24th, 2016. We are inviting citizens of the EU, who have musical education and/or have experience in singing in choirs. The participants will be accommodated in Trinapolis Retreat House. There will also be rehearsals, conference, activities and meals. Choirs, groups or individuals are welcome to register and participate.

Preliminary program:

**July 17th (Sun)**
- The participants are expected to arrive till 17:00;
- 18:30 – dinner;
- 19:30 – introduction.

**July 18th (Mon)**
- 8:00 – breakfast;
- 9:30-11:30 – rehearsal;
- 12:00 – lunch;
- 13:30-15:00 – conference “Characteristics of Lithuanian National Sacred Music” (in English);
- 15:30-17:00 – rehearsal;
- 17:30 – dinner.

**July 19th (Tue)**
- 8:00 – breakfast;
- 9:30-11:30 – rehearsal;
- 12:00 – lunch;
- 13:30-15:00 – seminar, discussion with a priest in English;
- 15:30-17:00 – rehearsal;
- 17:30 – dinner;
- 19:00–21:00 – excursion in the Vilnius Old Town.

**July 20th (Wed)**
- 8:00 – breakfast;
- 9:30-11:30 – rehearsal;
- 12:00 – lunch;
- 13:30-15:00 – seminar, discussion with a priest in English;
- 15:30-17:00 – rehearsal;
- 17:30 – dinner;

**July 21st (Thu)**
- 8:00 – breakfast;
- 9:30-11:30 – rehearsal;
- 12:00 – lunch;
- 15:30-17:00 – rehearsal;
- 17:30 – dinner;
- 19:00-21:00 – excursion in the Historical-Architectural Ensemble of Bernardines.

**July 22nd (Fri)**
- 8:00 – breakfast;
- 9:30-11:30 – rehearsal;
- 12:00 – lunch;
- 13:30-15:00 – seminar, discussion with a priest (in English);
- 15:30-17:00 – rehearsal;
- 17:30 – dinner;

**July 23rd (Sat)**
- 8:00 – breakfast;
- 10:00-11:00 – rehearsal in the church;
- 12:00 – lunch;
- 14:30-16:30 – extra rehearsal (if necessary);
- 18:30 – concert;
- 20:30 – dinner.

**July 24th (Sun)**
- 8:00 – breakfast;
- 10:00-11:00 – rehearsal in the church (?);
- 13:00 – concert (after the Mass) (?);
- 15:00 – lunch;
- Time to say goodbye.

Information about the rehearsals:
The participants of the camp are going to prepare for two concerts. The first concert will be held in the Church of St. Raphael the Archangel (the venue might change) on July 23rd after the evening mass. The second concert might be held in a different church in Vilnius on July 24th after mass if the participants request and of course if they do not leave on Sunday morning. The duration of the concert is one hour. There will be two rehearsals every day. The duration of the morning rehearsal – 2 hours, evening – 1,5. Vaclovas Augustinas will lead the rehearsals and conduct the concerts. He is the art director of professional choir “Jauna Muzika” (Engl. Young Music) and professor in the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre. The repertoire will consist of sacred music pieces composed by Lithuanian composers for mixed choir a cappella (in Latin). Music sheets will be sent via email within 5 days after registration.

Important deadlines and dates:
- The participants have to apply till April 1st. You can apply as a choir, group or individual. Please send your application form via this email: info.gratulationes@gmail.com
- The list of participants will be announced, sheets of music and additional information will be sent till April 5th.
- Please transfer 100 €/person till April 15th (you can pay in full).
- If you choose to pay in parts, you have to make the last payment till June 1st.

Participant fee – 200 €
The cost includes:
- Accommodation in Trinapolis Retreat House (7 nights);
- 3 meals a day (7 days);
- Public transport ticket (7 days);
- 2 excursions in the Vilnius Old Town;
- Administration fee.
“Cantate Angeli” – 2nd International Christmas Music Festival

27th of December, 2016 – 2nd of January, 2017
Vilnius, Lithuania

“Gratulationes” is an international events organizer in Lithuania. Next winter we are organizing Christmas Music Festival and we want to invite various music ensembles: choirs, vocal ensembles, instrumental chamber ensembles, orchestras to participate in this event and to celebrate New Year in Lithuania. The festival will take place from December the 27th 2016 to January the 2nd 2017.

Short summary of the program:
- Ensembles arrive in Vilnius on the 27th or 28th of December;
- 27th – 31st of December – ensembles perform in various churches;
- 28th – 30th of December – ensembles have excursions in Vilnius and Trakai;

Ensembles have to prepare 30 or 60 min. Christmas program and to perform in 2-3 concerts in Vilnius, Trakai or Kaunas. The choirs and vocal ensembles have to perform all songs a cappella.

Concert places:
Church of St. Casimir, Didzioji str. 34;
Church of St. Catherine, Vilniaus str. 30;
Church of St. Theresa, Ausros Vartu str. 14;
Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Antakalnio str. 1/1;
Church of St. Raphael the Archangel, Snipiskiu str. 1;
Church of the Invention of the Holy Cross, Kalvariju str. 327;
Church of the Visitation of Virgin Mary, Birutes str. 5, Trakai;
Vytautas the Great Church of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary, Aleksoto str. 3, Kaunas.

Accommodation:
The participants will be accommodated at the hotels, in double standard rooms or apartments. All accommodation buildings (hotels) are located in the center or near the center (2-4 kilometers away).

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<tr>
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<td>148 €</td>
<td>172 €</td>
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The cost includes: accommodation in a 3 star hotel, 2 meals a day, public transport ticket for the duration of the festival in Vilnius, participant fee for one person.

Excursions:
We are offering two excursions:
- Vilnius Old Town and the Centre on Foot. One group, one guide (90 € for a group). You will see the astonishing Old Town (which is one of UNESCO world heritage sites), many nice churches and other places of interest.
- A trip to the old capital of Lithuania – Trakai (30 km from Vilnius). 90 € for guide, the ticket to the castle costs 6 € per adult, 4 € for students with ISIC. You will see the beautiful town of Trakai and the amazing Trakai Castle.

The 1st of November 2016 is the last day to apply.
Ensembles must send their information via e-mail: info.gratulationes@gmail.com (see Application form).

Important deadlines:
- 1st of November, 2016 – the last day to apply (sending information via e-mail: info.gratulationes@gmail.com);
- 3rd of November, 2016 – ensembles will get a confirmation by e-mail including bank details;
- Ensembles are required to transfer 100% of the cost until the 15th of November. The cost includes accommodation and meals, public transport ticket in Vilnius, participant fee, sightseeing with a guide.