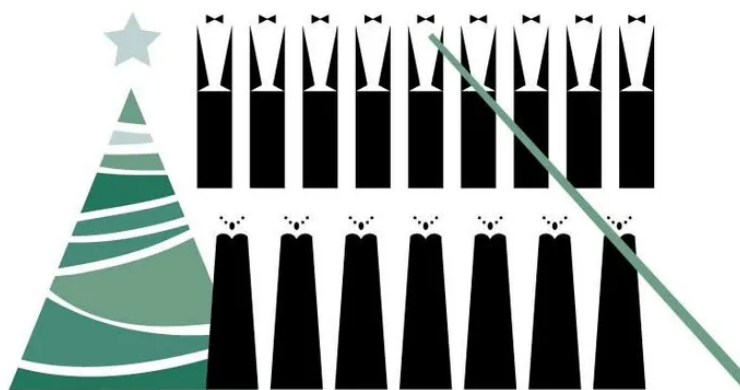


**II MIĘDZYNARODOWY FESTIWAL
PIEŚNI ADWENTOWEJ I BOŻONARODZENIOWEJ
W CIESZYNIE**

**2ND INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SONGS
IN CIESZYN**

12.12.2026



Music Without Borders Foundation

fundacjamuzykabezgranic.pl/en | festiwalswider@gmail.com

Organisers

The Festival is organised by the University of Silesia in Katowice - Faculty of Arts and Educational Science, Institute of Music in Cieszyn. The Music Without Borders Foundation is the co-organiser, and the Cieszyn Cultural Centre 'Dom Narodowy' is the partner.

Festival objectives

- to cultivate singing traditions and develop interest in choral music;
- to exchange artistic, cultural and educational experience;
- to popularise Advent and Christmas choral repertoire;
- to promote contemporary choral music;
- to improve the performance standards of amateur choirs and ensembles.

12 December 2026 · Cieszyn Cultural Centre 'Dom Narodowy', 12 Market Square, Cieszyn, Poland

01 Participation rules

The competition is open to amateur choirs and ensembles. Admission to the Festival is decided by the Artistic Council appointed by the organisers, based on the application and an assessment of the proposed repertoire. In special cases, the Council may request a recording of the ensemble.

Competition programme

- up to 15 minutes including entry and exit; exceeding the time limit may reduce the score;
- at least three choral works; one work may include an instrument if the instrumental part appears in the score;
- vocal-instrumental ensembles must perform at least three vocal-instrumental works; instrumental ensembles must perform at least three instrumental works;
- the repertoire may include Advent songs, carols, pastorals and Christmas works; winter-themed songs are not permitted;
- the programme must include at least one traditional Polish carol; a carol arranged by Józef Świder is welcome;
- the submitted programme and the order of works are binding and may not be changed.

The jury assesses performance level and programme difficulty, repertoire selection and dramaturgy, articulation, expression, interpretation and stylistic accuracy, tone production, vocal technique and intonation. Voting is confidential and the jury's decisions are final.

02 Types of ensemble

Each ensemble participates in one competition category and selects the appropriate ensemble type in the application form:

- mixed choir; equal-voice choir; children's choir; youth choir;
- chamber choir (12-24 singers); vocal ensemble (up to 12 singers); senior choir;
- vocal-instrumental ensemble; instrumental ensemble.

The ensemble manager is responsible for ensuring that performers meet the applicable age requirements.

03

Laureates' Concert and participants' duties

- qualified ensembles take part in the evening Laureates' Concert on 12 December 2026;
- ensembles prepare the carol 'Lulajże Jezuniu' arranged by Józef Świder for a joint performance; electronic scores will be supplied after qualification;
- willing ensembles may perform a 10-15 minute carol programme on the Christmas market stage in Cieszyn's Market Square;
- the organisers are not liable for unlawful performances or related copyright claims;
- application constitutes consent to the free recording and distribution of the performance and to the use of materials for Festival promotion.

04

Awards

The Grand Prix is a cash prize. The jury also awards Gold, Silver and Bronze Diplomas and a special prize for the best performance of a carol arranged by Józef Świder.

Gold Diploma	91-100 points
Silver Diploma	81-90 points
Bronze Diploma	61-80 points
Participation Diploma	below 60 points

Photojournalists' Award 'Emotion and Artistic Expression through the Lens' - PLN 1,000, funded by STOLZ Photography Team. The award is decided by the SPT photographers documenting the competition, independently of the jury's verdict.

The jury may grant additional awards and change the distribution of prizes. Prizes are taxable under applicable law.

05

Participation costs

- qualified ensembles travel at their own expense and pay an entry fee of PLN 500;
- proof of payment must be attached to the application; non-payment excludes the ensemble from the auditions;
- the fee is non-refundable after withdrawal;
- University of Silesia bank account: ING Katowice 74 1050 1214 1000 0007 0000 7909; payment reference: FESTIWAL KOLEÐ/CIESZYN.

06

Deadlines

A complete application with all attachments must be submitted by 31 October 2026 through the Foundation's online application form.

- by 15 November 2026 - notification of admission to the Festival;
- 12 December 2026 - competition auditions and the Laureates' Concert.

The organisers reserve the right to amend these regulations.

07

Contact

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