



Creative Director – International Choral Conducting Summer School (ICCSS)

Background

Now celebrating its 45th year, the Sing Ireland International Choral Conducting Summer School (ICCSS) continues to be a vital force in conductor development across Ireland and beyond. Each summer, the course brings together conductors, educators, music students, choral singers, and musicians for an intensive, inclusive, and inspiring learning experience. Designed to support all levels, from emerging conductors to seasoned practitioners, ICCSS offers tailored training in core conducting skills, rehearsal technique, interpretation, vocal development, and stylistic nuance. All of Sing Ireland's work is undertaken as part of its [Strategic Plan 2024-2029](#).

Led by a team of internationally renowned tutors, all active conductors and experienced educators, the programme also welcomes singers who wish to deepen their musicianship and enjoy a rich choral journey. ICCSS is recognised by the Department of Education and Skills as an approved summer course for teachers.

Contract Terms

January 2026 - August 2028 (To include three summers of ICCSS)

Role Overview

The Creative Director of ICCSS will lead the artistic and educational vision of the summer school, working in close partnership with the Sing Ireland team and Artistic Subcommittee. This role is central to shaping the future of conductor training in Ireland and will be carried out in a collaborative, inclusive, and strategically aligned manner.

Sing Ireland invites candidates to bring a bold and imaginative vision for the future of ICCSS, ensuring the programme continues to evolve, inspire, and reach a wide and diverse community of conductors and singers.

Key Responsibilities

Artistic Leadership

- Lead the creative and pedagogical direction of ICCSS, ensuring high artistic and educational standards.
- Design and present a three-year artistic plan, including programme content and tutor selection, in consultation with Sing Ireland.
- Develop rehearsal schedules and course structure that reflect diverse pedagogical approaches and inclusive learning environments.
- Foster a creative and respectful working process with tutors and participants, ensuring impactful experiences for all.

Tutor Engagement

- Build and lead a team of international tutors, drawing on personal networks and sector knowledge to attract outstanding educators.
- Support tutors in preparing course materials and delivering sessions that align with ICCSS values and goals.

Sector Connection

- Act as a connector between ICCSS and the wider national and international choral community.
- Advise on strategies to engage a broad range of participants, including emerging conductors, educators, and singers.
- Represent ICCSS and Sing Ireland at sector events and within professional networks.

Promotion, Fundraising & Communications

- Serve as an ambassador for ICCSS and Sing Ireland, identifying opportunities for artistic collaboration and development.
- Contribute to communications, marketing, and fundraising efforts, including presentations to potential sponsors and media engagement.
- Support the visibility and reach of ICCSS through storytelling, advocacy, and sector leadership.

Evaluation

- Participate in youth- and participant-focused evaluation processes, ensuring feedback informs future programme development.
- Work with Sing Ireland to review evaluation outcomes and contribute to continuous improvement.

Person Specification

The ideal candidate will demonstrate:

- A third-level qualification in music or equivalent conducting experience.

- Deep knowledge of the Irish and international choral sectors, including repertoire, pedagogy, and community engagement.
- Experience in leading choral workshops and managing music staff.
- Strong communication and organisational skills.
- A commitment to inclusive practice, youth development, and collaborative leadership.
- Proficiency in music notation and audio software.
- A strategic mindset and ability to articulate a compelling vision for ICCSS.

Remuneration

€6,000 per annum

- Stipend of €2,000 per annum for meetings, planning, and programming.
- Fee of €4,000 to oversee and teach as part of the conducting summer school which involves 5 full days and 2 half days.
- Travel to and from the courses and additional performances.
- Accommodation and meals are provided for the duration of the courses.
- Fees for any additional events/ performance opportunities will be agreed in advance.

Application Process

Applications must be submitted by Monday, 13 October 2025 at 12pm. To apply, please include:

- **A cover letter** (maximum 2 pages) outlining your proposed direction for the position
- **A short video** (2 minutes or less) introducing yourself, your background, and your interest in the role
- **A copy of your CV**

Interviews and auditions will be held in November 2025. (Interviews will place in November 2025).