



The Association of Canadian Choral Communities (ACCC) and Choirs Ontario are pleased to announce that the next Podium, Canada's biennial national choral music conference, will be held in Ottawa May 17 to 20, 2012. It will be the first time in the event's 30-year history that it will be held in Canada's national capital.

Podium 2012: A Capital Experience will feature concerts, workshops and exhibits over the four days spanning the Victoria Day long weekend. The concerts will put the spotlight on some of Canada's top professional and amateur choral ensembles. In addition to the guest professional groups, a Podium conference showcases some 10 to 12 amateur choirs chosen by audition from across the country. The most highly anticipated concert is always that of Canada's National Youth Choir, made up of top singers aged 18 to 25 chosen by audition in each of the provinces and territories. The 2012 edition will be under the leadership of Ivars Taurins, founder and conductor of Toronto's Tafelmusik Chamber Choir.

Workshops given by Canada's best choral practitioners will cover a wide array of topics ranging from vocal technique and performance practice to administrative and management issues. Reading sessions will focus on the best new choral scores for all types of choirs. Exhibitors will include music publishers and retailers, equipment suppliers, festival organizers and composers. Other conference events will include the National Choral Awards banquet and a silent auction.

The Podium conference is the top meeting place for Canada's choral musicians and one of the best and most accessible professional development opportunities available in the country. Conductors, music educators, church musicians, composers and choir administrators gather from all parts of the country to hear new music, to pick up fresh ideas and to exchange with colleagues.

For more information on Podium 2012: A Capital Experience and how to take part, visit the ACCC and Choirs Ontario websites. Program information will be updated regularly as guest choirs and workshop clinicians are confirmed.

ACCC: www.choralcanada.org

Choirs Ontario: www.choirsontario.org