



CANTUS FIRMUS VOCAL ENSEMBLE

CHORAL LAB – VANCOUVER, 2026-2027

CANTUS FIRMUS VOCAL ENSEMBLE

***PROFESSIONAL CHORAL LABORATORY
FOR CONDUCTORS & COMPOSERS***

SEASON 1 2026–2027

Developed and led by Trésor Music



FOUNDED AND DIRECTED BY TRÉSOR OTSHUDI



Kari Turunen, DMA

Conducting Mentor



Kari Turunen is a distinguished conductor and educator based in Vancouver, currently serving on the faculty of the Vancouver Academy of Music. Recognized for his expertise in choral conducting and his commitment to artistic excellence, he has worked with a wide range of ensembles and emerging conductors. As Conducting Mentor for the Cantus Firmus Choral Lab, he brings invaluable insight, guidance, and professional perspective, supporting the artistic development of the project and its participants.

SEASON 1

Tresor Otshudi

Founder & Artistic Director



Trésor Otshudi is a Vancouver-based choral conductor, singer, composer, and educator with 20+ years of experience. He is currently pursuing a Master's in Choral Conducting at Messiah University and an Artist Diploma in Voice at the Vancouver Academy of Music. He is the Founder and Artistic Director of Cantus Firmus Choral Lab, Trésor Music, and Juste Chanter Choir.



What is Cantus Firmus Choral Lab



Cantus Firmus Choral Lab is a professional choral laboratory created to give conductors and composers meaningful, hands-on experience working with professional singers.

SEASON 1

Meeting monthly at the Vancouver Academy of Music, the 2026–2027 season brings together 8–9 professional singers, a professional pianist for accompanied repertoire, and conducting mentorship from Kari Turunen, DMA.

Conductors receive substantial podium time to rehearse repertoire, develop rehearsal technique, experiment with musical ideas, and receive professional feedback.

Composers may use the lab to hear and rehearse their own choral works with experienced singers.

Season 1 explores 15 works spanning different periods and styles of Western classical music alongside musical traditions and voices from around the world. The season culminates in a live recital at Koerner Recital Hall on April 30, 2027, with selected guest-conducting opportunities available by approval of the artistic leadership.

The name Cantus Firmus comes from the historical practice of using a “fixed melody” as the foundation around which other musical voices develop. In the same spirit, the Lab provides a strong musical foundation from which conductors, composers, and singers can explore, collaborate, and grow.



Rehearsal Sessions | Sundays, 2:00–4:00 p.m.



September 13, 2026 — Season Launch

SEASON 1

October 11, 2026

November 15, 2026 — Yeung Ensemble Room (YER)

December 13, 2026 — Yeung Ensemble Room (YER)

January 17, 2027

February 7, 2027

March 14, 2027

April 11, 2027

April 25, 2027



Rehearsals take place at the Vancouver Academy of Music, primarily in Mary Olson Hall.

Season 1 Final Recital

Friday, April 30, 2027

7:00–8:00 p.m.

Koerner Recital Hall

Vancouver Academy of Music





2026

Season 1 Venues | Vancouver Academy of Music

Vancouver Academy of Music
1270 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, BC

Cantus Firmus Choral Lab Season 1 takes place across three spaces at the Vancouver Academy of Music:

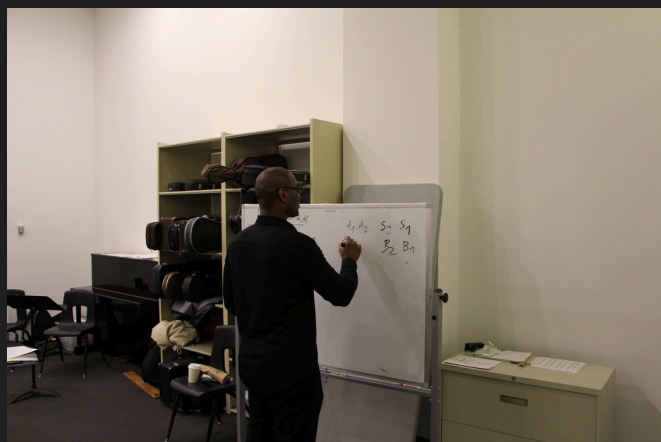
- Mary Olson Hall — Primary rehearsal venue
- Yeung Ensemble Room (YER) — Selected rehearsal sessions
- Koerner Recital Hall — Season 1 Final Recital, April 30, 2027



Koerner Recital Hall

CANTUS FIRMUS

SEASON 1 LAUNCH — SEPTEMBER 13, 2026





Participation Options & Rates

Observer / Auditor — \$100

Attend and observe one complete 2-hour rehearsal session_____

Composer Lab — \$300

Receive 30 minutes with the professional ensemble to rehearse, hear, and explore one choral work.

Conducting Lab — 30 Minutes — \$300

Receive 30 minutes of podium and rehearsal time with the ensemble.

Conducting Lab — 1 Hour — \$550

Receive 60 minutes of podium and rehearsal time with the ensemble.

Conducting Lab — Full Session — \$950

Conduct and rehearse the ensemble for the full 2-hour session.

Final Recital — Guest Conductor — \$350

Conduct one prepared work during the April 30 final recital.

Approved conductors may add the \$350 recital opportunity.

Final Recital Participation

Guest conducting in the April 30 recital is not guaranteed and is subject to approval by the artistic leadership of Cantus Firmus Choral Lab, based on preparation, repertoire suitability, and performance readiness.



Join Us for Season 1

Season 1 of Cantus Firmus Choral Lab is now underway at the Vancouver Academy of Music, and conductors and composers are invited to join us during the 2026–2027 season.

For conductors, the Lab offers meaningful podium time with professional singers, opportunities to develop rehearsal technique and gesture, explore repertoire, test musical ideas, and receive feedback in a focused professional environment.

For composers, Cantus Firmus provides the opportunity to hear a choral work rehearsed by experienced singers, make discoveries in real time, and better understand how the music functions practically in rehearsal and performance.

Participants may join for a single session, observe first, rehearse a work with the ensemble, or pursue a more substantial conducting experience. Selected conductors may also be considered for the April 30 final recital, subject to approval by the artistic leadership of Cantus Firmus Choral Lab.

Cantus Firmus is designed for artists who want more than theory alone: it is a place to conduct, create, experiment, refine, and grow through direct work with professional choral musicians.

If you are a conductor or composer looking for a serious, supportive, and practical choral development opportunity in Vancouver, we invite you to join us this season.



infos@tresormusic.ca
www.tresormusic.ca

CANTUS FIRMUS
