

AMIC 2026 Regulations

Orquestra do Alto Minho hereby presents the first edition of the Alto Minho International Choir (AMIC), to take place between July 22nd and August 2nd 2026, in the city of Viana do Castelo.

This residency aims to promote choral and choral-symphonic practice, artistic development, and the personal enrichment of its participants, through the sharing that will take place among musicians, conductors, and soloists—important musical references on the national and international scene—fostering interaction and the exchange of experiences among all.

This edition will feature an *acappella* program, followed by a joint participation with the Alto Minho Youth Orchestra, for the performance of Gustav Mahler’s Symphony No. 2.

Conductors and Soloists

The first edition of AMIC will have Maestra Donka Miteva as principal conductor. Orchestral rehearsals and concerts will be led by Maestro Miguel Sepúlveda and will feature the participation of soloists Silvia Sequeira (soprano) and Cláudia Ribas (mezzo-soprano).

Application, Selection, and Admission

Applications are submitted online by completing the following form: <https://forms.gle/t9sDcn1Lki7G8fX69>

Any singer aged 16¹ or over (completed by 22/07/2026) is eligible to apply to AMIC. There is no upper age limit.

The selection audition will take place by video, to be sent to oam.amic.choir@gmail.com by March 22nd. No type of editing is permitted, and the defined audition program must be respected.

Videos must be uploaded to YouTube as “unlisted”. Candidates are asked to follow this title format: “First name and surname – Voice part and *divisi*” (Example: António Carvalho – Tenor 2). The recording may be made in separate takes; a continuous take is not mandatory.

Results will be announced by April 19th via the email address provided by candidates in the application form. All candidates will be contacted, whether selected, placed on the waiting list, or not selected.

The selection of candidates is the responsibility of the Orquestra do Alto Minho.

¹ refer to Addendum No. 1 to the AMIC Regulations (March 3, 2026)

Note: The application form may be submitted before the video; both do not need to be sent at the same time.

Audition Repertoire

The audition repertoire is available on the website (www.orquestradoaltominho.info) under “AMIC > Excertos/Excerpts”.

Participation Fee

After the announcement of results, and in order to secure their place in the first edition of the Alto Minho International Choir, selected candidates must pay one of the following participation fees:

- a) €210 (two hundred and ten euros) – fee with accommodation (12 nights) and meals included;
- b) €110 (one hundred and ten euros) – fee without accommodation, including only the meals related to the work schedule;
- c) €70 (seventy euros) – fee without accommodation and without meals (includes meals on concert days).

These amounts must be paid in full by May 31st.

Option a) may be paid in full or in installments, upon written request to the organization by June 24th, under the following conditions:

- First installment: €100 by May 31st;
- Second installment: by June 14th (if it is necessary to pay in more installments, please contact us at oam.amic.choir@gmail.com.)

In the event of no response and/or non-payment of the fee by May 31st, the candidate's place will be offered to the next person on the waiting list.

In case of cancellation after May 31st, no refund will be issued.

We encourage applicants to seek financial support from the GDA Foundation or their local municipalities to help cover the participation fee.

Accommodation, Meals, and Venues

The AMIC organization provides accommodation at the IPVC Residences – Polytechnic Institute of Viana do Castelo, as well as meals during the residency period, according to the selected fee category.

The organization may facilitate accommodation at the same residences on the night prior to the start of the residency (21 July), subject to the payment of an additional fee, to be communicated later by email. Payment for this night must be made by 21 July.

Activities will take place at the facilities of the Escola Profissional Artística do Alto Minho, Escola Secundária de Monserrate, and the Centro Cultural de Viana do Castelo.

All travel expenses to and from the residency are the responsibility of the participants.

Concerts

The first edition of AMIC has scheduled: two *acappella* concerts on July 25th and 26th; three concerts together with the AMYO on July 31st, August 1st and August 2nd. Concert venues will be announced in due course on social media and the website.

Responsibility

Participants must abide by the program schedule. They are also responsible for maintaining the condition of the facilities and equipment provided during the program. Any damages caused will be the responsibility of the musician involved. On the first day of the program, all participants must sign a responsibility agreement.

Data Protection and Image Rights

As the organizing entity, Orquestra do Alto Minho is responsible for handling applicants' personal data, which will be used exclusively for AMIC management purposes. The organisation reserves the right to capture photos and videos solely for the promotion and dissemination of the Alto Minho Youth Orchestra and the Alto Minho International Choir.

Questions & Additional Information

For any questions regarding this matter, candidates should contact the Orquestra do Alto Minho directly via email at oam.amic.choir@gmail.com.

Any questions or unspecified cases related to these regulations will be addressed and decided by the organization.

Addendum No. 1 to the AMIC 2026 Regulations

Published on January 21, 2026

Considering the high number of expressions of interest, in the section “Application, Selection, and Admission”, where it reads “Any singer aged 18 or over”, it shall now read “Any singer aged 16 or over”.

Amendment dated March 3, 2026.