



International Confederation
of Music Societies

MEMBER NEWS BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2026

News from Our Member Associations

Competitions, education, cultural advocacy and international cooperation across the CISM network — a curated digest of what our member associations announced during September and October 2026.

• 12 featured stories

• 4 items in brief

• 10 countries & regions

• Update as of 22 October 2026

EDITORIAL

Dear friends and colleagues,

Please find below a selection of news and announcements from our member associations.

This edition brings together developments in competitions, education, cultural advocacy and international cooperation published during September and October 2026. From ministerial patronage for the European Championship for Wind Orchestras in Stuttgart to the return of Saint Cecilia celebrations to the restored Basilica in Norcia, the stories collected here show a network that is active, generous and outward-looking.

A separate section highlights current events and opportunities for which publication dates could not be confirmed, followed by a calendar of upcoming dates and a full list of sources so that every item can be read in the original.

We wish you an inspiring read — and look forward to your news for the next edition.

With best wishes,

CISM — International Confederation of Music Societies

12

FEATURED
STORIES

10

COUNTRIES &
REGIONS

11

UPCOMING
DATES

COMING UP NEXT

24 – 25 Oct	"Musik in kleinen Gruppen" Triesen · Liechtenstein
20 – 22 Nov	European Championship for Wind Orchestras Stuttgart · Germany
21 – 22 Nov	ANBIMA Saint Cecilia celebrations Norcia · Italy
28 – 29 Nov	Swiss National Brass Band Championships Montreux · Switzerland

Full calendar on page 8

IN THIS ISSUE

GERMANY

Patronage for the European Championship for Wind Orchestras BDMV 3

Joint appeal to protect amateur music funding BSM · Saarland 3

Orchestra workshop with Michael Geisler BSM · Saarland 3

ITALY

National Saint Cecilia celebrations in Norcia ANBIMA 4

Composition prize not awarded ANBIMA 4

FRANCE

Applications open for the 2027 National Championship CMF 4

Music, health and support for music schools CMF 5

SWITZERLAND

Conducting Competition 2026 ASM/SBV 5

Swiss brass bands return to Montreux ASM/SBV 5

SPAIN · SLOVENIA · MALTA

"Marches of the World" in Gran Canaria CESM 6

Competition announcements for 2027 ZSG 6

International masterclasses for local musicians Għaqda Nazzjonali Każini tal-Banda 6

ALSO INSIDE

In brief: Austria, Liechtenstein, South Tyrol, Flanders 7

Save the date: upcoming dates at a glance 8

Sources & links 9

DE Germany
BDMV

■ 22 September 2026

COMPETITIONS

WHEN

20 – 22 November 2026

WHERE

**Stuttgart, alongside
BRAWO**

PATRON

**Cem Özdemir, Minister-
President of Baden-
Württemberg**

Patronage for the European Championship for Wind Orchestras

On 22 September, the Bundesvereinigung Deutscher Musikverbände (BDMV) announced that Baden-Württemberg's Minister-President, Cem Özdemir, had accepted patronage of the European Championship for Wind Orchestras (ECWO).

The championship will take place in Stuttgart from **20 to 22 November 2026**, alongside the BRAWO wind orchestra trade fair. The patronage recognises the cultural and social importance of wind music, voluntary engagement and international exchange.¹

[Read the BDMV announcement →](#)**DE** Saarland
BSM

■ 10 September 2026

CULTURAL ADVOCACY

CURRENT FUNDING

€4.6 million per year

DRAFT BUDGET 2027

€3 million (≈ 35% less)

A Joint Appeal to Protect Amateur Music Funding

In September, the Bund Saarländischer Musikvereine (BSM) joined other German music organisations in calling for the national Amateurmusikfonds to retain its annual funding of **€4.6 million**. The draft federal budget for 2027 proposes a reduction to €3 million, approximately 35% less.

The appeal emphasises the contribution of amateur ensembles to cultural participation, education, community life and social cohesion. It also highlights the importance of reliable support for organisations sustained largely by volunteers.²

[Read the joint appeal, published on 10 September →](#)**DE** Saarland
BSM

■ 22 September 2026

EDUCATION

WHEN

20 – 22 November 2026

WHERE

**CEB Academy, Merzig-
Hilbringen**

WITH

**Michael Geisler,
composer and conductor**

Orchestra Workshop with Michael Geisler

An announcement published on **22 September** invites musicians to an orchestra workshop with composer and conductor **Michael Geisler**, taking place from **20 to 22 November 2026** at the CEB Academy in Merzig-Hilbringen.

The workshop is organised by the Merzig-Wadern district within BSM.³

[Workshop information →](#)

IT Italy
ANBIMA

■ 19 October 2026

**COMMUNITY &
HERITAGE**

WHEN

21 – 22 November 2026

WHERE

Norcia, Umbria

CONDUCTOR

**Giovanni Ieie, ANBIMA
Umbria Regional Youth
Band**

National Saint Cecilia Celebrations in Norcia

On **19 October**, ANBIMA announced its national Saint Cecilia celebrations, organised with ANBIMA Umbria in **Norcia on 21 and 22 November 2026**.

The programme includes a concert by the ANBIMA Umbria Regional Youth Band, conducted by Giovanni Ieie, together with band processions and performances. The celebrations carry particular significance as musicians return to the restored Basilica of Saint Benedict following the earthquake. The event presents wind bands as a source of solidarity, inclusion and renewed community life.⁴

[Read the invitation →](#)**IT** Italy
ANBIMA

■ 6 October 2026

COMPOSITION

COMPETITION

**11th "Musica nella Città"
national composition
prize**

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

**Marco Tamanini, "Butter
Canapé"**

Composition Prize Not Awarded

In an announcement dated **6 October**, ANBIMA reported that the jury of the 11th national composition competition "**Musica nella Città**" had unanimously decided not to award the prize.

The jury nevertheless singled out **Marco Tamanini's "Butter Canapé"**, submitted under the motto "Walking in the woods", for special recognition.⁵

[Read the announcement →](#)**FR** France
CMF

■ 3 September 2026

COMPETITIONS

WHEN

22 May 2027

WHERE

**Palais du Littoral,
Grande-Synthe**

SET WORK

**"Odysseia, Op. 12" –
Maxime Aulio**

Applications Open for the 2027 National Wind Orchestra Championship

The Confédération Musicale de France announced applications for the third **National Wind Orchestra Championship**, scheduled for **22 May 2027** at the Palais du Littoral in Grande-Synthe.

The announcement, dated **3 September**, invites eligible orchestras classified in *Division Honneur* to apply, subject to approval by the Artistic Commission. The set work is "**Odysseia, Op. 12**" by **Maxime Aulio**.⁶

[Championship information and applications →](#)



September 2026

EDUCATION & SUPPORT

INITIATIVE 1

Music and Health weekend, with CMF Bourgogne-Franche-Comté

INITIATIVE 2

Webinar on the ECLAT collective agreement

Music, Health and Support for Music Schools

September announcements also highlighted professional development and organisational support. These included a **Music and Health weekend**, presented with CMF Bourgogne-Franche-Comté, and a webinar explaining the **ECLAT collective agreement** for association-run music schools.

These initiatives address practical issues affecting musical organisations, from musicians' well-being to employment and management responsibilities.^{7,8}

[Music and Health weekend →](#)[ECLAT webinar for music schools →](#)

10 – 13 September 2026

COMPETITIONS

WHERE

Baden — within the SWISS WINDBAND AWARD

2ND PRIZES

Luca Belz · Romain Gili

3RD PRIZE

Julia Wyser

Conducting Competition 2026

The **Conducting Competition 2026** took place in Baden from **10 to 13 September**, for the first time within the SWISS WINDBAND AWARD.

The jury awarded second prizes to **Luca Belz and Romain Gili**, and a third prize to **Julia Wyser**. A subsequent article shares the prizewinners' reflections on the competition and its significance for their development as conductors.⁹

[Read the interviews with the prizewinners →](#)

October 2026

COMPETITIONS

WHEN

28 – 29 November 2026

WHERE

Montreux Music & Convention Center

LINE-UP

59 bands · 6 categories · 51st edition

Swiss Brass Bands Return to Montreux

An October article announces the return of the **Swiss National Brass Band Championships** to the Montreux Music & Convention Center. The 51st edition will take place on **28 and 29 November 2026**, bringing together **59 bands across six categories**.

The event will also honour **Véronique Gyger-Pitteloud** with the ASBB Merit Award, recognising her pioneering contribution as a performer, educator and conductor.¹⁰

[Read the championship preview →](#)



■ 15 September 2026

INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION

WHEN

Sep – Nov 2026

WHERE

Gran Canaria

DEDICATED TO

D. Ruperto Armas Reyes

"Marches of the World" Connects Bands and Communities

An announcement published on **15 September** presents the sixth **Gran Canaria Island Band Gathering**, dedicated to D. Ruperto Armas Reyes.

Under the theme "**Marchas del Mundo**" – "**Marches of the World**", participating bands are presenting free concerts across the island. Running from September to November, the programme combines international repertoire with the promotion of local band heritage and cultural exchange.¹¹

[Read the announcement and concert programme →](#)

■ 4 September 2026

COMPETITIONS

WHEN

10 April 2027

WHERE

Velenje

EVENTS

15th Youth Wind Band Competition · 45th Slovenian Wind Band Competition

Competition Announcements for 2027

On **4 September**, the Slovenian Wind Band Association published calls for the **15th Youth Wind Band Competition** and the **45th Slovenian Wind Band Competition**, covering the concert and second difficulty levels, together with an open-category performance opportunity.

Both events are scheduled for **10 April 2027 in Velenje**.^{12, 13}

[15th Youth Wind Band Competition →](#)[45th Slovenian Wind Band Competition →](#)

■ 23 September 2026

EDUCATION & YOUTH

PARTICIPANTS

50+ Maltese musicians · 10 instruments

DELIVERED BY

US Naval Forces Europe and Africa Band

YOUTH INITIATIVE

100+ young people from 30 band societies last year

International Masterclasses for Local Musicians

The US Naval Forces Europe and Africa Band delivered masterclasses for more than 50 Maltese musicians across ten instruments, offering participants an opportunity to develop their instrumental skills and learn from professional military musicians.

The initiative was facilitated by the US Embassy, with MCAST in Paola and Banda 12th May of Żebbuġ providing venues and supporting the activities. The association thanked its partners for their contribution to this learning opportunity for local musicians.

In a separate post dated 23 September, the association encouraged member societies to promote youth participation in its activities, noting that the previous year's initiative had attracted more than 100 young people from 30 band societies.¹⁴

[Further information on the association's Facebook page →](#)

IN BRIEF

Further Current Events and Opportunities

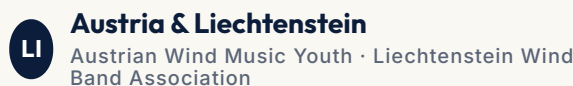
Current events and opportunities from the network for which publication dates could not be confirmed.



44th Austrian Wind Music Festival fills Vienna

The 44th Austrian Wind Music Festival brought more than **900 musicians from Austria, South Tyrol and Germany** to Vienna on **5 September 2026**, celebrating wind music in the heart of the city.¹⁵

[Read the festival report →](#)



"Musik in kleinen Gruppen" chamber music competition

The competition will take place in **Triesen on 24 and 25 October 2026**. Organised by Austrian Wind Music Youth and the Liechtenstein Wind Band Association, it will welcome **47 ensembles from Austria, South Tyrol and Liechtenstein**.¹⁶

[Competition details →](#)



Leadership workshops and the con brio WEST conducting competition

Current announcements include workshops on motivation, leadership and cooperation in voluntary organisations, as well as the **con brio WEST conducting competition**, taking place in **Innsbruck on 20 February 2027**. The application deadline for the competition is **30 November 2026**.¹⁷

[VSM announcements →](#)



A busy October calendar

The October calendar includes a gathering of senior orchestras on **22 October**, a youth orchestra festival and an accordion play-in on **25 October**, and **"Iedereen Piano!"** in Bruges on **31 October**.¹⁸

[VLAMO calendar and activities →](#)

"Wind bands as a source of solidarity, inclusion and renewed community life."

From ANBIMA's invitation to the national Saint Cecilia celebrations in Norcia, 21 – 22 November 2026 · page 4

COVERAGE NOTE

No September–October 2026 announcements could be confirmed in the accessible [WZChiO communications section](#) (Poland).¹⁹

— SAVE THE DATE

Upcoming dates at a glance

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2026

24 – 25 Oct
TRIESEN · LI
"Musik in kleinen Gruppen" chamber music competition
47 ensembles from Austria, South Tyrol and Liechtenstein

25 Oct
FLANDERS · BE
VLAMO youth orchestra festival & accordion play-in
Followed by "Iedereen Piano!" in Bruges on 31 October

20 – 22 Nov
STUTTGART · DE
European Championship for Wind Orchestras (ECWO)
Alongside the BRAWO trade fair · patron Cem Özdemir

20 – 22 Nov
MERZIG · DE
Orchestra workshop with Michael Geisler
CEB Academy, Merzig-Hilbringen · BSM

21 – 22 Nov
NORCIA · IT
ANBIMA national Saint Cecilia celebrations
Concert, processions and return to the Basilica of Saint Benedict

28 – 29 Nov
MONTREUX · CH
51st Swiss National Brass Band Championships
59 bands in six categories · ASBB Merit Award

DEADLINES & 2027

30 Nov
DEADLINE
Applications close: con brio WEST conducting competition
VSM · competition in Innsbruck on 20 February 2027

Sep – Nov
GRAN CANARIA · ES
"Marches of the World" island band gathering
Free concerts across the island · dedicated to D. Ruperto Armas Reyes

20 Feb 2027
INNSBRUCK · AT
con brio WEST conducting competition
VSM announcement

10 Apr 2027
VELENJE · SI
15th Youth & 45th Slovenian Wind Band Competitions
Concert and second difficulty levels, plus open category

22 May 2027
GRANDE-SYNTHE · FR
3rd CMF National Wind Orchestra Championship
Division Honneur · set work "Odyssea, Op. 12" by Maxime Aulio



Share your news for the next edition

Member associations are invited to send announcements, competition calls, event dates and reports for the next edition of the bulletin.

WEBSITE

cism.info

FOLLOW CISM

facebook.com/MediaCISM ·

x.com/CISM/CISM1

ABOUT

International Confederation of Music Societies

· Founded 1949 · UNESCO Partner

— READ THE ORIGINALS

Sources & links

Every story in this bulletin is based on an announcement published by the member association concerned. Numbers correspond to the references in the text; all links are clickable.

- 1 BDMV — ECWO patronage**
bdmv.de/ministerpraesident-cem-oezdemir-uebernimm-t-schirmherrschaft-fuer-die-european-championship-for-wind-orchestras-2026/
- 2 BSM — Amateurmusikfonds appeal**
saarlmusikvereine.de/amateurmusikfonds-im-bundesh-aushalt-2027/
- 3 BSM — Orchestra workshop**
saarlmusikvereine.de/orchesterseminar-2026-mit-michael-geisler/
- 4 ANBIMA — Saint Cecilia in Norcia**
anbima.it/news-nazionali-contenitore/news-nazionali/3100-santa-cecilia-a-norcia-21-e-22-novembre-2026
- 5 ANBIMA — Composition prize**
anbima.it/news-nazionali-contenitore/news-nazionali/3096-non-assegnato-il-xi-premio-nazionale-di-composizione-musica-nella-citta
- 6 CMF — National Championship 2027**
cmf-musique.org/championnat-national-dorchestres-d-harmonie-les-candidatures-sont-ouvertes/
- 7 CMF — Music and Health weekend**
cmf-musique.org/cmf-bourgogne-franche-comte-en-partenariat-avec-la-confederation-musicale-de-france-week-end-musique-et-sante/
- 8 CMF — ECLAT webinar**
cmf-musique.org/webinaire-rh-la-convention-eclat-de-cryptee-pour-les-ecoles-de-musique-associatives-du-reseau-de-la-cmf/
- 9 ASM/SBV — Conducting Competition 2026**
windband.ch/fr/aktuelles/cc26-eindrucke-der-preistrager-und-der-preistragerin
- 10 ASM/SBV — Brass bands in Montreux**
unisono.windband.ch/fr/les-brass-bands-retrouvent-montreux/
- 11 CESM — Marches of the World**
coessm.org/la-federacion-grancanaria-de-bandas-de-musica-presenta-la-vi-edicion-del-encuentro-insular-de-bandas-de-musica-de-gran-canaria-2026-d-ruperto-armas-reyes/
- 12 ZSG — 15th Youth Wind Band Competition**
zsg.si/post/razpis-za-15-tekmovanje-mladinskih-godb-2027
- 13 ZSG — 45th Slovenian Wind Band Competition**
zsg.si/post/razpis-za-45-tekmovanje-slovenskih-godb-na-koncertni-in-2-tezavnostni-stopnji-ter-nastop-na-odprti-stopnji
- 14 Ghaqda Nazzjoni Każini tal-Banda — Facebook**
facebook.com/GhaqdaKaziniTalBanda/
- 15 ÖBV — 44th Austrian Wind Music Festival**
blasmusik.at/aktuelles/aktuelles/44-oesterreichisches-blasmusikfest-wien-im-festgewand/
- 16 Musik in kleinen Gruppen 2026**
blasmusik.at/jugend/wettbewerbe/musik-in-kleinen-gruppen/bundeswettbewerb-musik-in-kleinen-gruppen-2026/
- 17 VSM — announcements**
vsm.bz.it
- 18 VLAMO — calendar and activities**
vlamo.be
- 19 WZChiO — communications section**
wzchio.pl/news/c-11/komunikaty

ABOUT THIS BULLETIN

"News from Our Member Associations" is compiled by CISM from announcements published by its member associations. This edition covers September and October 2026 and reflects information available as of 22 October 2026. Dates and details are those stated by the organising associations; please check the original links for updates.

CISM

International Confederation of Music Societies · Founded 1949 · UNESCO Partner

cism.info · facebook.com/MediaCISM