

HANDBOOK

For mentors of the Youth Committee

(developed by the Youth Committee of the European Choral Association –Europa Cantat in 2008)

- What is the “mentor-job” about *in general*?
 - o to enhance the dialogue between experienced people in the structure of the association and youngsters
 - o increase the dialogue on the association’s reflexive attitude towards youth
 - o educational purposes, especially help the younger yc-members to understand the complex international music organisation principles (even by showing that you don’t understand everything too).

- Which way of combination “mentor-YC member” is useful?
 - o It can be a “one-to-one” mentoring (in this case the best is the one with the least cultural/language differences, to make the exchange of experience as useful as possible)
 - o Or it can be one mentor for the full YC, for example a former Youth Committee member who is now on the Board

- What can be tasks for a mentor *in detail*?
 - o Look for moments at events that are visited together or when the Board and the Youth Committee meet in parallel, to talk to the group and to the YC members individually
 - o Have skype/zoom calls individually
 - o Ask to be involved in the meeting preparations, to attend at least some meetings and to receive the minutes / documentation of the meetings
 - React to documents if you feel a need for it
 - o Regularly communicate via E-mail, also remind YC members that they can ask for advise whenever they need it

- How can mentor and YC member communicate in a useful way?
 - o If they live near each other: physical meetings (also possible when visiting events together, see above)
 - o Otherwise phone, skype, zoom or other digital communication tools

- How much contact is useful anyhow?
 - o This has to be decided case by case