



## Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music

**The Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music (PIMS) invites applications for a teaching position in Direction of children's choirs / vocal training to begin October 2025.  
(Magnificat Chair)**

We are seeking a motivated and skilled individual who can promote the growth of young people through singing and prayer, helping them become more deeply rooted within the Catholic faith.

The Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music is the University of Music of the Holy See. It was founded in 1911 by Pope Pius X and grants the degrees of Baccalaureate (3 years), Licentiate (2 years) and Doctorate. The courses are taught in Italian.

We offer the chance for the successful candidate to actively contribute to the academic and artistic life in the heart of the Roman Curia and to be the first chair in the Direction of Children's Choirs in the Italian-speaking world. The successful candidate will be responsible for developing and managing a children's or youth choir, fostering a stimulating and inclusive environment. They will be expected to conduct courses for children's choirs (*pueri cantores*) and provide vocal training to PIMS students. Furthermore, they will integrate safeguarding principles into their daily work.

The chair is funded by the Stiftung Magnificat Foundation (Munich) and requires a weekly commitment of 12-16 hours of teaching. The role will be classified as an *docente incaricato*, with an annual contract at Level VI, as outlined in the General Regulations of the Roman Curia. The contract may be renewed for five years, after which, upon a positive evaluation, the appointed teacher may be eligible for further renewal.

Interested candidates should submit their application for the competition addressed to the *Preside* (Rector) of PIMS, filling out the application form found on the Institute's website <<https://www.musicasacra.va/en/teach-with-us.html>>.

Additionally, a brief curriculum vitae detailing educational, teaching, and artistic qualifications must be included.

A letter of recommendation from an ecclesiastical authority (Bishop, Superior, Parish Priest, or other) must also be attached.

Applications, accompanied by the application form, access qualifications, curriculum vitae, and letter of recommendation, must be sent exclusively by email to [concorso@musicasacra.va](mailto:concorso@musicasacra.va) by March 21, 2025.

## Requirements

The candidate must:

- Submit the application by the specified deadline.
- Hold a postgraduate degree in sacred music, music education, choral conducting, singing, or a related field.
- Have proven experience in conducting children's and youth choirs
- Have proven experience in vocal training.
- Professional profile with the following characteristics:
  1. Competence in teaching methodology and working with children's choirs (preferably with knowledge of various methods, such as Ward or Kodály)
  2. Expertise in safeguarding (protection of minors)
  3. Excellent communication and leadership skills
  4. Expertise and experience in pedagogy
  5. Basic knowledge of developmental psychology
  6. Experience in conducting workshops and vocal training activities
  7. A team player
- Be proficient in the Italian language.
- Be proficient in the English language.

The selection committee will be appointed by the Rector (*Preside*) of PIMS and will be composed of the Vice Rector, two faculty members, an external expert, and the Rector.

## The Application Process

First phase: evaluation of the qualifications and curricula presented.

Second phase: candidates selected in the first phase will be invited to

- Rehearse a piece with a children's choir (ca. 20 minutes)
- Conduct individual vocal training with a child (ca. 20 minutes)
- Conduct individual vocal training with a student of PIMS (ca. 20 minutes)
- Be interviewed by the committee

Information regarding the practical tests (the pieces to be prepared, the ability of the choir, the age of the participants) will be provided to candidates one week prior to the examination. During the tests, candidates must demonstrate proficiency in both Italian and English.

The performances will be held at PIMS. At the end of the competition, the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music will communicate the results to the candidates called to the second phase. The candidate invited to receive the teaching position will

subsequently be appointed by the Dicastery for Culture and Education of the Holy See. Applicants are not entitled to compensation for the travel and lodging expenses that arise during the application procedure.