



**Zimfira Poloz** is globally recognized as an expert in choral artistry for young voices.

She has been decorated with numerous awards, including Honoured Representative of Education of Kazakhstan, Hamilton's VIP Award, and the Leslie Bell Prize for Choral Conducting (Ontario Arts Council). Recent adjudication and guest conductor highlights include: Europa Cantat (France, 2018), 1st International Choral Alberto Grau Composition Competition (Venezuela, 2017), America Cantat (Bahamas, 2016), and World Choir Games (China 2010, Cincinnati 2012, Latvia 2014, Russia 2016).

Zimfira established her musical credentials in Kazakhstan, serving as founder and principal of the nation's first choir school. Upon her arrival in Canada, Zimfira found a home with Toronto Children's Chorus, St. Michael's Choir School, and eventually as Artistic Director of Hamilton Children's Choir and Young Voices Toronto.

In 2018, Zimfira celebrates her 15th anniversary as the Artistic Director of Hamilton Children's Choir (HCC). Under Zimfira's direction, the choir has transformed into one of the most acclaimed youth choral programs in the world, including appearances across North America, Europe and Asia ("Podium" Choral Canada Conference 2012 and 2018, ACDA National Conference 2017, America Cantat XIII 2016, Polyfolia 2014, IFCM World Symposium 2014, 1st Xinghai International Choral Competition 2013, Euroradio Choral Competition 2009).

Zimfira teaches in the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto. As of 2017, her curated Canadian choral collection can be found with Cypress Choral Music: The Zimfira Collection.