



REGIONAL FESTIVALS 2010

1 Conditions of Entry

A A school may enter as many choirs as it wishes. Two single-sex schools may combine to form a mixed-voice choir. However, note items M & N.

B All singers must be full-time day students from Year 7 to 13/14 with an upper age limit of 19 as of 1 January (in conformity with the Education Act 1989, Section 3). The inclusion of Year 7 and 8 students is limited to schools designated as "Area", or Year 7 to 13 Schools only, with a maximum of 30% of the choir being Year 7 and 8. Each choir must have a minimum of 12 singers. No maximum number of singers is set. NB: There are specific requirements concerning make-up of choirs and the number of choirs from any school in the Finale. This information appears in section N below, as well as in the National Finale Conditions.

C Each choir must present a programme of no more than ten minutes' total aggregate performance time. Exceeding the time limit will disqualify a choir from selection to the National Finale.

D To be eligible for selection to the National Finale choirs must perform three pieces, with one piece selected from each of the three designated categories of musical styles (see list on following page).

E A choir may not perform repertoire it sang at THE BIG SING 2009 Regional Festival or National Finale.

F All members of a choir must be involved in that choir's entire programme. Extensive use of solo voices is discouraged.

G Choirs may sing with or without a conductor. Conductors, accompanists and backing musicians may be adults or students.

H If appropriate to the musical style, e.g. vocal jazz, the use of microphones is permitted. A backing tape may be used where appropriate.

I A choir may enter a Regional Festival regardless of whether or not it wishes to be considered for selection to the National Finale.

J All choirs will receive a written report on their performance after the Regional Festival.

K Choir directors must provide to the Regional Coordinator a clear copy (or words, where no written music exists) of each piece to be sung. A second copy must be provided for the sound engineer.

L Each school must hold a current APRA licence.

M At the conclusion of the Regional Festivals, the adjudicators meet to select the choirs to be invited to attend the National Finale. No more than **two choirs** will be selected from any one school.

N For choirs wishing to be considered for the National Finale only: limits are in place concerning the percentage of singers from one choir that may sing in another.

i) No more than 20% of the members of a larger single-sex choir may sing in a smaller single-sex choir from the same school.

ii) No more than 70% of the members of a single-sex choir may sing in a mixed choir.

O Choirs wishing to be considered for the Guest Choir Programme should apply when they register for the Regional Festival.

2. General Information

A Entries must be received (with entry fee) no later than **Friday 19 March 2010**. Online registration will be available at THE BIG SING page (www.nzcf.org.nz). For those who still prefer them, downloadable forms will also be available from this site.

B Late entries with a penalty fee of \$80 will be accepted up to Tuesday 6 April 2010.

C The entry fee is \$8.50 per singer. Students in multiple choirs from one school are levied one amount of \$8.50 each. The maximum entry fee payable per school is \$500 plus any late fee. (These amounts are GST inclusive)

D The Regional Coordinators will contact each entering school with further information about their Regional Festival and for details about the choir(s).

E Travel and other costs are the responsibility of individual choirs or schools.

F Entry fees are not refundable in the event of withdrawal after 16 May 2010. Choirs withdrawing before this date will be entitled to a refund of their fee, less an administration fee of \$60. Notification of withdrawal should be sent to the Regional Coordinator who will inform THE BIG SING National Coordinator.

G For further general information please contact your Regional Coordinator. Contact details are available on the NZCF website - www.nzcf.org.nz.

H Any queries regarding the matching of pieces to category criteria should be referred to THE BIG SING Music Advisor, John Rosser: songanddance@xtra.co.nz.



NATIONAL FINALE 2010

LOCATION AND DATES

Auckland Town Hall, Auckland
Monday 9 August – Wednesday 11 August

ADJUDICATORS

The names of the Adjudicator Panel for **THE BIG SING** National Finale are listed on the NZCF website.

SELECTION

A The three Adjudicators will select the top-scoring choirs to attend THE BIG SING National Finale. The Adjudicators' decision is final and no discussion or correspondence will be entered into.

B The Adjudicators will select up to 18 choirs (and two reserves) to compete in the Finale. Also invited will be up to four choirs to perform at the Finale as guest choirs. No choir will be selected as a guest choir if it has participated in a Finale in the last two years.

C i) No more than 20% of the members of a larger single-sex choir may sing in a smaller single-sex choir.

ii) No more than 70% of the members of a single-sex choir may sing in a mixed choir. Each choir must sing its entire repertoire with all its members performing.

FORMAT

D Each competing choir will present two recitals, each of no more than ten minutes' total aggregate performance time. Guest choirs will present one recital of no more than ten minutes' total aggregate performance time.

E Six items are to be sung by each competing choir (three in each recital). Of these at least one item must be selected from each of the three designated categories (see Categories of Musical Styles) and at least two must have been performed by the choir at the 2010 Regional Festival. Guest choirs will perform three items, one from each of the three designated categories, with at least two of the three having been performed at the Regional Festival. See also Guest Choir Programme on page 19.

F In the event of any violation of the Finale criteria, NZCF may withdraw any award earned, and/or declare the school ineligible for selection to the next year's Finale.

G Each choir may be rostered to perform a short lunchtime concert in Auckland.

H The Finale will conclude with a Gala Concert at the Auckland Town Hall on Wednesday 11 August, which will feature each choir in a showcase of music performed over the three days. At the Gala Concert each choir is required to perform one item from their Finale repertoire. All choirs present at the Finale are required to participate.

I If appropriate to the musical style, e.g. vocal jazz, the use of microphones is permitted. A backing tape may be used if needed.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

J Each choir is responsible for arranging and funding accommodation and travel. Information on local accommodation and transport may be made available to choirs selected to attend the National Finale.

GALA CONCERT ITEMS

K Choirs may nominate two pieces from which one may be selected by the organisers for the choir to perform in the Gala Concert. For programming purposes, the organisers may choose a different piece.

AWARDS

Gold, Silver, Bronze & Finalist Awards will be presented to competing choirs that achieve the appropriate standard. Judging criteria will be forwarded to the selected choirs prior to the Finale. **A Platinum Award** will be awarded to the choir that scores the highest aggregate marks above 90%.

The AUahi KORE MAORI PERFORMANCE AWARD is provided by the Health Sponsorship Council, Te Ropu Whakatairanga Hauora, for the best total performance of a work using Maori text. Judging criteria will be forwarded to the selected choirs prior to the Finale. This award is open to competing choirs only. It is possible for a choir to be awarded both the Auahi Kore Award and the Hutt City Trophy.

The HUTT CITY TROPHY will be awarded for the best performance of a New Zealand composition. This award is open to competing choirs only.

The BIG SING YOUTH AMBASSADORS AWARD will be awarded to the choir that in the opinion of the organisers demonstrates outstanding engagement with all elements of THE BIG SING National Finale and, through their general demeanour, shows the qualities and spirit requisite of Ambassadors for Youth. This award is open to both competing and guest choirs. NZCF need not make this award if, in the organisers' opinion, no choir has met the criteria.

SOUNZ NZCF CHORAL COMPOSITION AWARD

This will be presented to the winning composer during the National Finale Gala Concert. It is intended that the award-winning piece will be sung at the Finale, and therefore SOUNZ Award entries must be suitable for performance by a secondary school choir. Details of this competition can be found under the SOUNZ section of the NZCF website.



THE BIG SING 2010 - REGISTRATION FORM

NOTE that ONLINE REGISTRATION is available on www.nzcf.org.nz and is our preferred way of entering TBS10. However, paper registration and cheques are still accepted. Payment may be made through direct debit to the bank account number stated below.

PAPER REGISTRATION – PAGE 1 OF 2

- Please print clearly and complete **BOTH PAGES**, keeping a photocopy of the completed form for tax purposes.
- Mail the form with your registration fee to: THE BIG SING National Coordinator
P O Box 11562
WELLINGTON 6011
- Entries close **Friday 19 March, 2010**. Late entries will incur a penalty of \$80 (incl gst).
- No entries will be accepted after **Tuesday 6 April**.
- Make your cheque payable to NEW ZEALAND CHORAL FEDERATION INC.
- Your Regional Coordinator will contact you with information about your Regional Festival and will request details of your choir and its repertoire.

Name of School _____

Postal Address _____

Head of Music / Choir Director _____

School Email _____

Name of Choir(s) (see next page) _____

	<i>(PLEASE TICK)</i>
Do/does your choir(s) wish to be considered for National Finale selection?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Has your school negotiated its performance contract with APRA?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you accept the Conditions of Entry to THE BIG SING 2010?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Name _____	
Signature... _____	Date _____

- Enter **total number of singers** in your choirs in box A **A**
- Multiply number of singers by **\$8.50** and enter total in box B **B**
- Enter box B number (or if more than \$500, enter **\$500**) in box C **C**
- After **April 6** enter late fee of **\$80.00** in box D **D**
- Add amounts in boxes C and D and enter in box E **E**
- Send payment amount in box E

(Maximum payable per school - \$500 *including GST* - Tax Invoice GST No. 49 186 959)

THE BIG SING 2010

PAGE 2 - CHOIR DETAILS FORM

(Please fill out separate sheet for EACH choir -- printing CLEARLY in black.)

NAME OF SCHOOL _____

TOWN/CITY WHERE COMPETING _____

PRINCIPAL _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

HEAD OF MUSIC/CHOIR DIRECTOR (STATE WHICH) _____

EMAIL _____ MOBILE: _____ TEL (SCHOOL) _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____

TOWN/CITY _____

SCHOOL EMAIL _____

NUMBER OF CHOIRS ENTERING _____

NAME OF THIS CHOIR _____

TYPE OF CHOIR: (CIRCLE ONE) **FEMALE** **MALE** **MIXED**

NUMBER IN CHOIR _____

PREFERRED USUAL CONTACT (HEAD OF MUSIC/CHOIR DIRECTOR) _____

CHOIR

DIRECTOR _____

EMAIL _____

HOME PHONE _____ MOBILE _____

YOU WISH THIS CHOIR TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE NATIONAL FINALE (CIRCLE ONE) **YES / NO**

YOU WISH THIS CHOIR TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE GUEST CHOIR PROGRAMME (SEE APPLICATION FORM ON PAGE 20) **YES / NO**



CATEGORIES OF MUSICAL STYLES

CATEGORY ONE - New Zealand Composition or Arrangement

- Maori
- Pacific Island
- New Zealand Art Music (original composition, setting sacred or secular words, or wordless)
- New Zealand Folk Music (traditional lyrics and melody in a choral arrangement)

CATEGORY TWO - European Composition

- Mediaeval
- Renaissance
- Baroque
- Classical
- Romantic
- Art Music up to 1930

CATEGORY THREE - Other Styles

- Art Music after 1900 (original composition, sacred or secular words, or wordless)
- Folk (traditional lyrics and melody in a choral arrangement)
- Gospel
- Popular (includes pop, rock and musical theatre)
- Spiritual (African-American music with religious inspiration)
- Vocal Jazz
- World Music (in the traditional style of a particular people)

NOTE: Choir Directors who are unsure of which category a selected piece falls in may contact John Rosser for clarification: songanddance@xtra.co.nz

GUEST CHOIR PROGRAMME

In 2010, we are introducing an enriched programme for guest choirs, with the aim of giving choirs that haven't yet achieved the standard required for competitive selection the opportunity to attend the Finale and participate in special clinics. They will also perform one recital, join in the massed item, and sing an item in the Gala Concert. In order to fit this into the present 3-day Finale timetable, there will be a maximum of 18 competing choirs and four guest choirs.

Guest Choir selectors will be looking among the applicants for choirs who are near Finale standard and who have the potential to become a competing choir.

Choirs wishing to be considered for the Guest Choir Programme will apply during THE BIG SING registration. The choir director will be asked to provide brief notes about themselves and the choir, and state:

- whether the choir has participated in a TBS Finale as competing or guest choir in the last two years (2008, 2009)
- how you think the choir would benefit from being chosen
- which issues you would like covered if the choir attended a Guest Choir Clinic?
 - *artistic approach*: communication, interpretation, presentation, performance style
 - *technical skill*: consistency of intonation, vocal quality and balance, diction and language, choice of music?
 - *any other* issues?

Note that applicants for the Guest Choir programme will still be eligible for selection as a competing choir.

Guest Choir Activities

Selected Guest Choirs will

- perform ONE 10-minute recital in the competitive sessions
- each have an hour-long workshop with a choral clinician and the other guest choirs, in a nearby venue
- attend all competitive sessions, where possible
- take part in any lunchtime concert programme
- join in the massed item
- attend official functions
- perform an item at the Gala Concert
- receive valuable professional development for the conductor through hearing the top secondary choirs
- receive a written report from the clinicians
- NOT have been a selected Finale choir in the previous two years (2008 and 2009).

Note: We encourage choirs applying for this programme to consider fund-raising for this from early in the year. There will not be much time to do so after the successful applicants have been announced in mid-June.



GUEST CHOIR PROGRAMME APPLICATION FORM

Note that this application can be completed as part of your Big Sing registration at www.nzcf.org.nz.

If you prefer to use the paper form, please complete a separate form for each choir applying for the Guest Choir Programme and mail to the NZCF Big Sing National Coordinator, P O Box 11562, Wellington by Friday 19 March 2010.
(Please print clearly)

SCHOOL: _____

CHOIR NAME: _____

CHOIR DIRECTOR: _____

1. BRIEF NOTES ABOUT THE DIRECTOR AND CHOIR (background, achievements and/or aims)

2. HOW DO YOU THINK THE CHOIR WOULD BENEFIT FROM BEING SELECTED?

3. WHICH TOPICS WOULD YOU LIKE COVERED AT A GUEST CHOIR CLINIC?

<i>Artistic approach</i>	TICK	<i>Technical skill</i>	TICK
communication		consistency of intonation	
interpretation		vocal quality and balance	
presentation		diction and language	
performance style		choice of music	
other		other	

4. HAS YOUR CHOIR BEEN A COMPETING OR GUEST CHOIR IN THE LAST TWO FINALES (2008 OR 2009)? YES / NO

Signed _____ Date _____
 (Choir Director)