



REGIONAL FESTIVAL REGISTRATION 2019

1 CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

A The Big Sing is open to choirs from individual schools, which may enter as many choirs as they wish. Two single-sex schools may combine to form a mixed choir. Please also note items **O** and **P**.

B All singers must be full-time day students of the participating school from Year 7 to 13, 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 as 'Year 7 to 13', with a maximum of 30% of the choir being Years 7 and 8. Each choir must have a minimum of 12 singers. See section **P** below, and National Finale Conditions for information on the make-up of choirs and the number of choirs from any school in the Finale.

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

D Choirs not wishing to compete even at Regional level, e.g. by not singing an item from each category, are encouraged to participate if the Regional schedule allows, and may still be eligible for a regional award.

E 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 for Cadenza or National Finale.

F To be eligible for selection to Cadenza or 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).

G A competing choir may not perform repertoire it sang at last year's Regional Festival or National Finale.

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

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

J Where fitting the musical style, e.g. vocal jazz, the use of microphones or backing track is permitted.

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

L 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, marked up for solo or instruments etc as required.

M Each school must hold a current APRA AMCOS licence to be eligible for inclusion in the Regional Festival - see

<https://www.onemusicnz.com/licence-info/which-licence/schools/>

N Choirs presenting works in te reo Māori should ensure that they, or the composer/arranger, have received in advance the appropriate permission from the relevant whanau or other kaitiaki (guardians) of the text and the music. Evidence of this permission should be presented along with any sheet music before the choir's recital.

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

P For choirs wishing to be considered for Cadenza or National Finale, limits are in place regarding the percentage of singers from one choir that may sing in another during the Regional Festival.

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 50% of the members of a single-sex choir may sing in a mixed choir.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION

A Online registration will be open on The Big Sing page (www.nzcf.org.nz) from **18 February 2019**. Entries and payment should be received by **18 March 2019**.

B Late entries with a penalty fee of **\$80** will be accepted up to **5 April 2019**. Schools with fees still unpaid by **9 May** will incur a **\$100** penalty.

C The entry fee is **\$9.50** (incl. GST) per singer, to a maximum per school in **2019** of **\$1,450** (incl. GST), plus any late fee.

D Regional Coordinators will contact each entering school with further information about their Regional Festival and for details about their 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 2019**. 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 TBS National Director, John Rosser: john.rosser@nzcf.org.nz



LOCATIONS AND DATES

The three Cadenza Festivals will be held 2019 in:

- Timaru, 16-17 August (covering the Marlborough-Nelson, Canterbury-West Coast, Otago and Southland regions)
- Whanganui, 19-20 August (covering the East Coast, Taranaki, Manawatu-Whanganui and Wellington regions)
- Rotorua, 24-25 August (covering the Northland, Auckland and Waikato-Bay of Plenty TBS regions)

ADJUDICATORS

The names of the Cadenza Adjudicator or Adjudicators will be announced on the NZCF website.

SELECTION

A After the Regional Adjudication Panel has selected the choirs to attend National Finale, it will select a further 12 choirs from each of the regional areas listed above – a total of 36 choirs from around New Zealand. Choirs selected as Finale reserves will be entitled to go to their area Cadenza if they are not called on for Finale.

B A maximum of one choir per school will be selected. A minimum of two male-voice and two SATB choirs will be chosen for each festival.

C i) No more than 20% of the members of a larger SSA or male-voice choir may sing in a smaller choir of similar make-up.

ii) No more than 50% of the members of an SSA or male-voice choir may sing in an SATB choir. Each choir must sing its entire repertoire with all its members performing.

D Singers participating in Cadenza choirs must be the same as those who performed in their regional events.

FORMAT

E Competing choirs will present TWO recitals, each consisting of **two** items. A maximum of eight minutes' total performance time is allowed for each recital.

F Of these four items, at least one must be chosen from each of the three categories listed below (see

Categories of Musical Styles). A maximum of one item may have been performed by the choir at last year's Regional festival, but none may have been performed by the choir at last year's National Finale.

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

H Each Cadenza festival will conclude with a Gala Concert on the final evening, featuring all choirs in a showcase of music performed over the two days, along with some massed items. Each Cadenza choir will be required to perform one item from their Cadenza repertoire (see **L**).

I Where appropriate to the musical style of the chosen item, up to two microphones and a backing track may be used.

CADENZA FEE

J A fee of \$10 per singer will be charged to help with running costs. This will be invoiced on the choir's acceptance.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

K Each choir is responsible for arranging and funding its own accommodation and travel.

GALA CONCERT ITEMS

L Choirs may nominate the piece from their programme that they wish to perform in the Gala Concert. However, the Adjudicator/s may, for programming purposes, ask them to sing a different piece.

AWARDS

Excellence, Distinction and Merit Awards will be presented to competing choirs that achieve the appropriate standard. Judging criteria will be forwarded to the selected choirs prior to Cadenza.



NATIONAL FINALE 2019

LOCATION AND DATES

National Finale will be held in the Dunedin Town Hall, from Thursday 29 to Saturday 31 August 2019.

ADJUDICATORS

The names of the Adjudicator Panel for National Finale will be announced on the NZCF website.

SELECTION

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

B The Adjudicators will select up to 24 choirs - with a minimum of four male-voice and five SATB choirs - to compete in the Finale.

C i) No more than 20% of the members of a larger SSA or male-voice choir may sing in a smaller choir of similar make-up.

ii) No more than 50% of the members of an SSA or male-voice choir may sing in an SATB choir. Each choir must sing its entire repertoire with all its members performing.

D Singers participating in Finale choirs, must be the same as those who performed in their regional events.

FORMAT

E Competing choirs will present two recitals, the first of three items of no more than 10 minutes' total performance time, and the second of two items of no more than 8 minutes' total performance time.

F These five items are to be chosen from the three categories listed below (see Categories of Musical Styles). No more than two items may be selected from any one category. There is no requirement for a choir to repeat any of its repertoire from this year's Regional. However, a maximum of two items may have been performed by the choir at last year's Regional, and none may have been performed at last year's Finale.

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

H The Finale will conclude with a Gala Concert at the Dunedin Town Hall on Saturday 31 August, which will feature all choirs in a showcase of music performed over the three days. Each Finale choir is required to perform one item from their Finale repertoire (see **L**).

I Where appropriate to the musical style of the chosen item, up to two microphones and a backing track may be used.

FINALE FEE

J A fee of \$10 per singer is charged to help with running costs. This will be invoiced on the choir's acceptance.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

K Each choir is responsible for arranging and funding its accommodation and travel.

GALA CONCERT ITEMS

L Choirs may nominate the piece from their programme that they wish to perform in the Gala Concert. However, the Adjudicator/s may, for programming purposes, ask them to sing a different piece.

AWARDS

Gold, Silver, Bronze and 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.

The AUAAHI KORE MĀORI PERFORMANCE AWARD will be awarded for the best all-round performance of a work using text in te reo Māori.

The HUTT CITY TROPHY will be awarded for the best performance of a New Zealand or Pasifika composition (Category One). It is possible for a choir to win both the Auahi Kore Award and the Hutt City Trophy.

THE TOUR TIME TROPHY, presented by TBS sponsor Tour Time, will be awarded for the best performance of a Category Two piece.

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 National Finale and, through its general demeanour, shows the qualities and spirit requisite of Ambassadors for Youth. 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. The award-winning piece is expected to be sung at Finale, and entries must be suitable for performance by a secondary school choir. Details of this competition can be found on the NZCF website.



CATEGORIES OF MUSICAL STYLES – THE BIG SING 2019

CATEGORY ONE

New Zealand Composition/Arrangement

- Māori
- Pasifika
- New Zealand Art Music (original composition, sacred or secular)
- New Zealand Folk Music (traditional lyrics and melody in a choral arrangement)

Note: Arrangements of popular music fall into Category Three.

CATEGORY TWO

Choral Art Music (non-New Zealand)

- Secular or sacred music of any age, written originally and specifically for choir or vocal ensemble and to stand alone in performance

Notes: Works fitting any of the Category Three genres bulleted below do not qualify for Category Two.

Rearrangements of the above (eg from SATB to SSA or male-voice choir) are permissible, but should otherwise preserve the original work in all aspects.

CATEGORY THREE

Other Styles

All other choral music, including, but not limited to, the following genres:

- Folk and world music (traditional lyrics and melody in a choral arrangement)
- Spirituals (African-American music with religious inspiration)
- Gospel and worship music
- Musical theatre, opera, operetta
- Humorous songs (written specifically with comedic intent)
- Popular music (eg jazz, swing, pop, rock, hip hop, rap)

Note: Māori and Pasifika works fall into Category One.

Choir directors who are unsure in which category a selected piece falls should contact John Rosser at john.rosser@nzcf.org.nz for clarification.