



# Barnardo's Youth Choral Competition Rules

Finals to be held at The Royal Festival Hall  
on Monday 9 March 2020

The competition is open to all school, youth and community junior choirs

There will be two age categories:

- **up to and including 12 years of age**
- **up to and including 18 years of age.**

On your CD/Midi file/MP3/DVD, each choir should sing two contrasting pieces of their own choice. The recording must be a new one for the competition and not taken from any other recording. If selected for the finals you can sing any two songs of your choice (the combined length of the songs must not exceed eight minutes) provided they are the original voices.

Entries are to be received by **12 December 2019**. Entries received after this will not be considered.

Entry Fee is £35 per choir payable by BACS

**Account No 90594229**

**Sort code 20-57-30**

**Clearly marking the name of your choir on the payment slip**

MP3 should be emailed to [Jen.privettmusic@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:Jen.privettmusic@barnardos.org.uk)

Recordings (**non returnable**) should be clearly marked and sent to:

**Barnardo's Special Events Team, Mrs J Privett, Tanners Lane, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex IG6 1QG**

*Please complete*

Title of Song 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Composer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Song 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Composer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Choirs will be informed if they are successful by **10 January 2020**.

**Please make sure your entry is clearly marked with choir name and age category.**

## Rules for the final at the The Royal Festival Hall

- You agree to supply the required information by the City of Lambeth Council for the BOPA license
- There will be 18 choirs chosen from the junior age category, up to and including 12 years of age. There will be six choirs chosen from the senior age category, up to and including 18 years of age. 24 choirs in total will perform at The Royal Festival Hall on 9 March 2020. Each selected choir has to sing one of their competition pieces in the evening concert as well as joining in two massed choir items.
- The finals are held at an allocated time during the day from 9.00am and the concert starts at 18.30pm.

- Children in the junior category must be aged 12 or under on 9 March 2020. Young people in the senior category must be between ages 13 and 18 on the day of the final.
- Each choir should sing two contrasting pieces of their own choice.
- The recording of each item must be of one take. An entry will be disqualified if there is evidence of such enhancements as dynamic processing, use of auto-tuners, tracking and layering of voices, editing and mixing or any other electronic enhancement.
- At least **three photocopies** of the music for the adjudicators must be provided on the day and **these will be torn up after their use. Photocopies are acceptable provided the choir has purchased and have the original copies.**
- Recordings must be of the current choir – the choir that if selected would sing in the competition – and not for example be of the choir singing in the previous summer term when some of the singers would then have left school.
- The combined length of the songs must not exceed eight minutes.
- Each choir cannot exceed 50 members.
- The conductor must not sing with the choir.
- The suitability of the chosen songs will be taken into consideration by the judges.
- Singers who are members of more than one choir may perform as a member of each choir to which they belong. The entry does not have to be a school choir.
- Choirs may sing along to a pre-recorded accompaniment. However, the accompaniment must be purely instrumental and must not contain any vocals.
- Choirs must provide their own accompanist, if they wish to use the piano provided.
- By entering the competition, participating choirs agree to be bound by the rules and regulations of the competition.
- Performances on the first recorded submissions and of the finalists will be judged on the following criteria: Intonation, tone quality, diction, ensemble, balance, blend, interpretation of music and text, dynamics, phrasing and communication. The suitability of the chosen songs will also be taken into consideration by the judges.
- The judges' decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into regarding the results.
- No correspondence will be entered into on comments or rules and regulations by either judges or organisers.

There will be a first and second place awarded to each age category. The two winning choirs will be invited to sing in one of our 2020 Young Supporters Concerts.

Douglas Coombes MBE has offered to write a song for the two winning choirs.