

# COMPETING CHOIRS

## 2015 Application & Entry Form

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FOR COMPETING CHOIRS

### The Essentials

Applicants **must include / adhere to** each of the following:

- ☐ A completed entry form.
- ☐ The choir's proposed competition programme (see 'Repertoire' in the 'Competition Rules and Guidelines' page). This repertoire and its order of performance may not subsequently be altered.
- ☐ **Three original scores of each work** to accompany each completed entry form. Photocopies of music will not be accepted by any of the judging panels or festival committee. Please see 'Repertoire' for number of songs / pieces required.
- ☐ A short history of the choir and the Musical Director detailing activities and achievements (English text, approx 100 words) to be emailed to our festival director: [decdurcan@gmail.com](mailto:decdurcan@gmail.com)
- ☐ A recent choir photograph (preferably digital format, large size / high resolution, suitable for press-printing) to be emailed to our festival director: [decdurcan@gmail.com](mailto:decdurcan@gmail.com)
- ☐ Receipt of payment of entry fee of €70 per choir which also covers entry to one competition. An additional €70 is required for each competition entry thereafter. Payments to include any associated bank charges (see 'Fees').
- ☐ All members of each choir are 18 years of age or over.
- ☐ There is a minimum of eight members in each choir (this restriction is not applicable to Barbershop Quartets).

Only Applications which include all of the above, and are received by the entry closing dates, will be considered.

### Please Note

- This Application and all supporting materials to be received from choirs outside of Ireland by 31st December 2014, and choirs from Ireland 31st January 2015.
- Please type or print clearly in block letters.
- You must complete all sections of this entry form.
- Successful applicants will be notified by post or email within a two week period after the closing date.
- The limit to the number of choirs entering a competition will be decided according to ability to facilitate choirs comfortably.
- Only applications enclosing all of the requirements detailed under 'The Essentials' and 'Entry Procedure' will be considered. Choirs are selected on the basis of their application material. Particular attention is paid to the repertoire and details of performance submitted with the application.
- The Festival accepts no legal responsibility whatsoever in respect of a choir's participation in the Festival and associated activities.

Completed applications by email\*, or post, to:

**Mayo International Choral Festival,**  
C/o Edward Horkan, 5 Cashel Park, Castlebar, Co. Mayo, Ireland.  
Tel: +353 (0)94 9026214  
[info@mayochoral.com](mailto:info@mayochoral.com)      [www.mayochoral.com](http://www.mayochoral.com)

\* Applications submitted by email act only as provisional entries. Choirs must forward the specified support materials to the Festival Office by the Competition closing date.

### Massed Choir

The two pieces for the massed choir, one of the festival highlights this year are:

1. Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves ~ from Nabucco, Giuseppe Verdi.  
Sung in English. English translation: John Rutter
2. Hallelujah Chorus ~ George F. Handel. Sung in English

Competing and non competing choir members are obliged to attend. Times for the rehearsal and concert will be confirmed closer to the event, with consideration for choir's enjoyment and itinerary. A single copy of each piece will be posted to the choir director / representative on receipt of completed entry form.

### Entry Fees

**Competition Entry fee:** €70 per choir per competition.

*Entry fee, plus any additional bank charges incurred, must be paid by bank transfer to the account of the Mayo International Choral Festival by 31st January 2015.*

*Choirs are responsible for all related bank charges.*

*The Competition entry fee, less any bank transaction charges incurred, will be refunded to those choirs who are not selected for any Competition. Please ensure that the name of choir and contact details are noted on bank transfer. Please note: choirs do not pay entry into events in which they are performing.*

**Competition Fees to be paid to:**

Account Name: Mayo International Choral Festival.  
Bank: BANK OF IRELAND.  
NSE: 903744  
Branch Address: CASTLEBAR CO MAYO  
Account No.: 81600939  
IBAN No: IE70 BOFI 9037 4481 6009 39  
BIC NO: BOFIE2D

Please ensure that the **name of choir and contact details are noted on bank transfer.**

# Competition Rules & Guidelines

## General Rules and Guidelines

1. Open to any adult choir, members to be 18 years of age or over.
2. Closing date for receipt of completed applications:  
International Choirs: 31st Dec. 2014. Choirs from Ireland: 31st Jan. 2015.
3. Decisions of the competition adjudicators will be final and no correspondence will be entered into regarding any aspect of their work.
4. The organising committee reserves the right to cancel a competition.
5. The organising committee reserves the right to restrict the number of entries in each competition.
6. The organising committee accepts no legal responsibility whatsoever in respect of anything pertaining to a choir's participation in the festival and its associated activities.
7. The festival accepts no responsibility or liability for accommodation and subsistence costs incurred by the choir, or any expense incurred by any choir member, leader, organiser and / or choir party guest, participating in festival.
8. Entry fee (less any bank charges) will be refunded if a choir is not selected.
9. A selected choir that withdraws from the competition, is not entitled to a refund of the entry fee.
10. The festival accepts no responsibility for any action taken by publishers against choirs who perform music that has been reproduced illegally.
11. Participation in the festival implies acceptance of all the rules and regulations as outlined, and changes that may occur.
12. All choirs should have a minimum of eight voices.  
(this restriction is not applicable to Barbershop Quartets).
13. All details subject to change.
14. The organising committee reserves the right to change the order of advertised events at their discretion.
15. The printers, designers and any organising committee working on behalf of / engaged by Mayo International Choral Festival, accepts no responsibility for changes, errors, or omissions contained in the festival print, signage, electronic / internet or video / verbal / audio promotions.
16. Each competition may be subject to a maximum number of choirs.
17. First-prize winning choirs are kindly requested to attend and perform at the Gala concert and at a rehearsal for same, apart from winners of Competition K 'First Time Competitors', who are not eligible for entry to the Premier Competition.
18. International choirs may be requested to attend and perform at the Gala concert as our guests, and at a rehearsal for same.
19. A singer may not be a member of more than one choir in each competition (this rule does not apply to the Premier Competition).
20. A choir may enter only 3 competition categories

## Entry Procedure

Complete the application form, with supporting documentation / items and email or post to festival office.

*Only applications enclosing all of the requirements detailed under 'The Essentials' (on entry form) will be considered.*

*Choirs are selected on the basis of their application material. Particular attention is paid to the repertoire.*

A separate entry form is required for each competition. Please photocopy original, or download from [www.mayochoral.com](http://www.mayochoral.com)

In the event of choirs purchasing and downloading scores from arrangers / publishers, a copy of the letter of permission must be included and attached to each score copy for the adjudicator to see. All music scores must be received by post. The Festival committee will not download copies on behalf of the choirs. The closing date of entry is also for receipt of music scores. Pay the competition entry fee by cheque or bank transfer.

Choirs bring their own keyboards for practice/warm-up. In exceptional cases arrangements for hire of keyboard can be made locally, for overseas choirs.

Notice must be given on festival entry form.

Successful applicants will be notified by post or email during the two-week period after the final closing date.

It is a condition that International choirs have relevant documentation by the closing date in order that entry is approved.

## Eligibility

1. Each choir must be established as a choir for at least one year prior to the festival.
2. All members must be 18 years of age or over.
3. All members of a choir, except the Musical Director and accompanist, must be amateurs (i.e. do not earn their main livelihood as singers).

## Repertoire

Each competition requires two contrasting pieces, whose total duration (actual singing) is no more than 9 minutes. It is not necessary to fill the full duration of the 9-minutes.

Please note, choirs who qualify for the Premier Competition will have to submit, on the day, three **original** copies of another piece, not previously performed by your choir, in any competition at the 2015 festival.

No choir may sing the same repertoire in two different competitions, (exception - see Premier Competition).

The contrasting programme must represent a coherent range of styles.

A choir may not change its repertoire after final acceptance, and must notify the festival director before Feb 15th of any change in the order in which it will be sung.

Adjudicators will allocate marks for the technical and artistic quality of the chosen programme and the overall quality of its performance and will also take into account how well the choir communicates with the audience in a performance situation.

Choirs competing may use piano or keyboard only and no other instruments or backing tracks.

Choirs whose programmes do not comply with the prescribed time limits will incur a penalty. The decisions of the Adjudicators are final.

## Travel, Accommodation and Subsistence

**General:** The festival does not contribute to a choir's travel, accommodation or subsistence costs, and participating choirs and guests are responsible for payment of same. The festival is not responsible for any booking issues or otherwise that arise, at any time. Nor is the festival committee, or representatives acting on committee authority, responsible for any issues arising from the hire / engaging of services / suppliers recommended by the committee or representatives of same. **Accommodation:** Participating hotels and accommodation providers are offering special rates for festival choirs. Please contact us for any information. Early booking advisable. **Transport:** Local transport can be arranged by the festival organisers and / or accommodation providers, from 'Ireland West International Airport, Knock' or from the train station in the relevant Mayo town, to their accommodation, as deemed necessary during their stay, at a reasonable cost to choirs, and also on departure from their accommodation to airport or train station. Payment to be made direct to local coach company / accommodation provider at time of booking.

## Broadcasting, Recording and Photographic Rights

All participating choirs agree that: Any performance during the festival may be photographed, broadcast live and / or recorded for subsequent reproduction and / or broadcast on radio / television / internet by the festival, without payment. Recordings, visual or audio, can be made only with the written permission of the festival committee or director. The festival shall be entitled to possession of any such recording and to reproduce any such recording to sell, let for hire, offer or exposure for sale or hire, distribute or otherwise dispose of in any manner as it sees fit. All broadcasting and photographic rights to any performance at the festival shall belong to the festival which will be free to dispose of or utilise them as it sees fit. Choir photographs and information text given by the choir to the committee, prior to the festival may be used for promotion opportunities. It is the understanding of the festival that any photographs/promotional materials containing persons under the age of 18 years, are provided with parental consent of the individuals in the photograph. By completing this entry form, each choir and choir member waives all performance fee rights, and the right to any mechanical copyright fees where the choir is recorded, and any of those tracks may be used on any subsequent CD or DVD whether promotional or for sale to the general public.

## Choir Contact Details

CHOIR NAME 

CONDUCTOR (Mr. / Ms / Mrs.)

CORRESPONDENT'S NAME (Mr. / Ms / Mrs.)

ADDRESS TEL:  (include international codes)E-MAIL CHOIR WEBSITE 

NUMBER OF CHOIR MEMBERS (including conductor)

Male: ..... Female: ..... Total: .....

Number of Additional Guests .....

## Please confirm by ticking yes or no:

Do you wish to participate in a concert on Thursday evening? Yes ☐ No ☐And/Or a concert on Friday evening? Yes ☐ No ☐  
(For Thurs and/or Fri concert please provide a 20min song and composer list before Feb 15th 2015)Do you wish to participate in part of a morning church service on Sunday? Yes ☐ No ☐Our choir is interested in tours of Mayo Yes ☐ No ☐Are you open to giving a short performance at a hospital or care centre? Yes ☐ No ☐Are you open to giving a short performance to senior citizens, close to your accommodation? Yes ☐ No ☐Are you open to giving a short open-air street performance close to your accommodation or venue? Yes ☐ No ☐Are you open to giving a short performance in an Irish Pub, close to your accommodation or venue? Yes ☐ No ☐Do any of your guests wish to participate in any workshop / demonstrations? (details available later) Yes ☐ No ☐Are you open to giving a short open-air performance at Mayo Memorial Peace Park, Castlebar? Yes ☐ No ☐  
www.mayopeacepark.comDo you need an accompanist? Yes ☐ No ☐  
A fee will applyDo you need a keyboard for rehearsals? Yes ☐ No ☐  
For International Choirs only. A hire fee may applyOur choir will arrive in Mayo on     2015Our choir will depart Mayo on     2015Our choir will travel to Ireland by: Ferry ☐ Air ☐Fee Payment Details: Total fee?: € Paid by: Bank Transfer: ☐ Cheque: ☐ Draft: ☐Date of Payment: 

## Repertoire &amp; Competition Choice Details

Please note: A SEPARATE APPLICATION FORM NEEDED FOR EACH COMPETITION ENTRY. Please photocopy this page or download from: www.mayochoral.com, for each additional competition.

This is our repertoire for competition: (Tick selected competition)

B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐F ☐ G ☐ H ☐ I ☐ J ☐ or K ☐

Competition Title: .....

The order of performance cannot be changed after Feb 15th 2015.

i) TITLE 

COMPOSER / ARRANGER:

PUBLISHER:

DURATION .....

ii) TITLE 

COMPOSER / ARRANGER:

PUBLISHER:

DURATION .....

This third piece is necessary if your choir qualifies for participation in the Premier Competition (only first-prize winning choirs from each competition are eligible for entry into the Premier Competition).

iii) TITLE 

COMPOSER / ARRANGER:

PUBLISHER:

DURATION .....

All details, including rules and regulations subject to change.

I wish to enter the above choir in Festival in accordance with the competition rules to perform the repertoire listed on this page. I have read and understand the Competition Rules and Guidelines.

Singed .....

Position in Choir .....

## 2015 Competition Details

### Competition A.

#### Premier Competition

The first prize winners of all competitions below (with the exception of competition K), automatically qualify for entry to the Premier Competition. Programme should consist of two contrasting part songs. One of the pieces must be chosen from the repertoire already performed in the qualifying competition. The second piece must not have been previously sung by your choir, in any of the other 2015 competitions as below. Please note, a choir can qualify to enter the Premier Competition in one competition category only, in each year of the festival. Should a particular choir win in two or more competitions in 2015, the competition in which that choir receives the highest mark, is the competition that the choir will represent at the Premier. The competition(s) that the winners do not represent, will be represented by the runners up of that competition(s) instead.

**PRIZES** Winner: Handmade Trophy and €700. Runner-up: €300.

### Competition B.

Four Part Choirs - any combination of voices. (Four Part or more) Programme should consist of two contrasting part songs, and be chosen as follows:

- (i) A piece composed before 1800
- (ii) Any part song contrasting with (i).

**PRIZES** Winner: Handmade Trophy and €300. Runner-up: €150.

### Competition C.

Choirs from Ireland, 4-part. S.A.T.B.

Programme should consist of two contrasting, 4 part songs.

**PRIZES** Winner: Handmade trophy and €300. Runner-up: €150.

### Competition D.

Female Voices

Programme should consist of two contrasting 3 or 4 part songs.

**PRIZES** Winner: Handmade Trophy and €300. Runner-up: €150.

### Competition E.

Male Voices

Programme should consist of two contrasting 3 or 4 part songs.

**PRIZES** Winner: Handmade Trophy and €300. Runner-up: €150.

### Competition F.

Sacred Music Choirs

Programme should consist of two contrasting part songs.

**PRIZES** Winner: Handmade Trophy and €300. Runner-up: €150.

### Competition G.

Gospel Choirs

Programme should consist of two contrasting part pieces from The Gospel Choral Music Repertoire.

**PRIZES** Winner: Handmade Trophy and €300. Runner-up: €150.

### Competition H.

Gaelic or Celtic Language

Amhrán is Fearr i nGaeilge nó i dTeanga Ceilteach – Comórtas H.

Programme should consist of two contrasting 3 or 4 part songs in Irish or any Celtic Language.

**PRIZES** Winner: Handmade Trophy and €300. Runner-up: €150.

### Competition I.

Barbershop Chorus

Programme should consist of two contrasting pieces from the Barbershop repertoire

In Assoc. Mayo County Council

**PRIZES** Winner: Handmade Trophy and €300. Runner-up: €150.

### Competition J.

Barbershop Quartet

Programme should consist of two contrasting pieces from the Barbershop repertoire

**PRIZES** Winner: Handmade Trophy and €300. Runner-up: €150.

### Competition K.

First Time Competitors

A new competition for choirs who have never entered into competition before but would love to do so with choirs of a similar standard. Programme should consist of two contrasting 3 or 4 part songs. Winning choir of this competition is not eligible to enter the Premier Competition.

**PRIZES** Winner: Handmade Trophy and €200. Runner-up: €100.

## Special Accommodation Rates

Our participating hotels and accommodation providers are offering special rates for choirs coming to our Festival for stays of more than one night. It is hoped that choirs will allow a few days to travel around the County and also perform at various locations like Knock Basilica and historic Ballintubber Abbey, and also to participate in Festival Concerts during the week in the Mayo towns.

## Non-competing Choirs

Non-Competing Choirs are very welcome to attend and perform. Download a **separate application form** our website [www.mayochoral.com](http://www.mayochoral.com) or contact us.

## Touring outside of festival dates?

Some choirs who are unable to come for the week of the Festival and would like to come to Mayo at a different time of the year can also avail of the special accommodation rate. The Festival committee will assist with arrangements and performances / concerts during their visit.

## Contact Details:

Mayo International Choral Festival,  
Festival Office, C/o 5 Cachel Park,  
Castlebar, Co. Mayo.

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Tel. +353 (0)94 9026214  
Mobile +353 (0)87 6683043  
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