

Musika Moana Choir Competition

Rules and Information (updated 26 June 2024)

Version Control		
Version number	Date	Updates
1	1 May 2024	Original version
2	26 June 2024	Updates made to reflect further clarity on choir eligibility.
3	23 July 2024	Updates to reflect performance numbers and bracket length

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- A. The Musika Moana Choir Competition is open to Pacific community choirs in New Zealand.
- B. 90% of the choir membership (i.e. the singers on stage) must be of Pacific descent/heritage.
- C. There is no age limit for participants
- D. Choirs must have no less than 15 singers and no more than 100 singers (accompanist and conductor are not included).
- E. There is an entry fee of \$10 per person in the choir (i.e. every one that is on stage performing).
- F. Choirs may use piano, guitar, percussion. Backing tracks are not permitted.
- G. Conductors, accompanists and backing musicians must be from the community/choir.
- H. Choirs are encouraged to utilise all singers for the majority of the performance i.e. use of solos/duets must be no longer than one verse maximum. The excessive use of solos/duets without featuring the full ensemble may result in a penalty (at the discretion of the judges and organisers).
- I. Finale qualifiers will be decided by the judging panel and the organisers following the completion of the regional festivals.
- J. The Musika Moana Choir championships includes prize money, which may be awarded to top placing choirs from each region. Prize money must be used for choir and/or community development projects and initiatives, and not for personal gain. Before any prize money is paid

out, the organisers may require the recipient to provide a brief overview on what they intend to use the prize money on, including a high-level budget.

- K. Musika Moana Choir competition organisers (and our authorised partners) reserve the right to audit prize money recipients to ensure that any prize money received is used solely for community development purposes.
- L. By registering to participate in Musika Moana Choir Championships, all choirs agree to the rules and conditions of the competition, to recording and broadcasts in sound and/or television, social media as well as any other sound or visual recording being made in the context of this event, all rights resulting from such recording belong to the organisers. Unauthorised audio/visual recording during competitions and concerts is strictly prohibited. The festival reserves the right to use these official photographs in future publicity.
- M. Choirs who breach conditions of entry will be ineligible for awards
- N. The organisers of the Musika Moana Choir Competition (the **Organisers**) reserve sole and absolute discretion over all aspects of the competition. This includes, but is not limited to, decisions regarding eligibility, judging criteria, the selection and awarding of prizes, scheduling, and any other matters that may arise in the course of organizing and conducting the competition. The organisers' decisions are final and binding on all participants, and no correspondence or appeals will be entertained.

COMPETITION FORMAT

- 1) Each choir is required to sing a total of 2 songs.
 - a) The official Musika Moana Choir Competition piece;
 - b) A piece of their own choice that uses predominantly Pacific languages. Occasional use of non-pacific language is permitted, however the majority of the song needs to be sung in a Pacific language.
- 2) Total performance for each choir will be no more than 10 minutes on stage (not including walk-on/walk-off or applause between songs). Performances that go over time may be penalised (at the discretion of the judges and organisers).
- 3) Songs must be in good taste and deemed appropriate for all audiences. No profane or offensive language is permitted.
- 4) Each choir will be assessed on the following criteria:
 - Vocal Performance:** skill, range, ability, unity, intonation
 - Musicality:** range, dynamics, expression, song execution
 - Creativity:** arrangement difficulty, musical textures

Stage presence: confidence, presentation, audience interaction/reaction, use of space, movement

5) A panel of judges will score each song out of 100 in the above categories:

Vocal Performance: / 50

Musicality: / 20

Creativity: / 20

Stage presence: / 10

Scores for each song from every judge will be tallied up to provide a total score.

6) Rankings and awards:

- a) Awards will be presented to the top 3 highest scoring choirs from each region.
- b) In the case of a draw, the choir with the highest Vocal Performance score will place higher
- c) If the highest vocal performance score is tied, the higher of the Musicality score will place higher
- d) Judge's decision is final.

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