

What is the Ruth Watson Henderson Choral Composition Competition?

The Ruth Watson Henderson Choral Composition Competition is a biennial contest for new choral works with categories alternating between pieces for treble voice choirs and pieces for mixed voice adult choirs. Submissions are reviewed by a panel of judges and the winning entry, announced in November, 2009, receives a cash prize and a concert performance in the spring of 2010. The 2009 round is for SATB youth choir.

Who is Ruth Watson Henderson?

Ruth Watson Henderson, one of Canada's foremost musicians, is an internationally renowned composer and pianist. Her compositions have been commissioned, performed and recorded worldwide. The Ruth Watson Henderson Choral Composition Competition was established in 1996 to recognize Ms. Watson Henderson's invaluable contribution to the art of choral music.

Who is eligible?

The competition is open to Canadian citizens or landed immigrants residing in Canada. There is no age limit.

What is the Award?

The award is a cash prize of \$1,000 (Cdn) and a concert performance with one of Toronto's leading choirs. The 2009 winning entry will be premiered by the Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir, conducted by Lynn Janes, in the spring of 2010 and will form part of the repertoire of the 2010 Ontario Youth Choir.

Composition Guidelines:

1. The work must be an original composition for youth Choir (SATB), with or without divisi, 4 to 6 minutes in length.
2. Compositions may be a cappella or accompanied by up to three instruments.
3. Texts may be sacred or secular, in English or French, and should be appropriate for young singers. It is the responsibility of the composer to obtain permission for the use of copyrighted texts.
4. The composer shall retain copyright of the work.
5. All submissions must not have been previously commissioned or published and must have been composed within the last two years. Arrangements of previously composed works are not acceptable.

Submission Guidelines:

1. Scores must be postmarked no later than September 30, 2009.
2. More than one entry may be submitted. But each entry must be accompanied by a separate entry form and a fee of \$25.00 (Cdn).
3. Four clearly legible photocopies of the score must be submitted. Do not send original manuscripts. Scores will be returned if a stamped, self-addressed envelope is included.
4. The composer's name must not appear on any score.
5. The winner will be announced in November, 2009.

Composer Information (please print):

Name: _____

Address:
Street: _____

City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone number:
Day: _ (____) _____

Evening: _ (____) _____

E-mail address:

Composition Information and Declaration:

Composition Title: _____

Text Source: _____

Is the text under copyright? Yes No
If yes, you must include a copy of written permission from the copyright holder.

Please sign this declaration: This is an original composition that has not previously been published or commissioned and has been written within the past two years. I hereby give my permission to the Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir to perform this work in 2009 if selected.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Copyright Information:

SOCAN (Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers) suggests that you send a recording or score of each piece separately to yourself by registered mail (a photocopy is fine). Do not open this envelope when you receive it in the mail. It is your proof that you composed your piece before the date of mailing. For registered copyright, send \$35.00 (US) and a copy of your piece to: Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., USA 20559. You may also register online at www.copyright.gov.

Submission Requirements:

1. Four clearly legibly photocopies of the score.
2. A stamped, self-addressed envelope if you would like your score returned.
3. The non-refundable application fee of \$25.00 (Cdn).

Method of Payment:

- Cheque or money order (payable to Choirs Ontario)
- VISA

Card number: _____

Signature: (as on card): _____

Expiry date: _____

Card holders name: _____

Submissions must be postmarked no later than September 30, 2009. Please send (for each entry) a separate form, the application fee and 4 copies of the composition to:

Choirs Ontario
1422-A Bayview Avenue
Toronto, ON M4G 3A7

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Ruth Watson Henderson
Choral Composition Competition
2009

Submission Deadline
September 30, 2009