



Choral Canada
—
Canada Choral

NYCC
CNJC

National Youth Choir
of Canada
Chœur national des
jeunes du Canada



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Audition Information for Singers

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL YOUTH CHOIR OF CANADA?

A project of Choral Canada, the National Youth Choir of Canada (NYCC) is a professional development program for some of Canada's top emerging choral artists. Singers between 19 and 26 are traditionally auditioned every two years, with the goal to select up to 4 singers from each province and territory. The NYCC convenes in a different region every two years, in association with PODIUM, Canada's national biennial choral conference and festival. After a week-long intensive rehearsal and training week, the NYCC embarks on a provincial or territorial tour, with the final stop at PODIUM. Every two years, members of Choral Canada submit nominations for the position of the NYCC conductor. The nominations are then shortlisted by a committee and the conductor is selected by the Choral Canada Board of Directors.

For the 2022 NYCC, singers must be between the ages of 19 and 26 as of May 1, 2022. Exceptions have been allowed for the 2022 program only to accommodate those singers who were selected for the cancelled 2020 NYCC and were invited back to participate in the 2022 choir, but have surpassed the age limit.

WHEN AND WHERE IS NYCC 2022?

The program will run from May 6-23, 2022, including rehearsal week, tour and attendance at PODIUM 2022.

The NYCC 2022 rehearsal and training session will take place in Montréal, Quebec, from May 6 - 14, 2022. The choir will then tour from Montreal to Toronto, performing concerts and community engagement workshops at stops en route. The choir will arrive in Toronto on May 19th to participate in PODIUM (May 19-23, 2022). The NYCC will perform a PODIUM Highlight Concert on the weekend, be the choir in the Choral Canada Student Chapter conducting master class, and receive complimentary passes to attend PODIUM as full delegates. This is an opportunity for education, networking, exposure to fantastic concerts and choirs, and an unforgettable choral experience. Singers return home on May 24, 2022. Singers are required to be onsite and to travel with the choir for the duration of the training week and tour, and must not have any other professional or personal commitments during that time which would interfere with their ability to participate in all activities of the NYCC.

Please note that all NYCC rehearsals will be conducted in English. The 2022 conductor is fluent in both English and French.

WHO IS THE CONDUCTOR?

Canadian-American conductor Jean-Sébastien Vallée is an internationally recognized conductor, scholar, and pedagogue. Maestro Vallée is Artistic Director of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir; Associate Professor of Music, Director of Choral Studies, and Coordinator of the Ensembles & Conducting Area at the Schulich School of Music of McGill University; and Director of the renowned choir of the church of St. Andrew & St. Paul

in Montréal. Moreover, Maestro Vallée will conclude his tenure as Music Director of the Ottawa Choral Society with the 2021-22 season. Prior to his return to Canada, Maestro Vallée served as Director of Choral Studies at California State University, Los Angeles and was on the choral faculty of the University of Redlands.

Ensembles under his direction have toured throughout Europe and North America, performed for the American Choral Directors Association and the California Music Educators conferences, and were awarded first and second places at the San Luis Obispo International Choral Competition in 2011. In 2015, Maestro Vallée was the runner-up for the American Prize in Choral Conducting. Maestro Vallée holds degrees from Laval University, Sherbrooke University, the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a doctorate in conducting from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

In addition to his interest in choral, operatic, and orchestral music, Maestro Vallée is an advocate for contemporary music, making one of his priorities to premiere and commission works by young composers and program rarely performed repertoire. As a scholar, his research interests are varied and focus primarily on Renaissance French music, the oratorical works of Michael Tippett, and conducting pedagogy, more specifically the connection between audiation and gestural communication. Maestro Vallée has been invited to present his research at several national and international conferences in North America, Europe and Asia including the American Choral Directors Association Conventions, Festival 500 in Newfoundland, the National Collegiate Choral Organization conference, Podium—the national convention of Choral Canada, the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, and the World Symposium on Choral Music in Spain (2017) and New Zealand (2020).

www.jsvallee.com

The 2022 Apprentice Conductor will be Thomas Burton.

HOW DO I AUDITION FOR THE NATIONAL YOUTH CHOIR OF CANADA?

Singers audition by submitting video recorded auditions to Choral Canada **by October 15, 2021**, and selections are made by a National Jury.

In all cases, we strive to select up to four NYCC singers (one for each voice part) and four alternates from each province and the territories. When this is not possible, there may be more than four singers selected from some provinces or territories.

It should be noted that 2022 is different from past years. Due to the unfortunate cancellation of the 2020 NYCC program as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, there may be fewer spaces available for new singers. All 2020 choristers have been invited to return to NYCC and participate in the 2022 edition of the choir. Newly auditioned singers in 2021 will be considered for any spaces that have opened up due to 2020 singers not returning and may be selected as alternates.

WHAT DOES THE AUDITION ENTAIL?

You will need to perform two short solo pieces in different languages. A written text translation should be provided if either of your pieces are performed in a language other than English or French. You will also be required to prepare a choral excerpt (see score included at the end of this document) and to sing vocal exercises which demonstrate your vocal range. You must submit a choral/musical resume, a letter of recommendation, and a headshot-style photo. Please see the APPLICATION AND AUDITION GUIDELINES below. If more clarification is required, please contact Choral Canada directly.

HOW MUCH DOES NYCC COST?

The fee per singer for 2022 will be \$1575 + Ontario provincial taxes (HST 13%). The tuition fee covers roundtrip airfare, program tuition, music, meals, accommodations (student residence/hotel for rehearsal week and Podium, billeting on tour) and ground transportation for the duration of the entire NYCC program. **The tuition fee is the sole responsibility of the singer and is payable to Choral Canada as per our payment schedule, upon acceptance to the NYCC.** IMPORTANT: Certain provincial choral organizations will be able to provide partial financial support for 2022. Please contact your provincial choral organization for more information:

ChoralNL - choralnl.ca

Nova Scotia Choral Federation - nscf.ca

New Brunswick Choral Federation - nbcfsite.wordpress.com

Alliance Chorale du Québec - chorales.ca

Choirs Ontario - choirsontario.org

Manitoba Choral Association - manitobasings.org

Saskatchewan Choral Federation - saskchoral.ca

Choir Alberta - choiralberta.ca

British Columbia Choral Federation - bcchoralfed.com

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS AND SAFETY

The health and safety of the NYCC singers and staff is of utmost importance and COVID-19 is being taken into consideration during the planning process. The 2022 NYCC program will abide by public health guidelines, which may include wearing masks, distancing, vaccination requirements and other protocols as deemed necessary. Protocols have yet to be finalized, however proof of vaccination and/or a recent negative COVID-19 test may be required to participate in the program. Choral Canada and the NYCC Committee have determined that if COVID-19 persists and the 2022 NYCC program is unable to proceed safely with singing and touring together, the program will be cancelled and all singers will be fully refunded.

Application and Audition Guidelines

This document outlines what is required for your NYCC 2022 application and audition.

Administrative and Eligibility Requirements

- Ensure that you meet the age eligibility requirement. Singers must be between the ages of 19 and 26 as of May 1, 2022.
*Exceptions have been allowed for 2022 to accommodate those singers who were selected for the cancelled 2020 NYCC and were invited back to participate in the 2022 choir, but may have surpassed the age limit.
- There is a fee of \$20 payable to Choral Canada to audition.
- Singers must be members of their Provincial Choral Organization if there is one; [Choral NL](#), [Nova Scotia Choral Federation](#), [New Brunswick Choral Federation](#), [Alliance Chorale du Québec](#), [Choirs Ontario](#), [Manitoba Choral Association](#), [Saskatchewan Choral Federation](#), [Choir Alberta](#), [British Columbia Choral Federation](#).

Materials to Submit

The following should be completed and/or submitted electronically, in a single email, to sarah@choralcanada.org by **October 15, 2021**.

- Complete the [NATIONAL AUDITION FORM](#) online
- Your **choral/musical resume**, outlining your choral and singing experiences, musical education, vocal training and instrumental training if applicable;
- Confirm in the email that you have completed the [NATIONAL AUDITION FORM](#);
- The **link to your audition video on YouTube** (recording, uploading and posting instructions below);
- A **signed letter of recommendation** from someone who can attest to your musical knowledge, such as a voice teacher or conductor, that must indicate what part you typically sing in your current choir/singing group, and your general attitude and reputation as a singer in a choir/singing group. This letter is also a great opportunity to highlight aspects of your skills such as your sight reading abilities, instrumental talents or other applicable experience;
- Your \$20 audition fee, sent via e-transfer to info@choralcanada.org, clearly referencing your ApplicationID (see YouTube instructions below) in the comments section.

All video auditions will consist of the following:

- 2 short contrasting solo pieces in *any* style, in 2 different languages, accompanied or a cappella. Your selected pieces should demonstrate your vocal range and capability to its best advantage.
- Prepared choral excerpt performed a cappella (score is included at the end of this document).
- Vocal exercises that show your full range and tone quality.

To get an idea of the type of repertoire that will be performed at NYCC 2022, below you will find links to some proposed NYCC 2022 program pieces. This is the level of material that NYCC singers would be expected to perform and may help you to evaluate which pieces you would like to share in your audition.

[Nou se limyè](#)

Sydney Guillaume

[La Guerre](#)

Clément Jannequin

[Comforting Nathan](#)

Kelly-Marie Murphy

[Ring out wild bells](#)

Jonathan Dove

[Coro: Brich dem Hungrigen dein Brot BWV 39/1](#)

Johann Sebastian Bach

Choral Excerpt

Please prepare your voice part for the Kyrie movement of [José Maurício Nunes Garcia](#)' Requiem. This is to be performed a cappella. The score is found at the end of this document.

Vocal Exercises

There are two basic vocal exercises to be included at the beginning of your audition recording. These should be sung on an open vowel such as "ah".

The first consists of a broken triad, sung ascending and descending (i.e. do-mi-so-mi-do), starting in the middle of your range and moving up chromatically until you are at the very top of your range.



The second is a 5-note descending scale (i.e. so-fa-mi-re-do), starting in the middle of your range and moving down chromatically until you are at the very bottom of your range. These should be sung on an open vowel such as "ah".



Instructions on making your (private) YouTube audition video

- **NO EDITING IS ALLOWED.** Please record your audition as one uninterrupted video, making sure **that the camera runs in between pieces**, no matter how long the pause.
- Try to avoid speaking unnecessarily between pieces. Please state the titles of your selected solos. No need to announce your name, we will know who you are by your Application ID.
- **Turn off anything that might make noise, such as your cell phone, while recording.** There is no need to stop for general background noise, such as a doorbell, unless it is so loud that it will affect the sound quality of the piece you are singing.

Tips for making a better video for your audition

- Equipment
 - Most current cell phones are capable of taking great quality video that will be acceptable for this audition. We do recommend that you record in a rehearsal studio or hall if possible, using a tripod. If you do not have access to a space like this and you are recording at home, please make sure that your background isn't too distracting and that interruptions by any outside sounds are minimized.
 - If you do not have a cell phone with good resolution/sound capture quality, a digital video camera can be used. Most universities, colleges and high schools have video equipment which you can borrow or rent at a low cost. If you need additional support finding recording equipment, please don't hesitate to contact Choral Canada.
- Audio Quality
 - If you can, set the sound quality to better or best stereo, but no need for "Surround Sound".
- Camera Position
 - Experiment with the placement of the camera and find where in the room it captures the best sound quality. Use headphones to listen to the playback. Headphones provide better sound quality than most laptop, cell phone or camera speakers. If the room is more echoic or live, placing the camera closer to you usually helps.
 - Adjust the recording view to show your whole body from an angle so that we can see how you sing. Ensure your music stand is not blocking the view.
- Test and adjust your equipment setup with one of your audition excerpts prior to recording your whole audition. Ask yourself these questions:
 - Does the sound quality on this video accurately represent my sound? Can dynamic contrasts be heard?
 - Is my diction clear?
 - If the answer to any of these is no, adjust recording levels/equipment placement/recording equipment or recording location.
- Have another person to help you by starting and stopping the recording so that you can focus on singing.

- Recording your audition will probably take longer than you think, so give yourself plenty of time.
- You are allowed to record more than once, but you may only submit one uninterrupted video with no editing.

Instructions on YouTube Upload

- Sign up for a YouTube account or sign in to your existing account.
- If your audition video is longer than 15 minutes, you may have to extend the YouTube upload limit by clicking on the link “Upload HD videos in various formats up to 15 minutes. Increase your limit”. It is located on the YouTube upload screen.
- Follow the instructions on YouTube to start uploading your video.
- After uploading your video, make sure you do all the following 3 steps:
 1. On the application form, we asked you to provide an “Application ID” which would be your province or territory, last name, first letter of first name (ex. for John Smith from Nova Scotia it would be NovaScotiaSmithJ). Enter your “Application ID” into the **Title** field on your YouTube video upload screen.
 2. Change the “Privacy Settings” to *Unlisted* – **DO NOT** set it to *Private* or *Public*.
 3. Test your video to make sure it works before sending us the link, which includes ensuring your “Application ID” is displayed as the title above your video. Copy/Paste the URL for your audition video and include it in the email with your audition materials to programs@choralcanada.org. The URL of your audition video must be received by the **DEADLINE: October 15, 2021** in order to be eligible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT NATIONAL YOUTH CHOIR OF CANADA OR THE AUDITION PROCESS

Contact: Sarah Gardiner, Programs & Services Manager

sarah@choralcanada.org

www.nycc.ca

Requiem

SATB

Kyrie

José Maurício Nunes Garcia (1767-1830)

Fugato

Sopran

Alt

Tenor

Bass

Ky - ri - e e - le -

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, e -

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e -

S

A

T

B

5

i - son, Ky - e e - le - i - son,

le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e -

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son,

le - i - son.

10

S Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - lei - son,

A le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chris - te, -

T Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chris - te,

B Chris - te, -

15

S Chris - te e - le - i - son, Chris - te, Chris - te e - le - i -

A Chris - te e - le - i - son, Chris - te Chris - te e - le - i -

T Chris - te e - le - i - son, Chris - te, Chris - te e - le - i -

B Chris - te e - le - i - son, Chris - te, Chris - te Chris - te e - lei -

Requiem

20

S
son, Chris - te e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son.

A
son, Chris - te e - le - i - son, Chris - te e - le - i - son.

T
son, Chris - te e - le - i - son, Chris - te e - lei - son.

B
son, Chris - te e - le - i - son, e - lei - son.

25

S
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son,

A
Ky - ri - e e - le i - son, Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Ky - ri - e e -

T
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, e - le - i -

B
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, e -

4

Requiem

30

S e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Ky - ri -

A le - i - son, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i -

T son, e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son, e - le - i -

B le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i -

35

Largo

S e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

A son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

T son, e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son.

B son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.