



Choral Canada
Canada Choral

NYCC
CNJC

National Youth Choir
of Canada
Chœur national des
jeunes du Canada



2026 Program 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 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 period of intensive rehearsal and training, the NYCC embarks on a provincial or territorial tour, with the final stop at Podium.

For the 2026 NYCC, singers must be between the ages of 19 and 26 as of May 1, 2026.

WHEN AND WHERE IS NYCC 2026?

The program will run from May 3-16, 2026, including the rehearsal week, tour and PODIUM 2026. The NYCC 2026 rehearsal and training period will take place in British Columbia from May 3-8, 2026. The choir will then tour the province from May 8-14, performing concerts and community engagement workshops.

Singers are required to be onsite and to travel with the choir for the duration of the rehearsal/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.

PODIUM 2026

The choir will perform their final concert at [PODIUM 2026 \(Choral Canada's national Conference and Festival\)](#) on May 15th at 8pm and will participate as the workshop choir in a conducting masterclass at Podium on May 16th, after which the NYCC program concludes. *This schedule is subject to change.*

The PODIUM 2026 conference and festival is an opportunity for education, networking, exposure to fantastic concerts, and an unforgettable choral experience. More information about Podium can be found here: choralcanada.org/en/podium.

Singers will have the following options for PODIUM 2026 participation:

- Return home on May 16, accessing the remainder of PODIUM 2026 Conference and Festival virtually (a value of over \$145).

- Remain at PODIUM 2026 with a full in-person Conference and Festival pass (a value of over \$500). Please note: singers who remain at PODIUM 2026 after the masterclass on May 16 will be responsible for their own accommodations and meal expenses for the remainder of their stay.

WHO IS THE CONDUCTOR?

Choral Canada and the NYCC are pleased to welcome Dr. Julia Davids as the Guest Conductor for the 2026 edition of the choir.

Dr. Julia Davids is the Artistic Director of the JUNO-nominated Canadian Chamber Choir (CCC) and the Stephen J. Hendrickson Director of Choral Activities and Music Department Chair at North Park University, Chicago.

Julia says: “The National Youth Choir of Canada has been one of the most impactful organizations in my life. From singing with the NYCC under the legendary Diane Loomer through serving as the first Apprentice Conductor with my dear mentor Iwan Edwards, the musical experiences challenged and stretched and inspired me. But I think the greatest impact of the NYCC is the connecting of outstanding young musicians all over Canada. The relationships forged in the 1998 NYCC inspired us to create the Canadian Chamber Choir, now in its 25th season. I’m immeasurably grateful to the people who have fostered the NYCC and supported my journey, and I’m thrilled to have the opportunity to play another role in this tremendous organization.”

For more information about Julia and her role with the National Youth Choir of Canada, please visit www.nycc.ca/artistic-team.

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

Singers audition by submitting video recorded auditions to Choral Canada by **September 30, 2025**, and selections are made by a National Selection Committee.

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.

WHAT DOES THE AUDITION ENTAIL?

- You will need to perform **two short solo pieces** in different languages.
- You will also be required to prepare a **two choral excerpts** (see scores included at the end of the APPLICATION AND AUDITION GUIDELINES document) and to sing **vocal exercises** which demonstrate your vocal range.
- You must also submit a **choral/musical resume** and a **letter of recommendation**.

Please see the APPLICATION AND AUDITION GUIDELINES document for all details. If more clarification is required, please contact Choral Canada directly at info@choralcanada.org.

HOW MUCH DOES NYCC COST?

The fee per singer for 2026 is \$1700 + tax (GST + BC PST). The tuition fee covers roundtrip travel, program tuition, music, meals, accommodations (student residence/hotel for rehearsal week and Podium, billeting while 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 in 3 installments to Choral Canada as per our payment schedule.

IMPORTANT: Some provincial choral organizations (listed below) will be able to provide partial financial support for 2026 and other funding opportunities may be available, including grants or bursaries. If the tuition fee is a barrier, we encourage you to audition and if you are selected, we will work with you to help access additional funds to support your NYCC experience.

ChoralNL - choraln.ca

Nova Scotia Choral Federation - nscf.ca

New Brunswick Choral Federation - nbcfsite.wordpress.com

Alliance horale 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

HEALTH AND SAFETY STATEMENT

The 2026 NYCC program will abide by public health guidelines and deal with any illness or health situations on tour on an individual basis.

CHORAL CANADA POLICIES

[ADEI \(Accessibility, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion\) Policy](#)

[Code of Conduct and Anti-Harassment Policy](#)