



*Canberra's  
Eisteddfod*

**Australian National Eisteddfod Inc.**  
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# Australian National Eisteddfod

## Choirs

### Event Guide (Syllabus)

**Friday 7 – Sunday 9, August 2026**  
(Snow Concert Hall, Canberra Grammar School)

**Entries Close Friday 5 June 2026**

**Contact Details:** [choirs@nationaleisteddfod.org.au](mailto:choirs@nationaleisteddfod.org.au)  
**Event Director:** Miguel Wu  
**Entries via:** [www.stardom.com.au](http://www.stardom.com.au)

[www.nationaleisteddfod.org.au](http://www.nationaleisteddfod.org.au)

# THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD

## **2026 Events**

**BANDS AND ORCHESTRAS: 22 – 24 May 2026**

**CHOIRS: 7 – 9 August 2026**

**PIANO: 15 – 21 August 2026**

**SPEECH AND DRAMA: 5 – 6 September 2026**

**SINGING: TBA**

*Please check website to confirm details:* <http://www.nationaleisteddfod.org.au>

Event Guides (syllabuses) for these events will be available at: <http://www.nationaleisteddfod.org.au>

Entries for all events can be made at: <http://www.stardom.com.au>

## **2026 Choirs Adjudicator – Paul Jarman**

Paul Jarman is a composer, lyricist, conductor & performer. One of Australia's most celebrated choral composers, Paul has written over 300 commissioned works. At the forefront of the modern wave of Australian choral music, Paul is regarded for his inclusive projects, most notably his contribution of over 100 school anthems. Many of Paul's works have become modern choral standards. He is proudly self-published worldwide.

Paul has long standing associations with many of Australia's arts organisations & festivals including Gondwana Choirs, The Voices of Birralee, Hunter Singers, the NSW Arts Unit and Festival of Voices. Paul has been the composer in residence for hundreds of schools across Australia & the Diversity Artist in residence at Dulwich College International since 2014, across China, Myanmar, Korea & Singapore.

As a multi-instrumentalist in Australia's pioneering world music group, Sirocco, Paul performed as a cultural ambassador from 1996 – 2012 in festivals & events worldwide. Paul has collaborated with various other ensembles & toured with choirs throughout Europe, North America & the Pacific Islands, including commemorations for Centenary of WW1.

Paul specialises in story and words. His work for the 40th Anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King Jnr was performed for President Barack Obama in the White House. He writes for historical events including a Choral Symphony about the Thai Cave Rescue, the Canonization of Mary Mackillop, the Sesquicentenary of Hobart Town Hall, the Sesquicentenary of the Tasmanian Education System and many school Anniversary works. In 2016, Paul was the only composer from the Southern Hemisphere, commissioned by Oxford University Press to write a piece for the 400th Anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare.

Paul has performed on many Australian films & composed numerous film scores for acclaimed director Mike Dillon. He has composed & conducted the music for special events including the Centenary of Federations, the Bicentenary of the Battle of Vinegar Hill, Year of the Outback, The Rugby World Cup Opening Ceremony, United Nations Year of the Mountain, The Queensland 150th & the Australia Day Spectacular. Paul is the patron of the Orange Male Voice Choir.

## General rules and conditions of entry

All entrants participate according to these rules and conditions and any special conditions as may apply to individual divisions or events.

### GENERAL

1. Entries must be submitted in the Stardom system (<http://www.stardom.com.au>) and accompanied by full fees or they will not be processed. Responsibility for correct entry rests with the entrant.
2. The Eisteddfod reserves the right to:
  - (a) refuse an entry;
  - (b) cancel a section (e.g. due to lack of entries);
  - (c) vary the prizes (e.g. when insufficient entries perform);
  - (d) demand proof of age of an entrant in an age section, or proof of amateur or professional status, or
  - (e) combine sections together.
3. An entrant may only enter a particular section once, except where specifically stated otherwise. The name of the partner(s) in a duo, lieder or ensemble must be included on the entry form, except for bands, orchestras, choirs and ensembles of six or more players.
4. No person may enter under a name other than his or her own. Entries are not transferable from one person to another.
5. Refunds of entry fees will be made to an entrant only if a section has been cancelled by the Eisteddfod.
6. One conductor may conduct any number of groups, and one director may present any number of groups. Age limits do not apply to conductors.
7. Entrants at Eisteddfod functions take part at their own risk. The Society does not accept responsibility for any accident or personal loss or injury, however caused.
8. Prizes, reports and original material not collected at the conclusion of the relevant division will be available for collection by arrangement with an Event Director.
9. Age, where specified for any section, shall be the age on the first day of competition of the division in which the entry is made.
10. Any entrant wishing to withdraw from a section must notify the Eisteddfod as soon as possible.
11. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Eisteddfod.
12. **The Australian National Eisteddfod Society will not be liable for any copyright infringement relating to the submission of photocopies. Entrants should be aware of the rules of copyright (see section 30 headed 'Copyright' below).**
13. The Society reserves the right to record, film, broadcast, telecast, videotape or photograph any entrant, item or event in the Eisteddfod without notification, unless the entrant advises the Eisteddfod in advance their photo is not to be shared. Any such photograph, recording or broadcast may be used at the Eisteddfod's discretion for publicity or promotional purposes, but shall not necessarily constitute an endorsement of any entrants, and no remuneration or compensation whatsoever shall be attributable to any entrants so featured.
14. Recording of performances on video is not permitted. Photography is permitted so long as a flash is not used.
15. A high standard of behaviour is expected from all entrants and spectators. Participants and supporters must comply with the Code of Conduct.
16. Any mechanical rights which should be obtained in respect of recordings for performance is the responsibility of the performer. The Eisteddfod holds a licence issued by APRA for the live performance of published music.
17. An entrant, who during the three months preceding the opening date of the division in which he or she has entered, has been taught, coached or advised by the appointed Adjudicator of the division, shall not be eligible to compete in that division of the Eisteddfod.
18. Failure to comply with any of the foregoing rules and conditions may result in disqualification and withholding of prizes. The decision of the Eisteddfod in all questions or disputes arising out of, or not provided for, by these rules and regulations shall be final. All entries are received on this condition and in the spirit of friendly competition upon which the Australian National Eisteddfod is based, and no dispute shall become the subject of any appeal at law.

### PERFORMANCE

19. Entrants should pay particular attention to neatness of appearance when appearing on stage, as this may be taken into consideration by the Adjudicator.
20. (a) No entrant may render the same item in more than one section of the Eisteddfod except where otherwise specified.  
(b) No entrant, having won a section, may render the same item in the following year.
21. A copy of the music or other material to be performed in "own choice" events MUST be provided for the Adjudicator and Accompanist, unless it is a piece set by the Eisteddfod. The onus of choosing the right material for the event rests with the entrant. Suitability and degree of difficulty will be taken into consideration by the Adjudicator. The Eisteddfod does not accept responsibility for the loss of music or other material. In accordance with Copyright law, photocopies and other texts will be destroyed following the event.
22. Time limits set out in the Syllabus must be adhered to. Entrants who exceed the time limit may have marks deducted or be disqualified by the Adjudicator.
23. A teacher shall not be allowed on stage except in the capacity of an official, accompanist or conductor.
24. Prompting or assistance of any kind shall not be given to any entrant, except by the Adjudicator, who may take any contravention of this Rule into consideration in his or her adjudication.

25. Communication with the Adjudicator by entrants, teachers or other interested parties (other than in an official capacity) during a section is strictly prohibited, and the Eisteddfod reserves the right to disqualify an entrant for any breach of this rule.
26. The Adjudicator's decision shall be final.
27. Any protest shall be made in writing to the Eisteddfod within 24 hours of the completion of the relevant section. A protest can only be made by an entrant, or the entrant's teacher or parent. The decision of the Eisteddfod shall be final.
28. A copy of the Adjudicator's report will be made available free of charge at the end of each section.
29. Entrants shall not practise in the performing space for their division on the division's competition days.

#### **PRIZES`**

30. The Eisteddfod comprises competitive and non-competitive sections. The prize or award for each section is outlined in the relevant Syllabus and Stardom section description. All prizes, including highly commended, are at the discretion of the Adjudicator. In exceptional circumstances the adjudicator may award a prize jointly to more than 1 competitor with a total monetary value not exceeding the specified prize amount.

#### **COPYRIGHT**

31. The Australian National Eisteddfod Society Inc. holds an Australian Performing Rights Association (APRA) licence. An entrant may supply the adjudicator with an unlicensed copy of the piece providing that (a) the original is used by the entrant for the performance or held at the venue for inspection and (b) the Eisteddfod or its delegate destroys the copy immediately after the event.

## Choir Sections

<b>Primary School Choir (Year 4 &amp; under)   Time limit: 8 mins</b> Entry fee: \$120, Prize: 1 <sup>st</sup> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Trophies	
C01	Choir (min. 12 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in actions))
<b>Primary School Choir (Year 6 &amp; under)   Time limit: 8 mins</b> Entry fee: \$120, Prize: 1 <sup>st</sup> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Trophies	
C07	Vocal Ensemble (4-15 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in parts) contrasting in genre)
C08	Choir (min. 12 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in parts) contrasting in genre)
C09	Spiritual / Gospel Choir (min. 12 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in parts))
C10	Contemporary Choir (min. 12 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in parts))
<b>High School Choir (Year 7-12)   Time limit: 10 mins</b> Entry fee: \$140, Prize: 1 <sup>st</sup> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Trophies	
C14	Vocal Ensemble (4-15 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in parts) contrasting in genre)
C15	Choir (min. 12 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in parts) contrasting in genre)
C16	Spiritual / Gospel Choir (min. 12 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in parts))
C17	Contemporary Choir (min. 12 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in parts))
<b>Open Community Choir / Ensemble   Time limit: 12 mins</b> Entry fee: \$200, Prize: 1 <sup>st</sup> \$250 cash and trophy; 2 <sup>nd</sup> trophy; and 3 <sup>rd</sup> trophy	
C21	Vocal Ensemble (4-15 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in parts) contrasting in genre)
C22	Choir (min. 12 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in parts) contrasting in genre)
C23	Spiritual / Gospel Choir (min. 12 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in parts))
C24	Contemporary Choir (min. 12 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in parts))
C25	Cultural Choir (min. 12 voices, 2 pieces (at least 1 in parts and 1 piece must be in another language; may include Auslan))

**Note:** Time limits will be enforced.

### Tentative Schedule (all depending on number of entries)

- 7 August 2026 (if needed, only after 5:30pm) – Primary School Choir (Year 4 and under) or Open Community Choir / Ensemble
- 8 August 2026 – Primary School Choir (Year 4 and under), Primary School Choir (Year 6 and under), and High School Choir
- 9 August 2026 – High School Choir and Open Community Choir / Ensemble

# The Australian National Eisteddfod Incorporated

The Eisteddfod is a not-for-profit community organisation, incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 of the ACT - Certificate A10

It is registered as a charity and as a tax-deductible gift recipient under the Australian Federal Income Tax Assessment Act – ABN 32 452 693 087.

## Board

President: Sylvia Tulloch  
Vice-President: Janetta McRae  
Secretary: Janette Humphrey  
Treasurer: Amy Sleeman  
General Members: Event Directors

## Event Directors

Bands & Orchestras Simon Best and Ben Green  
Choirs Miguel Wu  
Piano New event director required – please contact us if interested  
Singing Janetta McRae and Peter Smith  
Speech & Drama Sylvia Tulloch and Dion Oxley

Eisteddfod Office: [eisteddfod@nationaleisteddfod.org.au](mailto:eisteddfod@nationaleisteddfod.org.au)  
[www.nationaleisteddfod.org.au](http://www.nationaleisteddfod.org.au)

## Australian National Eisteddfod - Life Members

The Society gratefully acknowledges the long service and significant contributions by individuals to the Society's Eisteddfodau by award of Life Membership.

Dianne Anderson AM  
Judith Bauer OAM  
Paul Barsdell  
Janet Bedloe  
Simon Best  
Julia Butler  
Alan Christie  
Fay Cull  
Dorothy Dashwood OAM  
Angela Finnegan OAM  
Ben Green

Janette Humphrey  
Janelle MacDonald  
Norma MacKay  
Janetta McRae  
Di Miley  
Margaret Minnis  
Robbie Robson  
Gwynneth Rowe  
Amy Sleeman  
Sylvia Tulloch AM

## Eisteddfod Partners



## Choirs Venue

