

CHORAL COMPETITION RULES

The FDF Choral Competition has been an integral part of this annual event for many years. The goal of the choral competition is to enhance the music ministry of the Metropolis through encouraging youth participation; and, to promote the study and performance of the sacred music of the Greek Orthodox Church, and secular music of Hellenic heritage.

Group Eligibility

- Participants must be members in good standing of the Greek Orthodox Church.
- Choral group directors and parish priest will enforce this rule.
- Failure to meet this standard may result in disqualification of the group from competition, or forfeiture of awards.

Required Music Standards

Division I - Age Requirement: Average age of 13 years and older.

- Each group will sing one of the following required pieces for each category (1 liturgical, 1 folk):
 - **Liturgical:**
 - **Potirion Soteriou** – OR – the English language version of this hymn, The Cup of Salvation as arranged by George Zgourides. Note: this music is composed for 4 part harmony. Groups may choose to sing this hymn in unison, 2 part harmony (soprano/alto), or, in 3 or 4 part harmony if they have the vocal resources to do so (attached).
 - **Aggelike Dynamis** – in the Greek language as arranged by Tikey Zes. This is a unison arrangement (attached).
 - **Folk:**
 - **To Ekklisaki** in the Greek Language, as arranged by Tikey Zes. Groups may choose to sing this piece in unison or 2 part harmony (soprano/alto) (attached).
 - **Tsakonikos** – in the Greek Language as arranged by Tikey Zes. Groups may choose to sing this piece in unison or in 2 part harmony (soprano/alto) (attached).
- The rest of the competition program may be built around discretionary pieces set by the director of each group.

Division II - Age Requirement: Average age up to 13 years old.

- Each group will sing one of the following required pieces for each category (1 liturgical, 1 folk):
 - **Liturgical:**
 - **Potirion Soteriou** – OR – the English language version of this hymn, The Cup of Salvation as arranged by George Zgourides. Note: this music is composed for 4 part harmony. Groups may choose to sing this hymn in unison, 2 part harmony (soprano/alto), or, in 3 or 4 part harmony if they have the vocal resources to do so (attached).
 - **Aggelike Dynamis** – in the Greek language as arranged by Tikey Zes. This is a unison arrangement (attached).
 - **Folk:**
 - **To Ekklisaki** in the Greek Language, as arranged by Tikey Zes. Groups may choose to sing this piece in unison or 2 part harmony (soprano/alto) (attached).
 - **Tsakonikos** – in the Greek Language as arranged by Tikey Zes. Groups may choose to sing this piece in unison or in 2 part harmony (soprano/alto) (attached).
- The rest of the competition program may be built around discretionary pieces set by the director of each group.

Judging Criteria and Scoring System

- **Musicianship (60% of score):** technical ability in music, including intonation, phrasing, pitch, dynamics, diction, and ensemble singing (how well the group sings together).
- **Presentation (30% of score):** includes memorization, stage presence, a cappella singing, accompaniment (and how accompanying musicians are featured).
- **Interpretation (10% of score):** liturgical hymns are sung/chanted with an appropriate style and reverence; folk songs are sung with an appropriate traditional style.

Time Limits and Exceeding the Time Limit

Each choral group will be allotted a maximum time of twelve (12) minutes for their performance. Timing begins once the group has begun singing their first piece. Unless technical difficulties arise beyond the control of the group, any choral group exceeding the maximum time allotted will be penalized as follows:

- Less than one minute over maximum time allotted: penalty of 5% subtracted from total cumulative score.
- One minute or more over maximum time allotted: penalty of 10% subtracted from total cumulative score.

Singing With Teams From More Than One Parish

A singer may compete with teams from more than one parish provided a written consent is furnished by the parish priests (the priests of all parishes concerned) to the FDF Board of Trustees no later than 30 days prior to the annual event. Each consent form must list all the groups in which the singer will perform.

Questions or Comments

If you have any questions regarding Choral Competition please contact Kathy Meck at competition@yourfdf.org