



ACCC Associated Publishers Award for Choral Composition ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

As part of its mandate to promote Canadian choral music, ACCC is pleased to announce the sixth edition of its competition for choral composition organized in conjunction with its associated publishers, including Cypress Choral Music of Vancouver. The goal of the competition is to stimulate Canadian composers to write choral music and to stimulate choirs throughout Canada to commission and perform new Canadian works as well as to further stimulate Canadian publishers to publish and disseminate new music by Canadian composers. ACCC is a non-profit organization serving all facets of the choral community across the country. The membership includes choral musicians and institutions from every province who work with school, university, church, community and professional choirs.

Previous Winners of the Competition were:

First Prize, SATB (1999)— Ramona Luengen, Vancouver, for *Mésange*
First Prize (tied) SSA (1999)— Allan Bevan, Calgary, for *Ave Maria*, and
David Scott Lytle, Montreal, for *Ah! vous dirais-je, Maman*
First Prize, SATB (2001) — Michael Unger, London, ON for *Sea Song*
First Prize, SSA (2001) — Allan Bevan, Calgary, for *Echo*
First Prize, SATB (2003) — Jeff Smallman, London, ON for *Brier*
First Prize SSA (2003) — Allan Bevan, Calgary for *Harp of Wild*
No prizes were awarded in 2005.
First Prize SATB (2007) — Brian Tate, Vancouver for *Africa*

These works are published by Cypress Choral Music (www.cypresschoral.com).

Eligibility

1. The competition is open to Canadian citizens and landed immigrants.
2. A composer may enter in subsequent years, but must not enter a work previously submitted.
3. Works submitted must not have been formally published, accepted for publication, or commissioned for a fee, although they may have been performed.
4. Members of the jury and their families may not enter the competition.

Competition Rules and Regulations

1. **Voicing:** For the purposes of the 2009-2010 competition, the works submitted must be arrangements for Mixed Voices (SATB, with or without some reasonable divisi in any or all of the voices). A limited amount of solo work is also possible, although it should be kept in mind that the soloist(s) should be drawn from the choral ensemble.
2. The works may be **a cappella** or may have a **piano accompaniment**. They should not require any other instruments except obligato or required percussive sounds, e.g. wood block, finger cymbals, tongue clicks, etc., but not difficult to obtain instruments such as timpani.
3. **Duration:** Works submitted should a maximum of seven (7) minutes in length.
4. All **musical styles** are acceptable but highly strophic works (i.e. multiple verses with the same music) are not appropriate. Likewise, entries with a strongly seasonal text, which could pose programming problems, should be avoided. (Please remember that the winning work(s) will be premiered in May 2010.)
5. Texts and/or music may be in the public domain. If not, **permission in writing** must be obtained from the author or copyright holder of the text or music and must be enclosed with the entry form.

6. **Presentation** must be a very **legible** “performance-ready” manuscript (written by hand or computer set). The jury has the right to refuse entries which are not legible. The work should be presented on paper no smaller than 8.5 x 11 inches (standard letter size).

7. A **piano reduction** of a cappella works must be supplied where it is feasible to do so.

8. A maximum of **two works per composer** may be submitted. Entries must be postmarked no later than **June 1, 2009**.

9. There is an **entry fee** of \$10. Cheque should be made payable to ACCC.

10. **Only scores** will be accepted as entries. Do not submit tapes or CDs.

11. Send **seven copies** of EACH work submitted. The **composer’s name should not appear** anywhere on the scores. The ACCC Competition Chair will receive the entries, which will be sent to jury members, and the composer’s identity will be released by ACCC only after the judging has taken place. **Send entries to:** ACCC Composition Competition, c/o James Hawn, 201 31st Street West, Saskatoon, SK S7L 0P6.

12. Composers should **include a self-addressed envelope** with sufficient return postage if they wish to have their manuscripts returned. Otherwise copies of works submitted will be destroyed after the competition. In either case, a single copy of each work submitted will be retained by ACCC for reference and archival purposes only.

13. A **single copy** of the winning work(s) will be retained by ACCC for purposes of performance preparation and promotion. It is understood that ACCC or the associate publishers sponsoring the competition may make copies only of the winning works for performance and free promotional distribution only at the national conductors’ conference, Podium 2010. The composer may be asked to submit the original master/diskette for publication purposes.

14. The competition will be judged by a **seven-member jury** consisting of four renowned Canadian choral conductors, a composer, and two members of the music publishing industry. The judges’ decision is final.

15. Strong consideration will be given to a work’s **potential for performance** and repeated performance by a majority of Canadian choirs possessing the appropriate voicing requirements. The winning work will demonstrate excellence of writing, “singability” (given reasonable rehearsal time), and choral (idiomatic) effectiveness. Strong consideration will also be given to a work’s potential for publication. Excessively long, difficult works are unlikely to meet this requirement. Publishers are more likely to publish an octavo of 12 pages rather than 20.

16. The **first-prize winner** will receive \$1,500. There will be no second prizes. **The jury has the right to award no prize if there are no entries meeting jury standards.**

17. The winning work will be **premiered** by the National Youth Choir at Podium 2010, the ACCC biennial conference to be held May 20-23, 2010 in Saskatoon, SK.

18. The winning work will be **promoted** through a performance at Podium 2010. As well, the work will be promoted in ACCC’s journal, *Anacrusis*, and possible radio and television broadcasts. A promotional copy of the prize-winning work(s) may be given to every delegate and music dealer at Podium 2010.

19. The winning work will be **considered for publication** by a company chosen by the sponsors of the competition. If a publisher agrees to publish the winning work, the composer will be expected to allow the publication of his/her work with that company, with royalties of not less than 10 per cent of gross retail sales. The composer may refuse publication only with good reason. To date, all winning compositions have been published.

20. No publishing other than preparation of the work for the premiere Podium performance and promotional copies to Podium delegates, will be entered into until a **contract** has been signed between the composer and the publisher. It is understood that prize money includes royalties for the initial Podium performances and/or NYC tour.

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