



2024

BIPOC SONG COMPETITION

Call for Submissions

Cantabile Choirs of Kingston is calling for submissions for the 2024 BIPOC SONG COMPETITION. The purpose of this competition is to create opportunities to feature and support emerging and early-career BIPOC composers, and increase representation of vocal/choral works by underrepresented or marginalized artists. This competition is open to emerging and early-career composers who self-identify as a member of Canada's BIPOC community. Submissions are welcome by Canadian citizens (living in Canada or abroad), permanent and temporary residents, and Indigenous peoples in Canada.

The 2023/24 competition has been revised from previous iterations to incorporate community feedback. In this edition, composers will submit a written proposal for a new choral work, along with samples of existing work. A peer jury of Canadian BIPOC artists will assess the applications, and the select winner(s) will be offered a commission.

The 2023/24 competition includes two submission categories:

1. SATB – a proposal for an original work or arrangement for SATB voicing (~3-6 minutes in length), with or without accompaniment. The work may include up to 4 instruments (in addition to piano), in any combination at the discretion of the composer.
2. Unison – a proposal for an original work or arrangement in unison, suitable for children's voices. The composition may include some two-part divisi (~3-5 minutes in length). This work should include piano accompaniment, and may include up to 2 additional instruments.

The winner of the SATB category will receive:

- A commission offer for a new choral work*
- A premiere performance by Cantabile Choirs at a future concert (details TBD)

The winner of the Unison category will receive:

- A commission offer for a new choral work*
- A premiere performance by Cantabile Choirs at a future concert (details TBD)

** Commissioning fees will be determined based on the voicing and instrumentation, and set according to standards of the Canadian League of Composers.*

COMPETITION GUIDELINES:

Eligibility: This competition is open to emerging and early-career composers, who self-identity as a member of Canada's BIPOC community. Submissions are welcome by Canadian citizens (living in Canada or abroad), permanent and temporary residents, and Indigenous peoples in Canada.

Deadline: The deadline for submissions will be **February 2, 2024**. Submissions will not be accepted after 5:00pm EST. Late submissions will not be considered.

Samples of previous works: Samples of previous works should be submitted in PDF form, using notation software if possible. Original works/arrangements that are inspired by aural cultural traditions will also be accepted; these works should include a recording of the work, as well as instructions on best cultural practices for learning and performing the work.

Text: Proposals should clearly indicate where the song text will be coming. If the text has already been created, a copy should be included in the submission. If the text has not been created yet (i.e., it will be written in the future by the composer or a poet/lyricist) the proposal should include a clear concept about the theme, purpose, and style of the text. All languages are acceptable. If you provide a text sample in a language other than English or French, you must include an English translation.

Evaluation: Submissions will be assessed by a panel of exclusively BIPOC artists. Factors for consideration include quality of proposal, text selection/theme, appropriateness of the proposed work for performance by amateur ensembles, and samples of previous work. All identifying information will be redacted; Jury members will not see the names of applicants.

Submit: Please submit your application by email to info@cantabilechoirs.net with the subject line: "BIPOC SONG COMPETITION". Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions!

2023/24

BIPOC SONG COMPETITION

ENTRY FORM

Complete Form: Complete the Entry Form. Ensure that all fields are completed. Incomplete applications may be disqualified.

Samples of previous work: Submit two (2) samples of previous work. Where possible, provide samples of choral or vocal works.

Submit: Please submit your application by email to info@cantabilechoirs.net

Subject line: "BIPOC SONG COMPETITION"

Attach: Completed Entry Form, two (2) samples of previous work.

Deadline: February 2, 2024 @ 5:00pm (EST).

APPLICANT INFORMATION

NAME:

EMAIL:

PHONE:

DATE OF BIRTH (DD/MM/YY):

CULTURAL BACKGROUND/IDENTITY:

Information on cultural identity is collected only for demographic statistics. Demographic information is kept confidential and will only be used to report to funders. Demographic information will not be available to the jury or any persons/party outside of Cantabile administrative staff.

PROPOSAL

DESCRIPTION: (max. 300 words)

Tell us about the work you are proposing. What will the text or theme be? What is your inspiration for the work? What do you want to accomplish? What excites you about this proposal?

CATEGORY: SATB or UNISON/2-pt

INSTRUMENTATION: