



Choirs and Singing

Junior Choirs

Choirs from classes 2-6 will be eligible to compete for two prizes awarded by The Bedford Choral Society. The prize of £250 will be awarded to the most promising choir and The Bedford Choral Society Cup will be awarded to the most outstanding choir. The winners of both prizes may also be asked to perform at the Gala Concert on the final day of the Festival.



Please state the number of performers upon entry. Due to the number of choirs entering the Festival, the choir classes may need to take place on both Saturday 1st March and Sunday 2nd March. Choirs should be prepared to be scheduled on either day. Choir leaders should contact the Festival Secretary to confirm their technical requirements by 1st February.

Class 1 My First Festival for Choirs – Year 6 & below; entry fee £24

Non-competitive class for primary school choirs who are new to the Festival.

This class will take place during the week, not during the choirs' day.

Time limit – 5 minutes

Class 2 Junior Choirs - Year 3 & below; entry fee £24.00

A contrasting programme of not more than 10 minutes.

The Leslie Bowles Challenge Cup

Class 3 Junior Choirs - Year 6 & below; entry fee £24.00

A contrasting programme of not more than 10 minutes.

The Emily Emery Challenge Cup

Class 4 Junior Choirs - Year 9 & below; entry fee £24.00

A contrasting programme of not more than 10 minutes.

The Luton Challenge Shield

Class 5 Junior Choirs - Year 13 & below; entry fee £24.00

A contrasting programme of not more than 10 minutes.

The Stella Mathers Cup

Class 6 Junior Chamber Choirs 8-20 voices - Year 13 & below; entry fee £24.00

A contrasting programme of not more than 10 minutes.

The Bedford Amateur Operatic Society Cup



Choirs any age

Any choirs with more than 40 members should inform the Festival Secretary to aid with logistics. Prize money will only be awarded to choirs receiving an honours category and above.

Class 13 Community Choir - Any non-auditioned choir whose members are drawn from the local community; any age; entry fee £29.50

A contrasting programme of not more than 10 minutes.

See Class 26 for details of the Harding Memorial Competition.

The Britannia Works Cup

The Festival Sponsorship Prize of £80

Class 14 Open Choral 3-8 voices - any age; entry fee £22.00

A contrasting programme of not more than 10 minutes.

See Class 26 for details of the Harding Memorial Competition.

Borough of Bedford Charter Year Challenge Salver

The Festival Sponsorship Prize of £80

Class 15 Open Choral 9+ voices; entry fee £29.50

A contrasting programme of not more than 10 minutes.

See Class 26 for details of the Harding Memorial Competition.

The Horace Geeson Challenge Bowl

The Festival Sponsorship Prize of £80

Class 16 A Capella Class; entry fee £29.50

A contrasting programme of not more than 10 minutes.

See Class 26 for details of the Harding Memorial Competition.

A Festival Cup

The Festival Sponsorship Prize of £80

Class 26 The Harding Memorial Bowl; open to any competitors in Classes 13 - 16; Free entry

Own choice - must not have been performed in the above qualifying classes. A contrasting programme of not more than 10 minutes.

The Harding Memorial Bowl

The Festival Sponsorship Prize of £200

This Trophy was presented by the late Mrs Harding in memory of our Founder, Dr H. A. Harding.



This class will only proceed if there is more than one choir entered, and the Festival Sponsorship Prize of £200 will only be awarded when the winning choir achieves an honours category or above.



Singing

See also Classes 151, 156, 157A and 157B

All repertoire in the vocal classes should be performed from memory except Oratorio items. Entrants are advised against choosing cover songs or pop songs which would normally be performed with a band and sung with a microphone except for Pop Song classes. Backing tracks are not permitted for these classes. Entrants can perform more than once within a class as a solo or duet performer. Entrants can also perform more than one duet with a different partner each time.

Selected performers will be eligible to compete for the Woodfine Lousada Cup at the Gala Concert on the final Saturday in the evening. Performers will be notified before the event if they have been selected to perform and should hold themselves available to compete if asked to do so. Those who perform at the Gala Concert qualify to be considered for the Woodfine Lousada Musical Sponsorship Cup & Prize of £250. This is awarded to the most outstanding Musical performance at the Gala Concert.

Class 34A Song from an animated film including Disney – Year 9 & below

Solo; entry fee £10.00

Own choice of a song from any animated film.

A Festival Cup

Class 34B Song from an animated film including Disney – Year 10 & over

Solo; entry fee £10.00

Own choice of a song from any animated film.

A Festival Cup

Class 35 Solo or Duet Singing - Age 5 and under (Year 1 & below);

Entry fee Solo £10.00 or Duet £15.00

Own choice including Nursery Rhymes to be sung accompanied or unaccompanied.

(Time limit 3 minutes)

The Olive Sampson Challenge Cup

Class 36 Solo Singing - Year 2 & 3; entry fee £10.00

Own choice.

(Time limit 3 minutes)

The Eric Masters Cup

Class 37 Solo Singing - Year 4 & 5; entry fee £10.00

Own choice excluding Musical Theatre.

(Time limit 3 minutes)

The Mrs B M Gooch Cup



Class 38 Duet Singing Aged 15 & under; entry fee £15.00

Own choice excluding Musical Theatre.

(Time limit 4 minutes)

The David Bennett Memorial Cup

If we receive a number of duet entries this class will be split into different age groups.

Class 39 Solo Singing - Year 6 & 7; entry fee £10.00

Own choice excluding Musical Theatre.

(Time limit 4 minutes)

The Miss V Langridge Cup

Class 40 Solo Singing - Year 8 & 9; entry fee £10.00

Own choice excluding Musical Theatre.

(Time limit 4 minutes)

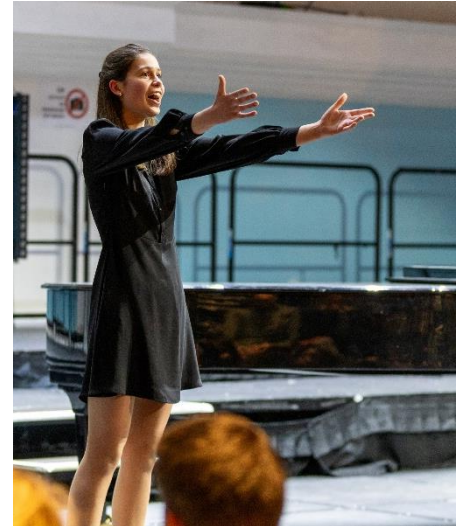
The S H G Clarke Cup

Class 41 Solo Singing - Year 10 & 11; entry fee £10.00

Own choice excluding Musical Theatre.

(Time limit 4 minutes)

The A F Parris Cup



Class 42 A Song in any living language other than English - Year 11 & under; entry fee £10.00

Own choice of a song originally written with piano accompaniment.

(Time limit for own choice item 4 minutes)

Folk Song

Folk Song Definition:

A song of which the music and text have been handed down by oral tradition for which there is no known composer.

Class 48 Folk Song - Year 11 & under; entry fee £10.00

A traditional folk song from any country, unaccompanied to be sung in original language only. This must not be a composed arrangement.

(Time limit 3 minutes)

The Donald Armstrong Cup

Class 50 Song of Worship - Year 9 & under; entry fee £10.00

Own choice of a sacred song.

(Time limit 5 minutes)

The Edward Turnham Chorister Cup



Musical Theatre

Musical Theatre Definition:

A song post 1900 from a live stage show or film production in a popular style to showcase dramatic and vocal character. Songs from opera, operetta or cartoon films are not eligible. Cartoon film songs should be entered in class 34. See also class 66.

Class 51A Musical Theatre - Year 4-5 - Solo or Duet;

entry fee Solo £10.00 or Duet £15.00

Own choice from a musical, performed in character. No backing tracks.

(Time limit 4 minutes)

A Festival Cup

Class 51B Musical Theatre - Year 6-7 - Solo or Duet;

entry fee Solo £10.00 or Duet £15.00

Own choice from a musical, performed in character. No backing tracks.

(Time limit 4 minutes)

A Festival Cup

Class 51C Musical Theatre - Year 8-9 - Solo or Duet; entry fee Solo £10.00 or Duet £15.00

Own choice from a musical, performed in character. No backing tracks

(Time limit 5 minutes)

The Bedford Marianettes' Amateur Musical Comedy Society Cup

Class 51D Musical Theatre - Year 10-11 - Solo or Duet; entry fee Solo £10.00 or Duet £15.00

Own choice from a musical, performed in character. No backing tracks

(Time limit 5 minutes)

The Festival reserves the right to combine Classes 51A, 51B, 51C and 51D if there are not sufficient entries.

Class 52A Pop or Jazz Song - Age 15 & under; entry fee £10.00

Live accompaniment only (e.g., piano or acoustic guitar). No backing tracks.

Entrants are not required to provide a score for this class.

(Time limit 5 minutes)

Class 52B Pop or Jazz Song - Age 16 & over; entry fee £13.00

Live accompaniment only (e.g., piano or acoustic guitar). No backing tracks. Entrants are not required to provide a score for this class.

(Time limit 5 minutes)



Class 52C Create a pop or Jazz style song - Any age; entry fee £13.00

Live accompaniment only (e.g., piano or acoustic guitar). No backing tracks. Entrants are not required to provide a score for this class.
(Time limit 5 minutes)

The Festival reserves the right to combine Classes 52A and 52B if there are not sufficient entries.

Class 53 The Association of English Singers and Speakers' Trophy any age; entry fee £15.00

Entrants should perform a memorised programme of 10-12 minutes with a theme to include a spoken introduction, two songs written by an English composer and a piece of spoken poetry or prose. Both music and speech sections will be adjudicated equally.
The Association of English Singers and Speakers' Trophy and Prize of £25

Selected performers from the solo singing classes will be eligible to compete for the Eglinton Challenge Bowl at the Gala Concert on the final day of the Festival. Performers will be notified before the event if they have been selected to perform and should hold themselves available to compete if asked. Those who perform at the Gala Concert qualify to be considered for the Woodfine Lousada Musical Sponsorship Cup & Prize of £250. This is awarded to the most outstanding Musical performance at the Gala Concert.

Class 54 World Music Song - any age; entry fee £13.00

Any song from a non-western tradition
Either unaccompanied or accompanied by any suitable live instrument(s).
Recorded accompaniment may be used if non-western instruments.
(Time limit 5 minutes)

Class 55 Solo Singing - 16-17 years; entry fee Solo £13.00

Own choice, excluding opera, oratorio and musicals.
(Time limit 4 minutes)
The G Huntingdon Cup

Class 56 Solo Singing - 18 years & over; entry fee £13.00

Own choice, excluding opera, oratorio and musicals.
(Time limit 5 minutes)
The H A Deacon Bowl



Class 57 Solo Singing - Victorian or Edwardian Ballad - 16 years & over; entry fee £13.00

Own choice of ballad (composed between 1837-1910 excluding opera).
(Time limit 5 minutes)
The Mrs M Lucking Challenge Cup



Class 60 Opera & Light Opera - 16 years & over; entry fee £13.00

Own choice.

(Time limit 6 minutes)

The George Fitch Trophy

Class 61 Oratorio or Baroque Cantata - 16 years & over; entry fee £13.00

Own choice. Music may be used.

(Time limit 6 minutes)

Class 62 Duets - Any Age; entry fee £15.00

Own choice, excluding musicals.

(Time limit 5 minutes)

The Enoch Dalton Cup

Class 63 Self-accompanied Song – Any Age; entry fee £13.00

Own choice

(Time limit 5 minutes)

Musical Theatre Definition:

A song post 1900 from a live stage show or film production in a popular style to showcase dramatic and vocal character. Songs from opera, operetta or cartoon films are not eligible. Cartoon film songs should be entered in class 34.

Class 66 Musical Theatre - 16 years & over - Solo or Duet; entry fee Solo £13.00 Duet £15.00

Own choice of a song from a musical performed in character.

(Time limit 8 minutes)

The Edith Garlick Cup

Class 67 Vocal Programme - 16 years & over; entry fee £20.50

A programme of music at grade 6 standard or above that demonstrates a range of moods and styles. Entrants may perform as many or few items within the 10 minute time limit.

Items may be linked or themed, or if preferred, the programme could be of just one major work.

(Time limit 10 minutes, including any introductions and breaks).

The Monica Marshall Bowl

A Festival Sponsorship Prize of £30, £20

Class 68 British Composer - 16 years & over; entry fee £13.00

Own choice by any British composer, excluding opera, oratorio and musicals.

(Time limit 5 minutes)

The Willmer Family Salver



Class 71 Folk Song - 16 years & over; entry fee £13.00

A traditional folk song from any country with words, unaccompanied, to be sung in original language only. This must not be a composed arrangement.

(Time limit 5 minutes)

The Humphrey Whitmore Cup

Class 73 A Song in any living language other than English - 16 years & over; entry fee £13.00

Own choice of a song originally written with piano accompaniment.

(Time limit for 5 minutes)

The Councillor & Mrs Bailey Cup

Class 74A Singing - 50 years of age & over; entry fee £13.00

Own choice.

(Time limit 5 minutes)

The Maulden Choral Society Cup

Class 74B Singing - 70 years of age & over; entry fee £13.00

Own choice. Music may be used.

(Time limit 5 minutes)

The Solo Singing Bowl

The Festival reserves the right to combine Classes 74A & 74B if there are not sufficient entries.