

Sing, conduct, compose, learn, travel and have fun with young people from across Australia who love music and singing as much as you do!

- Choirs for all singers aged 10 – 25
- A new extended upper age limit to 25 – in line with the finest youth choirs of the world
- A new opportunity for boys with changed/changing voices
- Conductor internship & composer's workshop
- Bursaries available

Applications close Friday 20 August 2010

Gondwana Choirs offers outstanding music education, performance and touring opportunities for singers, conductors and composers aged 10 - 25 from across Australia.

ABOUT GONDWANA NATIONAL CHORAL SCHOOL

The entry point to all Gondwana national activities is the **Gondwana National Choral School** – an inspiring two-week residential music camp of workshops, rehearsals, performances and fun activities held in January each year. Singers work with Australia's finest choral conductors and music educators in one of four national choirs which are re-auditioned annually:

Gondwana Chorale: soprano, alto, tenor, bass choir for ages 17 – 25

Gondwana Voices: treble choir for ages 10 – 16

Gondwana Singers: soprano, alto, bass choir for ages 14 – 16 (including boys with changed / changing voices)

Junior Gondwana: treble choir for ages 10 – 13

In 2011, Gondwana National Choral School will be held on the campus of The University of Sydney.

Successful applicants to National Choral School are offered a position in the choir most suited to their voice type, age and musical development. Following participation in Gondwana National Choral School, invitations will be made for further exciting opportunities in our 2011 program.

For older choristers, two exciting professional development opportunities are offered in conjunction with Gondwana National Choral School:

Gondwana Conductor Internships: for conductors aged 18 – 25

Gondwana Composer's Workshop with Stephen Leek: for composers aged 15 – 21

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Gondwana Choirs aims to make its programs accessible to all young people across Australia. Bursaries are available to assist singers, conductors and families with participation fees and travel costs where possible. Gondwana Choirs is a not-for-profit organisation.

ABOUT THE GONDWANA NATIONAL CHOIRS

Junior Gondwana is for children **aged 10 – 13** who love singing and show strong musical potential but have not previously had the opportunity to develop their musical ability to the degree required for other Gondwana choirs. Many Junior Gondwana members have gone on to sing in Gondwana Voices in subsequent years.

Gondwana Singers caters for singers **aged 14 – 16** who are on the verge of gaining entry into Gondwana Voices or Gondwana Chorale. **In 2011, Gondwana Singers will cater for boys with changed/changing voices as well as treble voices.**

Gondwana Voices is for singers **aged 10 – 16**. Formed in 1997, Gondwana Voices performs with Australia's leading music ensembles (such as the Australian Chamber Orchestra), undertakes major international tours (such as the 2007 tour to Canada, France and the BBC Proms), performs in major national events (such as the Melbourne Commonwealth Games opening and closing ceremonies) and records for ABC Classics. Artistic Director & Founder, Lyn Williams OAM and Principal Guest Conductor Mark O'Leary, Artistic Director and Founder of Young Voices of Melbourne, will conduct Gondwana Voices in 2011. They will be joined by pianist Sally Whitwell.

Gondwana Chorale is a soprano, alto, tenor and bass choir for singers **aged 17 – 25**. It's the perfect way for former members of Gondwana Voices and new choristers to take their singing to another level. Gondwana Chorale builds on the skills learnt with Gondwana Voices, make music at the highest level, be inspired, have fun and maintain friendships.

GONDWANA NATIONAL CHORAL SCHOOL 2011 – SYDNEY, NSW

In 2011, Gondwana National Choral School will be held at The Women's College & St Andrew's College, on the campus of the University of Sydney. During this exciting residential season of rehearsals, workshops and performances choristers will work with some of Australia's foremost choral conductors. **Choristers over 18 years of age** can choose to stay off-campus. This gives older choristers greater flexibility to plan their own accommodation and meal arrangements, but still be part of the National Choral School experience.

Dates

Gondwana Chorale and Gondwana Voices	10 – 23 January 2011
Gondwana Singers	11 – 23 January 2011
Junior Gondwana	12 – 23 January 2011
Family Open Day	15 January 2011
Performances	22 January 2011

Verbrugghen Hall, Sydney Conservatorium of Music

Prices

Gondwana Chorale & Gondwana Voices: \$1,330

Gondwana Singers: \$1,270

Junior Gondwana: \$1,230

Price includes accommodation & meals, sightseeing, ground transfers, t-shirt, music & tuition. Please note that return transport from each chorister's home to Sydney airport at the beginning and end of the season and travel insurance are not included in this price.

Gondwana Chorale (non-residential): \$800*

**Price includes t-shirt, music & tuition. Please note that meals, accommodation, all transport and travel insurance are not included in this price.*

GONDWANA PERFORMANCES & TOURS IN 2011

Invitations to further Gondwana activities are made to choristers following National Choral School in January. In 2011, these exciting performing and touring seasons include:

GONDWANA SINGERS & JUNIOR GONDWANA

FESTIVAL OF VOICES – HOBART

In 2011 the *Festival of Voices* will once again be taking over the streets and venues of Hobart as singers from across Australia meet to celebrate the power of the voice. Treble-voiced singers from Gondwana Singers & Junior Gondwana will make their *Festival of Voices* debut as part of the Youth Stream, taking part in numerous performances and workshops with leading conductors.

Dates: TBC

Price: \$990

Price includes accommodation, all meals, ground transfers & music. Please note that transport from each chorister's home to Hobart airport at the beginning and end of the season and travel insurance are not included in this price.

GONDWANA VOICES

INTERNATIONAL TOUR – AMERICA & CANADA

In 2011 Gondwana Voices will travel to America and Canada to perform with some of the world's finest children's choirs. The choir will work with the Northwest Girl Choir in Seattle, Anima Singers in Chicago, and the Toronto Children's Chorus. The choir will also visit Vancouver and New York.

Dates: 3 – 22 April 2011

Price: Approx. \$5,500

Price includes all accommodation, ground transfers, travel insurance, music & tuition. Please note that return transport from each chorister's home to Sydney airport at the beginning and end of the season are not included in this price. Homestay accommodation in Sydney will be generously provided by Sydney Children's Choir families.

WORLD ORCHESTRA SEASON – SYDNEY

In 2011, Gondwana Voices will perform the Sydney premier of Brett Dean's *Vexations & Devotions* alongside Sydney Philharmonia Choirs and the exciting, new Australian World Orchestra. This orchestra brings Australia's finest orchestral musicians together with expat musicians from around the globe who are returning home for these special concerts. You might recall that Gondwana Voices has previously performed this work at the BBC Proms in London in 2007. The composer will be conducting these performances.

Dates: 25 August – 1 September 2011

Performances: 30 August & 31 August 2011, Sydney Town Hall

Price: \$250

Price includes music, tuition, meals, accommodation and ground transfers. Please note that return transport from each chorister's home to Sydney airport at the beginning and end of the season and travel insurance are not included in this price. Homestay accommodation will be generously provided by Sydney Children's Choir families.

VOICES OF ANGELS – SYDNEY

Each year, Sydney Children's Choir and Gondwana Voices celebrate the festive season with an uplifting concert of traditional Christmas music as well as fresh and fun new sounds of an Australian Christmas. Gondwana Voices will take part in an intensive rehearsal season in Sydney before two joyous performances at City Recital Hall Angel Place on Tuesday 13 and Thursday 15 December.

Dates: 8 - 16 December 2011

Price: \$250

Price includes music, tuition, meals, accommodation and ground transfers. Please note that return transport from each chorister's home to Sydney airport at the beginning and end of the season and travel insurance are not included in this price. Homestay accommodation will be generously provided by Sydney Children's Choir families.

GONDWANA CHORALE

INTERNATIONAL TOUR – NEW ZEALAND

2011 will mark Gondwana Chorale's first international tour! Under the direction of Principal Guest Conductor Paul Holley, the choir will rehearse and perform in Sydney before travelling to New Zealand. In New Zealand the choir will perform with Karen Grylls' acclaimed New Zealand Youth Choir in New Plymouth and will undertake other performances in Hamilton, Auckland and Wellington.

Dates: 1 July – 14 July

Price: approx. \$2,750

Price includes accommodation and meals in New Zealand, air and ground travel on tour & travel insurance. Please note that return transport from each chorister's home to Sydney airport at the beginning and end of the season, and Sydney accommodation, is not included in this cost. Choristers are welcome to stay with friends and family in Sydney and we will assist with providing Homestay families where possible.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR CONDUCTORS & COMPOSERS

GONDWANA COMPOSER'S WORKSHOP WITH STEPHEN LEEK

Australian composers aged 15 – 21 are invited to apply for a composition workshop with Stephen Leek, one of Australia's finest composers for voice. Ten entrants will be selected to take part in this all-day workshop during National Choral School in January 2011 at The University of Sydney. **There is no cost to participants.**

To apply, composers must submit a 3 – 5 minute work (or several shorter pieces) for SATB or treble choir for review. The work may be *a cappella* or with piano accompaniment.

Please indicate on your application form if you wish to apply to the Gondwana Composer's Workshop

GONDWANA CONDUCTOR INTERNSHIPS

Four aspiring conductors aged 18 – 25 will work with some of Australia's finest choral conductors at National Choral School in 2011. Interns assist the conductors with sectional rehearsals and conduct the choirs where appropriate. Participants will be given special classes by the conductors of National Choral School. Successful participants may be offered further opportunities during the year. Please note that Conductor Interns are not able to participate in National Choral School as choristers.

Dates: 10 – 23 January 2011

Venue: The University of Sydney

Prices: \$1,330 (residential) / \$800 (non-residential)

APPLICATIONS & AUDITIONS

CLOSING DATE FOR 2011 SEASON APPLICATIONS FRIDAY 20 AUGUST 2010!

Gondwana National Choirs membership is based on an annual application and audition process and is open to young singers aged 10 – 25 from all areas of Australia. Nationwide auditions are held from August – October each year. Auditions will be granted for all applications received and the audition is designed to give applicants a chance to demonstrate their singing ability and other musical skills. Everyone has strengths in different areas and we recognise this fact in the audition process. For entry into Gondwana Chorale or Gondwana Voices a high standard of aural skills and sight singing is expected.

How to apply

1. Complete the application form and attach a recent passport photo of yourself.
2. On **ONE** separate A4 piece of paper outline your previous choral & instrumental experience including instrument(s) played and AMEB grade(s) or approximate levels as well as AMEB musicianship or theory grade (or approximate level)
3. Obtain a written recommendation from someone qualified to comment on your choral and musical ability (e.g. current music teacher, school Principal, university music lecturer or choir conductor but not a family member). Referees preparing more than one reference are invited to write a joint reference with a paragraph on each applicant.
4. Pay the non-refundable application fee of \$40 (GST not applicable) by cheque or Australia Post money order (payable to Gondwana Choirs).
5. Send all the above documents to: Rachel Whealy, Gondwana Auditions, Pier 4 Hickson Road, Millers Point NSW, 2000. **All applications must be received no later than Friday 20 August 2010.**
6. If you are applying for an audiovisual audition, please tick the box on your application form.

Audition process

1. Sing one song (preferably by an Australian composer) from memory. This song may be performed with or without live accompaniment (if required applicants need to provide their own accompanist. CD / cassette accompaniment is not permitted).
2. Take an aural test including melodic memory, part-singing and sight-singing.
3. Please note that auditions for the Gondwana Chamber Orchestra take place during National Choral School.

Audition schedule for 2011 Season

Face-to-face auditions will be held as indicated below (additional dates may also be added). Applicants will be notified by mail of the exact date, time and venue of their audition.

Audition Dates

Cairns†	Wed 18 Aug
Perth	Sat 4 Sep
Darwin	Sat 11 Sep
Adelaide	Mon 13 Sep
Armidale	Sat 25 Sept
Toowoomba	Sun 3 Oct
Melbourne	Sun 10 Oct
Hobart	Mon 11 Oct
Brisbane	Wed 13 Oct
Rockhampton	Thurs 14 Oct
Sydney*	Sun 17 Oct
Sydney**	Sat 23 Oct

†Cairns applications close Fri 13 Aug 2010

*for current Sydney Children's Choir members

** for all other Sydney applicants

In some cities Gondwana Choirs will also run free choral workshops for interested applicants.

Led by Artistic Director & Founder Lyn Williams OAM, these are the ideal way to see for yourself what Gondwana is all about. If you are interested in attending a workshop, please contact Rachel Whealy at Gondwana Choirs (rachel@gondwanachoirs.com.au or 02 9251 4226 ext 2) for more information.

Free choral workshops

Darwin Mon 6 Sept
Adelaide Sun 12 Sept

Financial assistance

Gondwana Choirs aims to make its programs accessible to all young Australians. We have a Bursary Program to provide financial assistance for participation fees and travel costs where possible. To apply for a bursary, please tick the box on the application form and we will contact you to advise you of the application process.

Applicants from isolated/remote areas

Audiovisual auditions are accepted from applicants living further than 200kms away from any of the audition cities. Information explaining how to submit your audition will be sent to you. Please note that audiovisual applications on VHS will not be accepted.

Duty of Care

Gondwana Choirs is committed to the safety and wellbeing of our choristers – all the children and young people who participate in our activities. Our staff, volunteers and external providers will treat choristers with respect and understanding at all times. Gondwana Choirs has over 20 years of experience in running safe and successful educational, performance and touring programs for young people in Sydney, nationally and internationally.

All choristers should understand that during Gondwana activities they will be staying away from their families and homes. Parents are welcome to attend the public concerts and National Choral School Open Day but choristers must be independent of their parents during the seasons. During Gondwana activities, choristers are cared for by volunteer supervisors. These are usually parents of current and former choristers, teachers and sometimes former choristers. Our supervisors are experienced in dealing with homesickness and all choristers are made to feel welcome during Gondwana activities.

For more information on Duty of Care, please contact Rachel Whealy at Gondwana Choirs on 02 9251 4226 (ext 2) or rachel@gondwanachoirs.com.au.



**Communities
arts nsw**

All program details correct at time of printing.
Gondwana Choirs reserves the right to change programs without notice.
GST not applicable to participation fees listed.
Gondwana Choirs
ABN 16 065 410 577