

National Youth Choir of Australia (NYCA)

2010 Season

INSTRUCTIONS FOR REFEREES

Thankyou for agreeing to be a referee for a singer applying for the National Youth Choir of Australia 2010 season. We appreciate the effort you invest in this singer's musical activities and we thank you for taking the time to complete the report.

The NYCA 2010 season is a one-week intensive rehearsal and performance program that provides young choristers with an opportunity to meet with their peers from across Australia, while taking part in a valuable professional development experience. The 2010 NYCA season will take place from 3–9 July 2010 in Adelaide, where participants will have the opportunity to work with Guest Conductor, Mike Brewer, Artistic Director of the National Youth Choir of Great Britain.

INTRODUCTION

All applicants for NYCA in 2010 are required to audition and provide a referee's confidential report.

The applicant should give you an electronic copy of the referee's confidential report pro forma.

We would prefer that you return the completed pro forma electronically as an attachment to an email, if at all possible, but a postal address for the return of 'hard copy' confidential reports is included below.

The applicant has been asked to submit, electronically via an email attachment, a recording of themselves singing unaccompanied. This is to illustrate:

- *the quality of their voice*
- *their range and voice type*
- *their pitch reliability*
- *their overall musicianship (phrasing, clarity of diction, etc).*

Please feel free to comment on these elements in the 'Other Comments' section of the pro forma.

The **closing date** for applications and referee reports is **Wednesday 31 March 2010**.

Please note that the application and referee reports should be sent to audition@nyca.org.au

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact Carl Crossin by email, carl.crossin@adelaide.edu.au; or by telephone at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, University of Adelaide, on (08) 8303 5867. For general information about NYCA, see www.nyca.org.au

Postal Address (if unable to email):

Carl Crossin
Attn: NYCA
Elder Conservatorium of Music
The University of Adelaide
SA 5005

With thanks,

Carl Crossin, on behalf of the Board of Management, National Youth Choir of Australia

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REFEREE'S CONFIDENTIAL REPORT

Name of Applicant: _____

Name of choir in which the applicant currently sings: _____

Name of Referee/Conductor: _____

Referee/Conductor contact details:

Email: _____

Mobile: _____

Please answer the following questions about the applicant. (Please feel free to add any comments in the space below each question.)

1 In terms of overall choral, vocal, ensemble, and musical skills, in which group would you place this singer in relation to other singers in your choir? (Mark box as appropriate)

- top 10%
- top 20%
- top 30%
- top 40%
- lower than the top 40%

2 Please rate this singer's *sight-singing* ability.

- Excellent
- Very good
- Fair
- Not good

3 How successful would this singer be *sight-singing* the following three exercises – on their own:

Exercise 1.



After being given only the starting note for Exercise 1, the singer...

- ...would sing it accurately and musically the first time without any help at all.
- ...would probably be secure on the 2nd or 3rd time through and would be able to self-correct.
- ...would be reasonably secure after several attempts and guidance.
- ...would struggle on their own – they rely much more on hearing than reading.
- ...would be almost totally reliant on support and guidance – doesn't read music well at all.

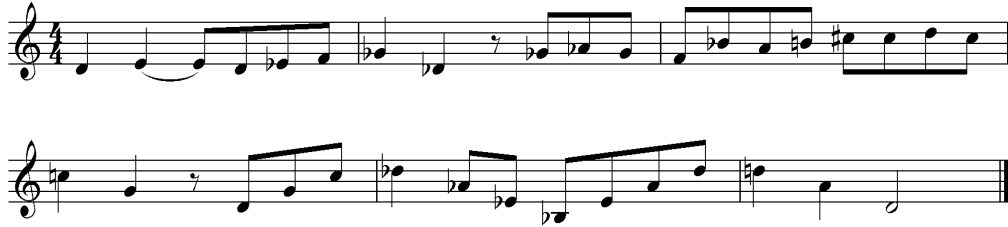
Exercise 2.



After being given only the starting note for Exercise 2, the singer...

- ...would sing it accurately and musically the first time without any help at all.
- ...would probably be secure on the 2nd or 3rd time through and would be able to self-correct.
- ...would be reasonably secure after several attempts and guidance.
- ...would struggle on their own – they rely much more on hearing than reading.
- ...would be almost totally reliant on support and guidance – doesn't read music well at all.

Exercise 3.



After being given only the starting note for Exercise 3, the singer...

- ...would sing it accurately and musically the first time without any help at all.
- ...would probably be secure on the 2nd or 3rd time through and would be able to self-correct.
- ...would be reasonably secure after several attempts and guidance.
- ...would struggle on their own – they rely much more on hearing than reading.
- ...would be almost totally reliant on support and guidance – doesn't read music well at all.

4 How would you rate this singer's *aural* skills in relation to their involvement in your choir?

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Not good

5 How would you rate this singer's *quick-learning* skills?

- Very Good – always amongst the first to have a new piece learnt.
- Quite good – goes with the flow!
- Fair.
- Not good – Is usually one of the last to have a new piece secure and confident.

