



YOUNG NEW YORKERS' CHORUS

Michel Kerschner, Music Director

Laura Vanderkam, President

Aria Montcrieff, Competition Coordinator

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The Young New Yorkers' Chorus Announces the Fifth Annual Competition for Young Composers

August 2008 --Since the spring of 2001, the Young New Yorkers' Chorus has brought together the finest choral musicians from the thousands of young people who flock to this city for its excitement and artistic life. Under the direction of Music Director Michael Kerschner, the 45-voice mixed ensemble provides a close-knit fellowship for talented singers in their twenties and early thirties. YNYC performs works by classical greats such as Brahms, Durufle and Bernstein and, in its short history, has already commissioned a number of new works from young composers. Our previous four Competitions for Young Composers drew entries from all over the country. Each year, we have commissioned works from our three finalists, and premiered these pieces at our spring concerts.

We are excited to continue this tradition of supporting new choral works with our Fifth Annual Competition for Young Composers. We invite choral composers **under the age of 35** to apply. Previous entrants are also encouraged to re-apply.

Applicants should submit a sample of their work for consideration by **October 17, 2008**. Samples must be compositions written for choir alone or choir with an accompanying instrument. Three finalists will be selected by our panel of judges. The finalists will be notified by **November 20, 2008**.

Each finalist will be commissioned to compose an original work **based on the theme of *Atmosphere: Land+Sea+Sky: Musical snapshots of nature's gorgeousness***. The piece should be for a **cappella** mixed choir that will be premiered by the Young New Yorkers' Chorus in concert on June 13, 2009. Composers are responsible for securing rights to their text, or else should use their own text or one in the public domain. Prizes based on the commissioned works will be announced at the premiere concert. The first place winner will receive the \$1,000.00 Nathan Davis Prize in Composition. Other finalists will receive \$500.00 each.

Program Timeline

October 17, 2008	Postmark date for completed applications
November 28, 2008	Finalist announcement
February 1, 2009	Draft due of finalists' commissioned works
March 1, 2009	Final draft due of finalists' commissioned works*
June 13, 2009	Premiere of finalists' commissioned works and announcement of awards for the Fifth Annual Young New Yorkers' Chorus Competition for Young Composers

*Finalists who have not submitted their work by the March 1, 2009 will forfeit their finalist status in the YNYC Competition for Young Composers. Their piece will not be performed and they will not receive any award money or be compensated for personal monies spent on travel for the competition.

Judging Panel

Michael Kerschner Music Director, The Young New Yorkers' Chorus
Chris Mueller composer and Vice-President, The Young New Yorkers' Chorus
Other choral conductors and composers from the New York metro area

Eligibility and Guidelines

Applicants must be under the age of 35 years old (must not have reached his or her 35th birthday by or on June 13, 2009) and, if chosen as a finalist, must be willing to travel to New York City for concert week rehearsals and the premiere concert on **June 13, 2009**. YNYC anticipates being able to award small travel grants (no more than \$250) to finalists who must fly to New York. We will also arrange home stays with YNYC members.

All submissions must be postmarked by **October 17, 2008** and must contain:

1. **Completed Entry Form** - Please see attached. A printable form is also available at <http://www.vnyc.org/competition>. Please type or print legibly.

2. **One-Page Professional Resume**

3. **Score and Recording of an Original Composition for Mixed Chorus**

The submitted composition may be scored for a cappella mixed choir or mixed choir with piano, organ, harp, or percussion accompaniment. The recording must be between 3 and 15 minutes in length. Excerpted or partial recordings of a larger work are acceptable, but, please send only one work. Audio or video recordings must be submitted in CD or DVD format. MP3s or WAV must be burned onto an audio CD. Submissions on DAT or Minidisc are ineligible. *2 copies of both the score and the recording are required.*

4. **One-Page Description of the Submitted Work**

5. **\$25 Application Fee**

Checks or Money Orders must be in US dollars payable to The Young New Yorkers' Chorus.

Please send these materials, via US Postal Service, FedEx or other shipping service, by the postmark deadline of October 17, 2008, to:

Aria Montrieff, Competition Coordinator
c/o Michael Kerschner
The Young New Yorkers' Chorus
165 Monitor St.
Apt. 3
Brooklyn, NY 11222

Only completed applications will be evaluated. Please put your name on all materials. Submitted application materials become the property of the Young New Yorkers' Chorus and will not be returned.

For any questions, contact us at competition@vnyc.org or leave a message and a call-back number at 212-330-8784. Please visit www.vnyc.org for complete rules and regulations