

Age & Opportunity Bealtaine Festival

The Dawn Chorus

Choral Commission

Overview – Bealtaine Dawn Chorus

The Bealtaine Festival Dawn Chorus is a choral initiative in which older people come together with a choir in their locality and sing at dawn in a scenic area, ideally beside water and always outdoors.

The Dawn Chorus developed following an extraordinary debut on the Culdaff beach in Donegal in May 2009. In 2010, the Association of Irish Choirs (AOIC) and Active Retirement Ireland developed a partnership with the Bealtaine Festival designed to bring together choirs, active retirement groups and older people across Ireland to participate in the Dawn Chorus.

This year to celebrate the growth and development of the Dawn Chorus, which is now an annual nationwide event, Age & Opportunity Bealtaine Festival in partnership with the Association of Irish Choirs will commission a new work. This new work will be made available for choirs and groups to use for their local Dawn Chorus event as well as premiering in the Bealtaine Festival's own Dawn Chorus event on 6 May as part of bealtaine@templebar and featuring in the festival's Dusk Chorus event on 27 May.

Brief

This is an open brief to compose a new work of no less than 3 and no more than 5 minutes duration. This new work is to celebrate the success of the Dawn Chorus initiative and the Bealtaine Festival in general

As part of the commission process, the contracted composer is expected to provide the lyrics for the work. There is no pre-conceived notion as to what these lyrics might be, however, they should reflect the work of the Bealtaine Festival more widely and could incorporate the Festival theme of Hospitality. See www.bealtaine.ie

The style of composition, music, and lyrics is open.

Competition

Submit the following:

A curriculum vitae.

An expression of interest outlining why you would like to work on this commission.
Max 750 Words

How you would propose to devise/supply lyrics for the work.

2 -3 music samples of your work.

Commission Fee

€2,000

The fee must cover all costs associated with this commission - composer's fee, supply of lyrics, provision of pdf of sheet music which will be made available for download via the AOIC web site, attendance at 2 rehearsals for premiere of the work and ideally attendance at the premiere at 6am on 6 May in Dublin's city centre – exact location to be confirmed.

Key Dates

2018

12.00pm, 8 February - Submission deadline.

12 February – Selection panel selects composer.

13 – 16 February – Notification and composer contract issued.

19 Feb – 29 March – Composition process.

12.00pm, 30 March – Provision of sound files and PDF of sheet music.

2 April – 31 May – Sheet music made available for download from AOIC web site.

Attendance at 2 rehearsals for premiere – dates to be confirmed

6am, 6 May – Premiere of new work as part of Bealtaine Festival Dawn Chorus event during bealtaine@temple bar. Exact Choir and location in Temple Bar to be confirmed.

Selection Panel Members

The panel will be comprised of at least one music specialist and will include staff from Age & Opportunity and AOIC.

Queries

All queries should be directed to: Karen Hennessy, Arts & Culture Coordinator, Age & Opportunity. Email: Karen.hennessy@ageandopportunity.ie

Closing Date: 12.00pm, 8 February 2018