

2024 SYLLABUS

North Northamptonshire Music Festival

Venue:

Wellingborough United Reformed Church, High Street, Wellingborough, NN8 4HW



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CHILD PROTECTION POLICY - North Northamptonshire Music Festival

The NNMF Festival is committed to ensuring safe environments for children and young people and believe that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind.

We recognise our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people, by a commitment to recommend best practice which protects them.

This Policy applies to all Involved with North Northamptonshire Music Festival.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child/young person is paramount
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation, or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

The purpose of the policy:

- to provide protection for the children and young people who participate in our festivals, including the children of festival members
- to provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt if they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

We will seek to safeguard children and young people by:

- valuing them, listening to, and respecting them
- adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and safe working practice for staff and volunteers
 - recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
 - sharing information about child protection and safe working practice with children, parents, staff, and volunteers
 - sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.

The festival will review this policy each year in January in line with safe network guidance or sooner considering any changes in legislation or guidance. All changes will be communicated to our volunteers & staff.

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Festival Rules of Entry

ENTRIES

1. All entries must be made on the official entry forms, EITHER by email to northnorthantsmf@gmail.com, OR by post and submitted as a paper entry reaching the festival on or before the closing date as given in the syllabus.
2. Late entries & changes to pieces submitted ***will not*** be accepted
3. No entry will be accepted UNLESS payment for the class has been received. You may be asked for Proof of payment with Payment Reference as indicated on Entry Form. The festival reserves the right to refuse any entry.
4. Each entrant must be in the appropriate school year group for each class.
Group entries must belong to the specified year groupings.
5. Performers in all ensemble classes must be bona fide members of the group concerned
6. Entrants may perform only once in each class except in duet, trio or ensemble classes where an entrant may perform more than once provided a different part is played.

GENERAL

1. The Festival is for amateurs, which is defined as someone who is employed on a Full-Time basis for their services rendered in those branches of the arts with which the festival is concerned. This rule does not apply to a Musical Director or Accompanist
2. The Festival reserves the right to limit, cancel or subdivide any class
3. The Festival reserves the right to substitute any Adjudicator without notice.
4. No photographs or recordings may be taken *DURING ANY PERFORMANCE* but may be taken after the performance *WITH RELEVANT PERMISSION*.
5. The Festival cannot accept responsibility for property left at the venues during the festival
6. Confirmation of venue, date, and time of classes will be available on the festival website (www.northnorthantsmf.co.uk) or in the printed programme when available.

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OWN CHOICE PIECES

1. A copy of Own Choice pieces must be provided for the Adjudicator's use on the day and be marked with name and class number, otherwise the performance will be judged non-competitively.
2. Where music has an accompaniment, this should be used.
3. Backing Tracks are not permitted in any class
4. No alterations can be made to pieces once you have submitted your entry, if your piece is different to the piece submitted it will be marked Non-Competitively so please ensure that the pieces you submit aren't likely to change.

ASSESSMENT & AWARDS

1. Whilst performance in some classes has a competitive element, it is not an examination, and the intention is to offer a performance opportunity in a supportive environment.

2. The Following Remarks will be given

- *Outstanding - An exceptional performance technically and artistically*
- *Distinction - An excellent performance technically and artistically*
- *Commended - A convincing performance technically and artistically*
- *Merit - A capable performance showing some artistic appreciation and/or technical ability*
- *Moderate - A performance showing development of technique and/or communication*
- *Fair - A performance limited in its communication at present*

3. The Adjudicator's decision will be regarded as final.

5. No entrant, teacher or interested party may discuss any aspect of the Festival with an Adjudicator before, during or after classes, except at the invitation of the Adjudicator.

5. Every entrant will receive a Performance Certificate and the Adjudicator's comments. After adjudication, certificates and awards will be presented. Awards may be withheld if, in the opinion of the Adjudicator, sufficient merit is not shown.

6. Trophies remain the property of the North Northamptonshire Music Festival and should be returned to the festival one month prior to the next Festival

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COPYRIGHT

1. It is the entrant's responsibility to ensure that the provisions of the 1956 and 1988 Copyright Acts are observed. The Music Publishers' Association has revised its Code of Practice in so far as Own Choice Works selected from volumes is concerned: When selecting from a publication containing several different works and where the required work is not published separately, one copy may be made for the Adjudicator. The copy will be retained by the festival and destroyed.

This permission does not apply to set works nor to making copies for accompanists who must always be given an original copy from which to play. Single copies of items may not be photocopied without the prior permission of the Copyright holder.

2. Performers in Own Choice Classes will be required to submit a copy to the Adjudicator's Steward stating TITLE – AUTHOR - PUBLISHER.

SPONSORSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTION

We are a self-financing organisation run by a team of dedicated volunteers. We need help financially, to enable the festival - your Festival - to maintain a service of the highest quality and to plan future festivals with confidence.

FRIENDS & SPONSORS

1. Members of the public are invited to support the festival financially by becoming Friends or Sponsors.
2. Class Sponsors can select the class for which their award will be made, subject to that class not already being sponsored. If the chosen class has insufficient entries to justify an award then it will be held until the following the year.
3. To become a class sponsor an Annual Fee of £50 is to be made to the festival. If the fee is not received annually then the festival had the right to withdraw your award and pass it to another sponsor.
4. If anyone wishes to donate a trophy, plaque, or cup then that generosity will be recorded in a list published in the festival programme. This may well be relevant to commemorate someone as a form of memorial. If this is something which appeals to you, please get in touch with the festival and we will be delighted to discuss the possibility with you.

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2024 Choral & Solo Adjudicator

Eleanor Minney – Saturday 8th June 2024



Permanent member of the **BBC Singers**.

British Mezzo Eleanor Minney has also performed regularly with the **Monteverdi Choir, The Sixteen, Tenebrae, I Fagiolini, The OAE, Polyphony, and Collegium Vocale Ghent**, to name a few.

As a soloist she has covered the Baroque and early oratorio repertoire extensively, with many concert performances and recordings of Bach's St. Matthew Passion, St. John Passion, B Minor Mass and Magnificat, Handel's Messiah and Monteverdi's Vespers in the UK, Europe and the USA.

Other highlights include the World Premiere of Sir John Tavener's *The Beautiful Names* at the Hagia Sofia in Istanbul, Copland's *In the Beginning* with The Sixteen, Cherubino in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro* and Fanny Price in Dove's *Mansfield Park* (both Hampstead Garden Opera), Mercedes in Bizet's *Carmen* (Riverside Opera), Ruggiero in Handel's *Alcina* (Musica Poetica), Ninfa/Proserpina in Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* (I Fagiolini), and Friend in the World Premiere of Ravi Shankhar's *Sukanya* (Royal Opera).

She continues to enjoy performing and teaching a huge variety of music, from the ancient to the modern, and everything in between.

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2024 Barbershop Adjudicators



Paul Davies – Music Judge

Paul has been a judge with BABS for 41 years, making him probably the longest-serving Music and Arrangement judge in the Barbershop world.

He is best known as the founder of Cambridge Chord Company, which went on to win the Pavarotti Choir of the World at the Llangollen International Eisteddfod as well as five national and two European Barbershop championships during his 18-year tenure as Musical Director. Principal coach to several gold medal quartets, he regularly coaches larger choruses including two ex-pat groups in Portugal. In 2014 he was elected to the BABS Hall of Fame.

Paul also adjudicates at choral events around the UK and on the continent. He is a prolific arranger in Barbershop and contemporary a cappella styles. Among his work is an arrangement believed to be only contest-standard Barbershop piece in the Welsh language!



Jill Foskett – Performance Judge

Jill first Certified as a Performance Category Judge in March 2018. She has been involved with Barbershop since 2004 and sung with an SAI Chorus, LABBS Choruses, LABBS Quartets and since 2017, a BABS Mixed Voice Chorus.

Before finding Barbershop, Jill was a seasoned Actor in Amateur Dramatic Societies and particularly enjoyed comedy and character roles. She is trained in Classical Ballet and Tap for which she achieved a Gold Medal as an adult, so she is particularly interested in physical performance and visual interpretation.

Jill is passionate about self-development and enabling the development of other people. She has qualifications in teaching adults (Level 6 Professional Graduate Certificate in Post Compulsory Education), Assessing learning and skills, Coaching and Careers Guidance. Much of Jill's work centred around working with people who experienced barriers to work and learning and she puts this into practice in her work within the BABS D&I Team.



Nicky Salt – Singing Judge

Nicky is a highly experienced barbershop singer, judge, and educator. She was the bass of Sweet Adelines international top 3 quartet Finesse, and well known not just for her singing, but for her entertaining mic technique during finals packages. Nicky is a popular emcee and webcast host. She is the current Membership Coordinator of Sweet Adelines Region 31 (UK and The Netherlands), and serves on their Education Steering Group, Regional Faculty and Focus Group. She is also a member of Sweet Adelines International Faculty.

Whilst living in France, Nicky started up a community choir in a local town and also became director of SoundWaves chorus in The Netherlands and enjoyed many years with them until she moved back to England. Nicky is a sought-after coach in the UK and Europe and was recently awarded the Ann Gooch Award for her contribution to the furtherance of barbershop in the worldwide area. She works with quartets and choruses and teaches classes at education events.

She coaches holistically incorporating all areas of barbershop from vocal production to characterisation and visual communication as well as rehearsal technique, goal setting & planning the psychology behind the performance. Her humour and infectious personality as well as her passion for barbershop, make her a popular choice.

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Saturday 8th June 2024

CHORAL CLASSES

Each Choral Entry should last no longer than the allotted time for each class
Pieces **MUST NOT** have been performed the year previous.

1. Community Choir - Entry £20

Own Choice – Max 3 Songs – 12 Minutes

**NEW – Must not compete regularly in National or International Competitions*

2. Ladies Choir - Entry £20

Own Choice – Max 3 Songs - No Medleys – 12 Minutes

3. Male Voice Choir - Entry £20

Own Choice – Max 3 Songs – No Medleys – 12 Minutes

4. Mixed Voices Class - Entry £20 (Size 18 Members or more)

Own Choice – Max of 3 Songs – No Medleys – 12 Minutes

5. Sacred Class - Entry £20

Any Sacred Piece – Max of 2 Songs – 10 Minutes

6. *Village Choir – Entry £20

Choir must represent their Village in name – Max 2 Songs – No Medleys - 10 Minutes

7. *Mixed Small Group - £18

Up to 18 Mixed Voices Only – Max 2 Songs – No Medleys – 10 Minutes

8. Youth Choir - £16

Primary & Secondary School Children or 18 Years Under – Max 2 Songs – 10 Minutes

9. Show Songs - £20

Open Category – Max 2 Songs – 10 Minutes

10. *Open Category – £25

Any Song – Any Choir – Any Size – Any Level - 10 Minutes

Up to 2 Songs

Estimated timetable – TBC

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SOLO CLASSES

Each Entry should last no longer than the allotted time for each class
Pieces **MUST NOT** have been performed the year previous.

1. Musical Theatre Solo Class Under 18's – Entry £15

1 Song – Own Choice – Must be accompanied by piano – Class broken down into age groups

2. Musical Theatre Solo Class – Adult - Entry £15

Own Choice – 1 Song – Must be accompanied by piano

3. *Piano Under 18s - Entry £15

Own Choice – Max 2 Songs – 6 Minutes

4.*Piano Adult - Entry £15

Own Choice – Max 2 Songs – 6 Minutes

5. *Recorder Solo Under 18s - Entry £15

Own Choice – Max of 2 Songs – 6 Minutes

6. *Recorder Solo Adult - Entry £15

Own Choice – Max of 2 Songs – 6 Minutes

Estimated timetable – TBC

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Barbershop CLASSES

**Must be registered/affiliated with a Barbershop Organisation*

Each Barbershop Entry should last no longer than the allotted time for each class
Pieces **CAN** be performed that were performed the previous year.

1. Mixed Chorus – Entry £20

Max of 2 Songs – Own Choice – 10 Minutes

2. *All Female Chorus - Entry £20

Own Choice – Max 2 Songs – 10 Minutes

3. *All Male Chorus - Entry £20

Own Choice – Max 2 Songs – 10 Minutes

4. Quartet - Entry £16

Own Choice – Max 2 Songs – 10 Minutes

5. *Open Barbershop Class - Entry £25

Own Choice – Max of 2 Songs – 10 Minutes

Estimated timetable – TBC