

Gulf Coast Messiah Chorus

Young Artists Vocal Competition

The *Young Artists Vocal Competition* (YAVC) is part of the Gulf Coast Messiah Chorus' ongoing educational program for young people, seeking to stimulate interest in classical music among young singers. We also hope to pass down the tradition of singing Handel's oratorio, *Messiah*, to succeeding generations. Finally, we wish to encourage exceptionally gifted young singers and help them develop as the vocal leaders of the future. A panel of judges critique the performances and determine vocal and scholarship winners. The audience at the competition will vote for the "Audience's Favorite Singer." We welcome your participation in this, our **13th Annual YAVC**, on **Saturday morning, October 19, 2024**. (Tentative Location: MGCCC-Harrison County Campus, Gulfport) **Vocal winners** of the competition will be invited to perform their solos at one of the concerts, **December 6-8, 2024**. All **scholarship winners** will be introduced at one of the concerts, also.

*ELIGIBILITY:

The YAVC is open to young singers, ages 15 – 25 (as of September 1), who live along the Mississippi Gulf Coast in one of the southern six counties (including Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Pearl River, Stone or George County). *The participant can be a resident of the area, working in the area, a student in the area, or someone who grew up in the area but is in school elsewhere. Also, young vocalists who have previously performed with the GCMC may audition, regardless of their place of residence. **Note: Competition scholarship winners will be expected to sing in the Messiah Chorus during the fall season as a way to fully experience Handel's *Messiah*. In-person rehearsals will resume on Monday nights, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. beginning October 21, 2024.**

TO COMPLETE YOUR REGISTRATION, MAIL THE FOLLOWING :

1. A recent recommendation from your primary vocal teacher briefly detailing your current vocal development
2. A recommendation from an adult (non-family member) in the community (First-time participants, only)
3. A single-page essay describing your musical training, experience, your future musical goals and list the solo(s) for which you plan to audition
4. REGISTRATION FEE: Check payable to "Gulf Coast Messiah Chorus"
Early Registration deadline: September 25, 2024, with fee of \$10
Final Registration deadline: October 9, 2024, with fee of \$20
5. BEFORE OCTOBER 9: Contact Donna Snell at donnasnell@bellsouth.net to let the chairman know you are entering the YAVC. (This is to avoid problems we had in the past with not receiving registration materials in a timely manner, possibly due to problems with postal delivery.)
6. THEN, ON or BEFORE OCTOBER 9, 2024:
Mail all to Donna Snell - 1208 Pine Street - Gulfport, MS 39507

2024 YAVC Registration Form

(Early Registration by Sept. 25/ \$10 fee - Final Registration by Oct. 9/ \$20 fee)

Student Full Name _____ Student Email _____

Student Cell Phone _____ Student Home Phone _____

Student Mailing Address

_____ City _____ Zip _____

Student Date of Birth _____ Age (as of 09/01/2024) _____

Education: ___ High School Student ___ College Undergraduate ___ Graduate Student ___ Other

Parent(s) Name(s) _____

Parent(s) Mailing Address _____

Parent(s) Phone _____

Voice Category: ___ Soprano ___ Mezzo-Soprano ___ Alto ___ Tenor ___ Baritone ___ Bass

Teacher Name: _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Email _____

Before October 9, contact Donna Snell, YAVC Chair, at donnasnell@bellsouth.net of your intention to register for the competition.

Registration is not complete until this registration form, recommendation letter(s), student's essay, and registration fee are received. All can be mailed to YAVC - Donna Snell - 1208 Pine Street - Gulfport, MS 39507.

Additional information will be available at: www.messiahchorus.org