Application and Audition Guidelines for Singers (OYC 2026)

This document outlines what is required for your 2026 Ontario Youth Choir application and audition.

General Audition Information

Auditions for the 2026 Ontario Youth Choir will be by video submission. The 2026 OYC audition period will commence January 5, 2026 and conclude on April 10, 2026.

Applications and video submissions can be submitted at any point up until April 10, 2026. The deadline may be extended at the discretion of the 2026 OYC Conductor and Choirs Ontario.

Choristers will be contacted and informed of the status of their acceptance into the program beginning May 2026 upon review of their audition material. Choristers might be contacted during the audition period for additional materials or information.

New & Important: Choirs Ontario is committed to nurturing the next generation of choral leaders. The Ontario Youth Choir is our flagship programme run annually in August. In order to keep the Ontario Youth Choir programme in operation, we rely on memberships to support the organization as a whole. Choristers selected for the Ontario Youth Choir will be required to become a member of Choirs Ontario. The cost of an individual membership is only $15/year and can be purchased directly on our website. Membership will not be required until confirmation of acceptance and enrollment occurs during contract signing. If at any point of the application process, you have questions or concerns regarding financial accessibility, please contact us at info@choirsontario.org.

If you encounter any challenges, require any additional information or assistance, please contact info@choirsontario.org.

Step 1: Application and Video Submission

Please note: Since a video submission is required, please make sure to test your equipment before making your recording. Expensive equipment is not required - a cell phone (smartphone) is sufficient provided you ensure good quality audio and video quality. Try to eliminate white noise or any distractions while recording.

All video audition submissions will consist of the following (each element may be recorded separately):

1. *One (1) solo piece*, in any language, that shows your best vocal qualities. You may have piano accompaniment or sing unaccompanied. Please do not use a pre-recorded accompaniment track.

2. *Optional second solo piece*, in a contrasting style. This selection is optional and meant to give you the opportunity to show off your secret talents: Are you a fantastic country singer? An expert yodeller or a gospel singer? Take this opportunity to display a different facet of your musical personality.

3. *Prepare choral excerpt "Os Justit" (6. Graduale) by Anton Bruckner.* Prepare and perform your part from mm. 17-42. The excerpt should be sung a capella with special attention to breath support and phrasing. It must be sung on text. Memorization is not necessary. The

following link will take you to the excerpt. →
"Os Justit" (6. Graduale) by Anton Bruckner [CHORAL EXCERPT]

4. *Vocal Exercises* to show your full range and tone quality. These should be sung a capella.

   Vocal Exercise No. 1:
   The first exercise consists of a broken triad, ascending (i.e. do-mi-sol-mi-do), starting in the middle of your range and moving up chromatically until you are at the very top of your range. Sing on an "ooo" or "ah" vowel.

   Vocal Exercise No. 2
   The second is a 5-note descending scale (i.e. sol-fa-mi-re-do), starting in the middle of your range and moving down chromatically until you are at the very bottom of your range. Sing on an "ooo" or "ah" vowel.

   Vocal Exercise No. 3
   The third is a chromatic scale sung *unaccompanied*. Choose your starting pitch and sing an ascending and descending chromatic scale on "doo".

Video Requirements:

- Video should be posted as an unlisted video or playlist to YouTube (or similar platform).
- Orientation should be in Landscape mode
- Individual Videos should be recorded in one take with no video editing.
- Video title should be formatted as follows: "Ontario Youth Choir 2026 Audition - (your name, your voice part)".

Materials to Submit:

The following should be completed and/or submitted electronically when submitting the 2026 OYC Application Form and Video Submission, no later than **April 10, 2025**. Document files should be provided in .pdf format.

- ☐ **Musical Background / CV**, describing any formal music training, university degrees or college certificates in music (in-process or completed), choirs you have sung in, etc. Please include anything that you believe the conductor should know about your musical background that would be helpful during the audition and selection process.
- ☐ The **link to your video** on YouTube or similar platform (recording instructions found above)
- ☐ Contact information for one (1) **Reference** from someone who can attest to your musical abilities and knowledge, such as a voice teacher or conductor. A detailed list of chorister recommendation information can be found here.

A direct link to the 2026 Ontario Youth Choir Application form can be found here → https://forms.gle/RkoW4FbBL1Tw1d9N8

Review of Materials

Choristers will be contacted and informed of the status of their acceptance into the program beginning May 2026 upon review of their audition material. Choristers might be contacted during the audition period for additional materials or information.

If you have any questions or difficulties during any point in the application/audition process, and/or if any of these steps is a barrier for you, please contact info@choirsontario.org.