

Dear Singers and Parents,

I hope the New Year has started well for you and that you have enjoyed the holidays. This letter gives some important details about our events for our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. It will be another exciting year and I can't wait to share some of these amazing experiences with you! Congratulations to Emily Tenorio and Esther Junker who participated in the Gondwana National Choral School. Esther has been selected for the Gondwana Voices Berlin Tour and Emily was selected for the a cappella elective, working with Naomi Crellin.

Hunter Singers and Hunter Trebles rehearsals will commence at Merewether High School on Tuesday 5 February. Hunter Singers will rehearse in the Learning Centre from 4.30-6.30pm and Hunter Trebles will rehearse from 5.00-6.30pm in KM1. Singers should arrive at rehearsal each week by 4.20pm and enter through the Pokolbin Street entrance.

Please print the program on page 4 of this document on coloured paper and place it in a prominent position in your home. You should also put the details into any diaries or calendars you keep as a family. Refer to it when organising work rosters and family outings. There are likely to be some additions and these will be advised as soon as possible. I will also send email updates and reminders if you update your most frequently checked email address in the Medical and Information form which Lynne will send to you.

#### **MYUNA BAY CAMP**

Our first camp for this year is on **2-3 March** at **Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Centre, Lake Road, Myuna Bay**. This is a compulsory camp and it is essential that all singers attend. The accommodation is in two separate blocks: one for boys, some staff and rehearsals; and one for girls and all meals. Rooms sleep four with ensuite, bunk beds and pillows provided. You will need to provide your own linen, including sleeping bag/doona, sheets, towels and pillowcase.

Singers are to make their own way to the camp, arriving by 8.30am on Saturday 2 March. A map is included with this document. The access code for the boom gate will be emailed before the camp. Please drive carefully and park near Maroubra or Fernholme lodges. There will be a short concert at the conclusion of the camp at 4pm on Sunday 3 March. As always, it is essential that everyone attends the camp for the whole weekend. The cost is \$170, which includes accommodation, food, music and venue hire.

The group will be supervised by the Hunter Singers committee and camp staff who have been screened in accordance with the Department of Education Working With Children documents. The Emergency Mobile Phone number for camp is 0412 496 138.

As you know, Hunter Singers operates under the guidelines of the Department of Education and we are bound by certain regulations in relation to student behaviour. In particular, the use of alcohol, cigarettes and narcotic drugs is strictly prohibited. We also expect that Singers will co-operate with staff at all times and behave in an appropriate manner. Any serious breach of rules will result in parents being contacted and asked to collect their children from the camp.

Singers will need to bring to the camp:-

- casual, comfortable clothing including a jacket or jumper, nightwear, toiletries
- towel, sheets & doona **or** sleeping bag (pillow provided, bring your own pillowcase)
- sunscreen, mosquito repellent, swimmers & towel
- dress-up costume – this camp's theme is: "Flora and Fauna"

We are able to use the Centre share facilities: swimming pool, tennis courts, mini golf, cricket nets, oval playing area, play gym and bushwalking tracks around and within the Centre. Please bring any equipment you need to enjoy these facilities during our breaks.

### **SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT SERIES**

We have a 3-concert subscription program this year, with concerts at Adamstown Uniting Church. The dates are 7 April, 30 June and the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary concert on 17 November. You have an opportunity to buy a subscription to all three concerts at reduced cost. Subscriptions are available at <https://www.trybooking.com/ZTBS> - \$60 adults, \$50 concession, \$25 children. Please promote the concerts to your family and friends. These three concerts are the most important dates on the Hunter Singers 2019 calendar, so please make sure these dates are free. Those who have purchased subscription tickets will receive the passes prior to the first concert. Individual concert tickets are Adults: \$27/\$27/\$32, Concession \$22/\$22/\$27, Children \$10/\$10/\$10, so there are considerable savings in buying subscriptions.

### **CENTRAL AUSTRALIA TOUR**

Plans are well underway for this fantastic tour. The detailed itinerary has been sent and there are still a few vacancies for additional travellers. The balance will be due by 14th February. Please note: if paying online it takes 2 business days to appear on statement, therefore you will need to ensure payment is made by 12th February when paying online.

### **GONDWANA WORLD CHORAL FESTIVAL**

I am very excited to announce that Hunter Singers have been invited to participate in the Gondwana World Choral Festival, to be held in Sydney on 13-17 July, in the school holidays. The participating international choirs are some of the best choirs in the world, including Riga Cathedral Choir from Latvia, Boston Children's Chorus, Toronto Children's Chorus, Guangdong Experimental Middle School Choir from China, Estonian TV Girls' Choir and La Cigale de Lyon from France. It is the greatest gathering of choirs in Australia this century and such an honour for Hunter Singers to be invited to participate! We will be staying at the YHA in The Rocks, so we will be able to walk to all venues, which include the Sydney Opera House and Sydney Conservatorium of Music. The cost will be around \$300, with \$100 deposit due as part of Term 1 payments. It is hoped that all members of the group will be able to be part of this great event.

### **UNIFORM**

Please ensure that all uniform items are the correct size. Replacement items are available.

**ALL SINGERS** will need the black dots T-shirt, the black tree T-shirt and the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary shirt (available later in the year). The T-shirts are \$20 each.

**BOYS** - black pants, black shirt, blue tie and black belt with polished black leather shoes and black socks.

**GIRLS** - black culottes, the blue peacock shirt, black polished leather shoes and black socks or stockings.

**CLOTHING POOL.** As Singers outgrow their uniforms, they can purchase additional pieces, and sell their second hand uniform back to the clothing pool for half price. These pieces may then be purchased from the clothing pool at half price. Please see Lynne Kentish at rehearsal for more information. We are investigating a new girls uniform, to be launched at the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert.

### **FEES & PERMISSION SLIPS**

Individual accounts will be emailed to you in the next couple of weeks from the Hunter Singers Treasurer, Lynne Kentish. Payment details will be provided on your account. The 2019 annual fees are \$400 for the first family member and \$380 for additional family members. If any family would like to pay by term installments, please email [treasurer@huntersingers.com](mailto:treasurer@huntersingers.com) or see Lynne at rehearsal on the first Tuesday back.

You will also be emailed the medical and contact information form containing the current details on file. Can you please confirm this is the correct information and update/add any information that is incorrect or missing. All accounts and forms (permission note, publicity permission form, medical and contact information form) are due by the end of February. The forms can be emailed to [treasurer@huntersingers.com](mailto:treasurer@huntersingers.com) or handed in at rehearsal.

Parents are invited to watch the final 15 minutes of each Hunter Singers rehearsal. We ask however that parents stay outside the Learning Centre until 6.15pm. I am really looking forward to seeing you on 5 February as we prepare for what looks to be another exciting year.

Cheers,

Kim Sutherland OAM  
Music Director, Hunter Singers  
24 January 2019

# HUNTER SINGERS

## TERM 1 2019 PARTICIPATION CONTRACT AND PERMISSION FORM

Singer's name: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please complete a separate sheet for each member of Hunter Singers in your family.)*

- I give permission for my child to participate in Term 1 activities as listed on the program. He/she is committed to the following events and has organised work rosters to ensure availability:
- Myuna Bay camp on 2-3 March
  - Regional rehearsal for Secondary Choral Concert at Merewether HS on 18 March
  - Rehearsal and information session with Hunter Wind Ensemble at MHS on 23 March
  - Rehearsal and concert with Hunter Wind Ensemble on 6 April (times TBA)
  - Subscription Concert at Adamstown Uniting Church on 7 April
- I understand that Hunter Singers operates under the guidelines of the Department of Education and Communities excursions and have discussed the rules and expected standards of behaviour with my son/daughter. I know that the use of alcohol, cigarettes and narcotic drugs is strictly prohibited and that any serious breach of rules will result in parents being contacted and asked to collect their child from the activity.
- I give permission for my child to be involved in promotional activities for Hunter Singers. This may include still and video photography. I approve the later use of any audio or video recordings and still photographs associated with Hunter Singers, for use on the Department of Education & Communities website, promotion of Hunter Singers and/or the Department of Education & Communities.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed (Parent/Caregiver)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed (Hunter Singers member)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## HUNTER SINGERS 2019 DRAFT PROGRAM

<b>TERM 1</b>	
Tuesday 5 February	Hunter Singers First weekly rehearsal at Merewether HS, 4.30-6.30pm
2-3 March	Hunter Singers Camp at Myuna Bay 8.30am Saturday – 4pm Sunday (compulsory)
Monday 18 March TBC	Regional rehearsal for Secondary Choral Concert 9am-3pm at Merewether HS
Saturday 23 March	Rehearsal and Information Session with Hunter Wind Ensemble for Central Australian Tour Merewether HS 1-4pm
Saturday 6 April	Combined rehearsal and concert with Hunter Wind Ensemble for the Central Australian Tour. Times to be advised.
Sunday 7 April	<b>Hunter Singers &amp; Hunter Trebles Subscription Concert 1</b> Adamstown Uniting Church, Rehearsal 10am-1pm, Concert 2pm Tickets \$27/\$22/\$10
14-27 April	Central Australian Tour
<b>TERM 2</b>	
Tuesday 30 April	Hunter Singers First weekly rehearsal for Term 2 at Merewether HS, 4.30-6.30pm
Date TBA	Star Struck Massed Choir rehearsal – Hunter Trebles and Hunter Singers in Massed Choir
Monday 20 May	<b>Secondary Choral Concert at Sydney Town Hall</b> - Depart 7am from Merewether HS, Pokolbin St entrance, Rehearsal during the day, concert at night, Return 11.30pm to Merewether HS.
Friday 7 June	Star Struck Massed Choir rehearsal
12-15 June	Star Struck week – Hunter Trebles and Hunter Singers in Massed Choir, Hunter Singers item in show
Sunday 30 June	<b>Hunter Singers &amp; Hunter Trebles Subscription Concert 2</b> Adamstown Uniting Church, Rehearsal 12 noon-3pm, Concert 4pm Tickets \$27/\$22/\$10
13-17 July	Gondwana World Choral Festival in Sydney, staying at YHA The Rocks
<b>TERM 3</b>	
Tuesday 23 July	Hunter Singers First weekly rehearsal for Term 3 at Merewether HS, 4.30-6.00pm
3-4 August	Myuna Bay camp Saturday 8.30am – 4pm Sunday 8.30-5pm. Hunter Trebles also at camp on 3 August.
Tues 20 August TBC	Hunter Singers Inc AGM, 6.30pm at Merewether HS Learning Centre
<b>TERM 4</b>	
Tuesday 15 October	Hunter Singers First weekly rehearsal for Term 4 at Merewether HS, 4.30-6.30pm
Saturday 16 November	Rehearsal for 30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert, 10am-4pm, Merewether HS Learning Centre
Sunday 17 November	<b>Hunter Singers &amp; Hunter Trebles Subscription Concert 3 - 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert</b> Newcastle Conservatorium, Rehearsal 9.30am-1pm, Concert 2pm Tickets \$32/\$27/\$10
Date TBA	Hunter Singers and Hunter Trebles Schools Tour
Tuesday 10 December	Hunter Singers and Hunter Trebles auditions
Friday 13 Dec TBC	King Edward Park Carols By Candlelight

## DIRECTIONS TO MYUNA BAY CAMP AND SITE MAP

### Address:

Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Centre, Wangi Road, Myuna Bay NSW 2264

### Directions from Newcastle:

Follow the F3 freeway south and take the Morisset exit. Continue through Morisset and past Dora Creek. The centre is approximately 12 kilometres from the freeway on the right hand side of the road

### Site Map:

Enter through boom gate and follow the road to the Maroubra or Fernholme lodges to find parking.

