

# ATLANTA MASTER CHORALE

WHERE MUSIC TOUCHES SPIRIT

## CHORAL COMPOSITION COMPETITION

Atlanta Master Chorale's (AMC) Choral Composition Competition promotes new choral music and invites aspiring composers to create new choral repertoire. We are seeking compositions which reflect our vision, "Where music touches spirit."

The composition requirements are as follows:

**SATB**

**A Cappella**

**Secular**

**3-5 minutes**

**Original composition, no arrangements**

*Atlanta Master Chorale encourages composers of all ages, nationalities, education levels, races, genders, and backgrounds to apply.*

### Timeline

- Submission portal opens: February 1, 2025
- Intent to submit form deadline: April 1, 2025
- Final score submission deadline: May 31, 2025
- Adjudication: June 16 – August 31, 2025
- Winner notification: September 5, 2025
- Official announcement of competition winner at the October 2025 Atlanta Master Chorale concerts

### Overview

1. The competition winner will receive a \$2,500 award.
2. Voicing is SATB (with optional divisi). Compositions must be a cappella.
3. Composition should be 3-5 minutes in length.
4. Text must be secular and can be in any language.
5. Composition should be newly composed for the competition and not previously publicly performed, adjudicated, or published.
6. All applicants will remain anonymous to the committee and judges.
7. The intent to submit form will be available to composers starting February 1, 2025 (<https://forms.gle/ge8oCVDibGnD4sW77>) and must be completed by April 1, 2025.
8. Final submission including the completed score and recording is due by 11:59 pm on May 31, 2025 (ET).

### Submission Process

1. Applicants must complete the intent to submit form as the first step to competition entry: <https://forms.gle/ge8oCVDibGnD4sW77> (must be completed by April 1).
2. Upon submission of the intent to submit form, contestants will receive confirmation of receipt and detailed instructions on the next steps in the process.

3. Once candidates have completed their composition and recording, final submissions should be emailed to [competition@atlantamasterchorale.org](mailto:competition@atlantamasterchorale.org) (no later than May 31).
4. If your files are too large to email, please utilize WeTransfer (<https://wetransfer.com/>), a free file sharing service to submit your composition.
5. Compositions will be reviewed by a third party to ensure they have met all competition requirements. Contestants will be notified whether or not their submission has been accepted for adjudication.

## **Competition Evaluation and Decision**

1. The competition will be judged by a specially convened panel including Atlanta Master Chorale Artistic Director, Eric Nelson, industry professional(s), and members of the competition committee.
2. Jury deliberations will begin on June 16, 2025, with an anticipated announcement of the winner on September 1, 2025.
3. The judges' selection of the winner is final and no correspondence or feedback concerning the panel's decision will be permitted. Emails requesting feedback will not be passed on to the panel.
4. All applications and submissions will be anonymized by a third party prior to the adjudication process in an effort to prevent any conflicts of interest or perceived conflicts of interest arising during the judging process.
5. Atlanta Master Chorale does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin/ancestry, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status in any of its activities or operations.

## **Performance/Publication**

If a composition is selected for the/an award and determined as performance qualified, AMC will have the exclusive right to the premiere performance of the winning composition within the first year, as well as the right to the first recording if recorded within one year of the premiere. No public performance shall be allowed prior to the premiere performance by AMC without its consent.

1. AMC and MorningStar Music Publishers will have the right of first refusal to publish the winning composition in the Atlanta Master Chorale Choral Series. The right of first refusal will be in effect for one year after the premiere performance. All publication contracts will be between MorningStar Music Publishers and the composer.
2. If the composition is determined to be performed by Atlanta Master Chorale, the winner will also receive up to \$500 for travel expenses to attend the premiere performance in Atlanta, GA.

## **Competition Guidelines**

1. Only one application/submission per composer will be considered.
2. Submissions must be original, unpublished work and not an arrangement of another melody or tune.
3. Music and text may not infringe on any U.S. copyright or licensing regulations/laws.
4. Submissions may not have been previously publicly performed, adjudicated, or published.
5. Compositions submitted shall be deemed the intellectual property of the submitting composer and any rights relating to this shall remain with the composer.

6. Before compositions are sent to the adjudication panel, each entry will receive an identifying number to protect anonymity. **Do not list the composer's name on the score or anywhere else in submitted materials.**
7. Scores must be clear and ready for duplication and performance, using a standard electronic engraving software program (i.e. sibelius, finale, etc.) with all pages numbered.
8. A recording must be submitted along with the score.
9. All scores must be submitted in PDF format. The file name for the score and accompanying audio file should include the title and the estimated performance duration of the composition (e.g., Ilovetosing\_4.50).
10. Texts must be secular and can be in any language. For non-English texts, include a translation. Note on the first page of your score if the text is original, public domain, or a copyrighted text with permission from the copyright owner.
11. Applicants may include a written statement of up to 300 words about the composition, composition process, or other relevant information about the piece. If notes are included, they must be part of the PDF file containing the score and cannot contain identifying information.
12. Entries not conforming to the requirements will be rejected, and the applicant will be notified accordingly.
13. Submitting an entry for the competition indicates unqualified acceptance of the terms outlined in the competition guidance.

## **Additional Information and Questions**

All inquiries should be sent to Atlanta Master Chorale's Executive Director, Jim Verrecchia, via email at [ExecutiveDirector@AtlantaMasterChorale.org](mailto:ExecutiveDirector@AtlantaMasterChorale.org).