



Choral Canada  
—  
Canada Choral



Competition for **Choral Writing**  
Concours de **composition chorale**

**2022 Competition for Choral Writing**  
**THE DIANE LOOMER AWARD**  
CO-SPONSORED BY **CYPRESS CHORAL MUSIC**

Choral Canada encourages and supports the composition of new choral works by emerging Canadian composers. To that end, Choral Canada invites submissions to the 2022 Choral Canada Competition for Choral Writing.

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**The Diane Loomer Award**, co-sponsored by [Cypress Choral Music](#)

The Diane Loomer Award is open to any Canadian choral composer. The winner will receive:

- the Diane Loomer Award of \$1500
- a publishing opportunity through Cypress Choral Music
- a performance by the 2022 [National Youth Choir of Canada](#), conducted by Jean-Sébastien Vallée, on tour and at [PODIUM 2022](#) national choral conference & festival in Toronto, ON
- a feature article about the composer in Choral Canada's national choral journal *Anacrusis*
- promotion on Choral Canada's website and social media

The competition will be judged by a national jury of choral conductors and composers in Canada. **All** competing composers will receive constructive written feedback from a juror.

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**ENTRY DEADLINE: February 6, 2022**

**Please see below for Competition Regulations and Application Guidelines.**

**Competition Regulations - Diane Loomer Award**



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1. To be eligible for the Diane Loomer Award, the composer must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident;
2. All entries must be of original music. Arrangements of existing music will not be accepted.
3. The composition must be unpublished.
4. The text must be original, in the public domain, or include a letter of permission from the copyright holder to perform and publish.
5. The composition must be:
  - a. 3-5 minutes in length;
  - b. for SATB voicing, with minimal divisi;
  - c. A cappella or with piano accompaniment only.
6. As the National Arts Service Organization for choral music in Canada, Choral Canada seeks to foster the creation and performance of Canadian choral music through this award, making it available and accessible to choirs/singing groups from coast to coast to coast. In addition to adherence to the Competition Regulations, the jury will also be looking for:
  - a. originality and consistency of compositional language;
  - b. vocally appropriate writing with regards to tessitura, range, and voice-leading;
  - c. responsiveness to the text;
  - d. creativity and bold composition decisions; and
  - e. suitability for performance by community-based choirs.
7. The overall theme of the 2022 NYCC programme is *After All This Time*, a concert addressing important social issues through a diverse array of musical selections. Each section of the program is themed. Candidates are encouraged, but not required, to consider these ideas and themes in their submissions.

Section 1: a reflection on violence and an expression of hope for peace to come;



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Section 2: a call for acceptance and a celebration of diversity;

Section 3: a call to kindness and understanding.

8. Multiple entries by a single composer will not be accepted.
9. The composer may submit the same composition to both categories if all criteria are met for both, however they will only be eligible for one prize. The same composition cannot win or receive an honourable mention in both categories.
10. Past winners of the Diane Loomer Award are ineligible to enter.
11. The decision of the Choral Canada-appointed jury is final. The jury may, at its discretion, withhold any or all prizes if submitted works fail to meet the set criteria. The jury may select up to three honorable mentions per category.

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## Application Requirements

1. Entries must be received by email to [sarah@choralcanada.org](mailto:sarah@choralcanada.org) by **February 6, 2022**.
2. Applicants must send an unmarked PDF of the composition (without markings and identifiers, such as the composer's name) via email to the contact information below.
3. Applicants must also, in that same email, provide a cover letter with your full name, address, phone number, and email address, along with any written text (see #4 below) that you wish to include.
4. Applicants may, if they wish, include a maximum 250 word text to share their inspiration for their composition and/or how they see their piece fitting into the NYCC program theme.
5. The applicant may enter both categories of the competition with one composition if the criteria for both categories is met. The same composition cannot win or receive an honourable mention in both categories.
6. The standard entry fee is \$40.00 with a reduced rate of \$20.00 for students (includes 13% HST). The fee is payable by cheque made out to Choral Canada OR e-transfer sent to [info@choralcanada.org](mailto:info@choralcanada.org). Only one entry fee is required, even if you are



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entering both competitions. The entry fee is non-refundable. This entry fee includes receiving thorough written feedback from one of the jurors.

7. The winner will be notified by email or phone by March 1, 2022.

**For more information, interested candidates should contact:**

Sarah Gardiner  
Programs & Services Manager  
Choral Canada  
sarah@choralcanada.org

**Entries should be submitted, in PDF form and via email to:**

sarah@choralcanada.org