

A festive graphic featuring a central white oval with a black border containing the text 'FESTIVAL OF VOICES'. The oval is surrounded by various colorful circles in shades of orange, pink, and purple, some with patterns like dots or lines. Small white stars and dots are scattered across the dark red background.

FESTIVAL OF VOICES

A CHORAL SOIRÉE

7 JULY 2026

**PARLIAMENT HOUSE
RECEPTION ROOM**

Auckland Youth Choir
Music Director: David Squire
Pianist: Claire Caldwell



A CHORAL SOIRÉE

6.00 PM | TUESDAY 7 JULY
PARLIAMENT HOUSE RECEPTION ROOM

REPERTOIRE TO BE SELECTED FROM:

AUCKLAND YOUTH CHOIR

David Squire, Music Director & **Claire Caldwell**, Pianist

The Wheel that Moves the Sun and Stars (Eric William Barnum)

O Nata Lux (Anna Lapwood)

Kyrie and Heilig – from *Die Deutsche Liturgie* (Felix Mendelssohn)

Indodana (Trad. isiXhosa, arr. Barrett and Schmitt)

Night (David Hamilton)*

Carmina mei cordis (Abbie Betinis)

1. *Aeterna lux, divinitas*

2. *Angele Dei*

The Moon is Distant from the Sea (David Childs)*

Way Over in Beulah Lan' (Trad. Spiritual, arr. Stacey Gibbs)

Ride the Chariot (Trad. Spiritual, arr. William Henry Smith)

My Lord, What a Morning (Trad. Spiritual, arr. Mobley, LaBarr & Payne)

I Can't Give You Anything but Love (Jimmy McHugh, arr. Riley and Althouse)

The Nearness of You (Hoagy Carmichael, arr. Kirby Shaw)

I Do Like to Be Beside the Seaside (John Glover-Kind, arr. Andrew Carter)

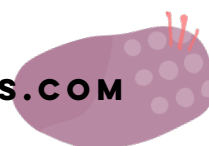
Pepeha (Six60, arr. Harker)*

Te Aroha (Te Puoho Katene)*

Tūtira Mai Ngā Iwi (Wī Te Tau Huata)*

Tōia mai te Waka (Piri Poutapu)*

* = New Zealand work





A CHORAL SOIRÉE

6.00 PM | TUESDAY 7 JULY
PARLIAMENT HOUSE RECEPTION ROOM

DAVID SQUIRE



David Squire was Music Director of the renowned New Zealand Youth Choir from 2011-2025 and was the first alumnus director of the choir. In 2025, the choir won the Grand Prix of Nations title for folklore at the European Choir Games in Denmark and then went on to win the Choir of the World title at the Llangollen International Eisteddfod in Wales, where David also won the award for the Most Inspirational Conductor. He also directs international award-winning ensembles Voicemale (Westlake Boys High School), Euphony (Kristin School), the Takapuna Grammar School Chorale, the Westlake Symphony Orchestra, and the Auckland Youth Choir. Current vice-chair of the New Zealand Association of Choral Directors, he is also a national conducting advisor and tutor and served as a governance board member of the New Zealand Choral Federation for nine years.

In 2026 he will also act as a guest conductor for Bach Musica New Zealand, and as the Artistic Director of the NZCF 'Sing Aotearoa' festival in Rotorua. He is in demand around the world as a clinician, educator, guest conductor and adjudicator, and is the choral director for the International Schools Choral Music Society based in China.





A CHORAL SOIRÉE

6.00 PM | TUESDAY 7 JULY
PARLIAMENT HOUSE RECEPTION ROOM

AUCKLAND YOUTH CHOIR

Established in 1984, the Auckland Youth Choir (AYC) stands as a premier vocal ensemble in Aotearoa New Zealand, comprising over 130 singers aged 16 to 27. Representing the vibrant musical culture of Auckland, the choir serves as a vital bridge for young vocalists transitioning from secondary school environments into the professional and adult choral spheres. For their appearance at the Festival of Voices in Hobart, the ensemble is represented by a touring choir of 47 auditioned members.

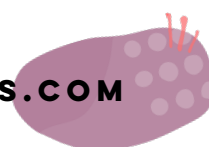


Throughout its forty-year history—celebrated with a landmark anniversary in 2024—AYC has cultivated a reputation for innovative programming, significant membership growth, and high-profile collaborations with New Zealand’s most distinguished musicians and arts organizations. The choir’s versatility is reflected in its diverse performance history, ranging from poignant ANZAC Day commemorations at the Auckland War Memorial Museum to regular, sold-out concerts at the historic St Matthew-in-the-City and the Auckland Town Hall.

On the international stage, AYC has garnered significant acclaim. In 2016, the ensemble participated in the world premiere of Paul Mealor’s work at Carnegie Hall, New York City. This was followed by a successful tour to Australia in 2019, where the choir won the choral section of the Australian International Music Festival, culminating in a performance at the Sydney Opera House. Most recently, in July 2024, the choir achieved a prestigious Gold Medal at the 13th World Choir Games held in their home city.

Beyond performance excellence, AYC is dedicated to the future of the arts through its Development and Mentoring Project. This initiative provides emerging conductors, accompanists, and composers with professional mentorship and podium time. Committed to the expansion of the choral canon, the choir commissions at least one original work from within its membership annually, fostering the next generation of New Zealand composers.

AYC is under the expert artistic leadership of Music Director David Squire, alongside Assistant Music Director and Pianist Claire Caldwell, and is supported by Choir Manager Kasey Hani Lui. The ensemble is honoured to bring their unique sound and spirit of Aotearoa to Hobart for this year’s festival.





A CHORAL SOIRÉE

6.00 PM | TUESDAY 7 JULY
PARLIAMENT HOUSE RECEPTION ROOM

AUCKLAND YOUTH CHOIR MEMBERS

Anouk Blackburn

Erina Brown

Bryan Casey

Bella Devonshire

Leo Dong

Alex Etheridge

Corin Fenwick-Rose

C Fonseca

Amelia Frear

Tautiaga Gaina

Sammy Goad

Lara Grozev

Anna Haine

Lauren Haine

Brodie Hutton

Emma Imrutai

Aden James Angelo

Amy Johnstone

Xarya Knox

Nicholas MacQueen

Tyler Malone

Cameron McConchie

Felix McElwee

Li Mei Casey

Mira Menon

Grace Munro

Lara Najim

James Oandasan

John Oandasan

Anthony Prajogo

Zara Ridley

Oliver Roe

Georgia Singleton

Isabella Sinnema

William Smith

Grace Spooner

Cathrine Sun

Leo Sun

Thomas Swarbrick

Suzie Thirukotla

Emilie Tucker

Michael Wassell

Susanna Weng

Amelia Williamson

Emma Wong She

Annabel Yu

FESTIVAL^{OF} VOICES

OTHER EVENTS YOU MIGHT LIKE!

In Quires and Places

Sat 11 July

7.30 pm

St Mary's Cathedral

Meechot Marrero

Thu 9 July

7.30 pm

St Mary's Cathedral

One Last Song: Festival Finale

Sun 12 July

1.00 pm

Federation Concert Hall

SCAN FOR MORE:

