



FESTIVAL OF VOICES

A CAPPPELLA SPECTACULAR

FRIDAY 10 JULY 2026

DR TREVOR JONES | MC

FEATURING:

Festival of Voices Sing It A Cappella! Workshop Choir |
Auckland Youth Choir (NZ) | Harambee A Cappella (VIC) |
The Honeybees (NSW) | Hobart Harmony (TAS) |
Vocalis (TAS) | Adelaide Vocal Union (SA) |
Deep South Chorus (TAS)



A CAPPELLA SPECTACULAR

7.30 PM | FRIDAY 10 JULY
FEDERATION CONCERT HALL

Dr Trevor Jones | MC

SING IT A CAPPELLA! WORKSHOP CHOIR

Directed by **Melissa Kenny**

Selections from workshop repertoire

HOBART HARMONY

Directed by **Jenni Pyefinch**

If I Give My Heart to You (Crane, Jacobs & Brewster)

Come Dance with Me (Sammy Cahn, Jimmy Van Heusen)

THE HONEYBEES

Directed by **Steve Clarke**

Love Bubbles Over (Traditional)

Jesus Gonna Be Here (Tom Waits)

ADELAIDE VOCAL UNION

Directed by **Cam du Reiu**

Operator (William Spivery, Tom Gentry)

DEEP SOUTH CHORUS

Directed by **Kieran Slicer**

I Can't Give You Anything But Love, Baby (Jimmy McHugh, Dorothy Fields)





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DEEP SOUTH CHORUS & ADELAIDE VOCAL UNION

Two Strong Hearts (Andy Hill, Bruce Wooley, Michael Webber)

HARAMBEE A CAPPELLA

Directed by **Daniel Kim**

I'll Be There For You (David Crane, Marta Kauffman, Allee Willis, Philip Solem, Danny Wilde)

Words (Anders Edenroth)

Goodbye Song (Bear in the Big Blue House) (Peter Lurye)

VOCALIS

Directed by **Aaron Powell**

Someone Like You (Frank Wildhorn)

Don't Stop Me Now (Freddie Mercury)

AUCKLAND YOUTH CHOIR

Directed by **David Squire**

Indodana (Traditional isiXhosa, arr. Barrett & Schmitt)

Ride the Chariot (Traditional Spiritual)

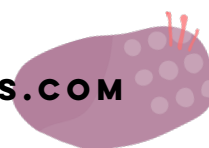
The Nearness of You (Hoagy Carmichael)

SOULFOOD A CAPPELLA

Directed by **Melissa Kenny**

Where is My Husband! (Raye, Mike Sabath, arranged by Melissa Kenny)

Unstoppable (Sia Furler, Christopher Braide)





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FEATURED CHOIRS

HOBART HARMONY (TAS)

Jenni Pyefinch, Director

Hobart Harmony is Tasmania's only Sweet Adelines chorus - a vibrant community of women who love the thrill of four-part a cappella. They sing classics and contemporary favourites in the barbershop style, and perform with energy, movement and a touch of sparkle.

Under the musical direction of Jenni Pyefinch, their members come from all walks of life and share the same passion: fun, friendship and ringing chords that lift audiences and each other.

Hobart Harmony is proud to be part of Sweet Adelines Australia - Region 34 of Sweet Adelines International, one of the world's largest women's singing organisations dedicated to elevating singers worldwide through education, performance, and competition in barbershop harmony and a cappella music. Since their first regional contest in Wollongong (2002), they have returned to the stage regularly - earning Most Improved Chorus (2015 & 2018) and a 3rd-place overall finish in 2025 with a 600+ score that confers Master Director status on their director.

In 2026, Hobart Harmony will celebrate 30 years since their founding and 25 years as a chartered chorus with Sweet Adelines. They continue to perform at festivals, community events and conventions across Tasmania and Australia.





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THE HONEYBEES (NSW)

Steve Clarke, Director

The Honeybees is a pre-eminent Sydney-based a cappella gospel choir formed in 1996 under the direction of acclaimed singer, composer and choir director Tony Backhouse. For the past fifteen years the choir has been directed by Steve Clarke, one of Sydney's most versatile and engaging choral directors.

Although not a religious choir, the Honeybees find inspiration in the passionate and captivating quality of gospel, soul and related genres. From Tom Waits to Aretha Franklin, Leonard Cohen to Australia's Ian Moss, traditional gospel to Dolly Parton, the Honeybees' polished and soulful performances leave audiences uplifted and inspired.



The choir has performed for a wide range of events over the years from fundraising concerts, weddings and festivals to high profile corporate functions and radio broadcasts. In 2024 the choir featured in the Desert Song Festival in Alice Springs and was privileged to share the stage with the Central Australian Aboriginal Woman's Choir.

The Honeybees successful Soul Sing events reflect the choir's strong commitment to inclusion and creating community. Currently hosted by the Royal Oak Hotel in Sydney's Balmain, but able to be held in any relaxed pub-style setting, participants join the Honeybees in learning a fun and not-too-challenging soul song in four-part harmony taught by Steve with humour and ease. With tipples in hand, the crowd soon find themselves immersed in the joy of singing, creating a happy, uplifting atmosphere.

The Honeybees are also known for their highly successful Gospel Groove workshops in which participants learn about the history of gospel music and the role of gospel songs in the American Civil Rights Movement in a lively, hands-on workshop. A range of four-part a cappella gospel songs are taught to the group, culminating in a joyful performance at the end of the workshop.

The Honeybees rehearse at Sydney's Wayside Chapel and the choir's values of acceptance and inclusivity align with Wayside's mission to "create community with no 'us' and 'them'".



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ADELAIDE VOCAL UNION

Cameron DuRieu, Artistic Director



Adelaide Vocal Union was formed in 2015 by Artistic Director Cameron DuRieu as an open space for men to sing, develop strong musicianship, and build genuine camaraderie. Bringing together singers aged from their 30s through to their 70s, AVU combines musical discipline with a relaxed, inclusive culture built on connection and shared experience.

Performing across Australia in concerts, festivals, and competitions, the group is known for tight harmony, confident stage presence, and an approach to a cappella that feels modern and accessible. In 2024, AVU made its first appearance at Hobart's Festival of Voices, delivering twelve performances across five days in venues including St David's Cathedral, MONA, and Hobart Town Hall.

AVU regularly collaborates with leading ensembles such as the award-winning Festival Statesmen and High Spirits Harmony.

Positioned between a vocal ensemble and a grown-up boy band, grey hairs and all, Adelaide Vocal Union delivers musical excellence with warmth, humour, and authenticity.

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DEEP SOUTH CHORUS (TAS)

Kieran Slicer, Director



Deep South Chorus is Hobart's premier men's a cappella harmony chorus. With a diverse repertoire ranging from lively up-tunes to heart felt ballads, and from modern to the traditional, they offer something for everyone.

Deep South provides opportunities for men of all ages and walks of life to experience wonderful camaraderie and friendship, while exploring their voices. Part of the Southern Tasmania Harmony Club that formed 32 years ago, Deep South has maintained continuous national representation at Barbershop Harmony Australia festivals, starting with the Wellingtons chorus back in 1997.

Over the years, Deep South has established a strong and distinctive presence within BHA and the wider community, having previously won BHA Most Improved Chorus Award and National Men's Chorus Silver Medals.

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HARAMBEE A CAPPELLA (VIC)

Daniel Kim, Director

Established in 2002, Harambee A Cappella is a Melbourne-based vocal ensemble formed by a diverse group of young adults united by a shared passion for singing and connection through music. The name Harambee, meaning “in the spirit of togetherness” in Swahili, reflects the ensemble’s core values of openness, inclusivity, and community. These values sit at the heart of everything the group does, shaping both their musical identity and the welcoming culture they foster within the ensemble.



Harambee A Cappella is known for delivering dynamic and engaging performances of contemporary a cappella music, showcasing a broad and evolving repertoire. Their music spans a wide range of styles and genres, allowing them to connect with audiences across many settings—from intimate community gatherings to large-scale competitive stages. Each performance highlights the ensemble’s commitment to musical excellence, collaboration, and expressive storytelling.

In 2024, Harambee A Cappella achieved international recognition after being crowned Gold Medal winners of the Pop Ensemble Open Competition at the World Choir Games. This prestigious global competition brought together choirs from over 40 countries, and the win marked a significant milestone in the ensemble’s history, celebrating years of dedication, creativity, and teamwork.

Beyond the competition circuit, Harambee A Cappella maintains a strong connection to the local community. They regularly perform at events throughout Victoria and interstate, contributing to festivals, concerts, and special occasions. The ensemble also extends their musical reach through recordings, having released multiple albums that are available via their social media platforms.

With a continued focus on growth, connection, and shared joy, Harambee A Cappella remains committed to bringing people together through the power of the human voice—always in the true spirit of Harambee.

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VOCALIS (TAS)

Aaron Powell, Director



Vocalis is an a cappella ensemble for singers aged 16 - 30. Performing a variety of a cappella styles, including barbershop, Vocalis provides an opportunity for college and university aged students to sing together.

Founded in 2024, Vocalis has already established itself as a quality ensemble, performing at a Youth Week Tas concert, the Barbershop Harmony Australia regional contest, an A Cappella Showcase and as guest artists for ThylaSing at the Peacock Theatre.

In 2025 Vocalis won the Tasmanian Region Open Chorus section of the Barbershop Harmony Australia contest. Vocalis is a TUSA affiliated club and a member of Barbershop Harmony Australia.

Vocalis was founded and is directed by Aaron Powell.





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AUCKLAND YOUTH CHOIR (NZ)

David Squire, Director



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.

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AUCKLAND YOUTH CHOIR (NZ) CONT.

David Squire, Director



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.





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SOULFOOD A CAPPELLA (NSW)

Melissa Kenny, Director



Soulfood is a multi-award winning Australian a cappella vocal ensemble run by Artistic Director Melissa Kenny. They are a Sydney based community auditioned choir offering a diverse menu of Motown, soul and retro-pop – reimagined in their signature Soulfood sound.

Formed in 1994, performance highlights include shows at the Sydney Opera House, The Seymour Centre, The Basement, the Manly Jazz Festival, Tasmania's Festival of Voices, as well as performances for Channel 7, 9, Network Ten, ABC 702, and many more.

In 2024, Soulfood represented Australia at the World Choir Games in Auckland, and was awarded Gold VI, winning the Pop Choir category.

Soulfood are four-time winners of the John Lamble Australasian Open Choral Championships in the Sydney Eisteddfod, as well as finalists in Channel 7's Battle of the Choirs.

They have released two albums, "Scissors, Paper, Song" and "Soulfood Christmas" that are available on iTunes and Spotify. They recently recorded an Australian album, "Songs from our backyard", for launch in May 2026.





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MELISSA KENNY

Clinician and Conductor, A Cappella Workshop

Melissa's performance career spans an extraordinary range of styles and collaborations—from early music with The Renaissance Players to gypsy jazz with Monsieur Camembert, from classical choral work with Cantillation to children's entertainment with Musica Viva in Schools and The Wiggles. Equally at home with Bach or The Beatles, she brings passion and versatility to every musical setting. As founder and Artistic Director of Soulfood a Cappella, Melissa leads a vibrant 50-voice choir known for its original arrangements of soul, Motown, and pop classics.



In 2024, Soulfood celebrated its 20th anniversary with a landmark win in the Open Pop Choir category at the World Choir Games in Auckland, New Zealand. The group is also a four-time winner of the John Lamble Australasian Open Choral Championship and has performed extensively across Australia, including appearances on national TV and radio. Their upcoming third album, *Songs from Our Backyard*, showcases all-Australian repertoire arranged by Melissa and fellow choir members.

Melissa is a sought-after clinician and guest lecturer, having led workshops and classes for the NSW Department of Education, Festival of Voices and the Sydney Conservatorium of Music amongst others. She has conducted massed choirs for the From the Steps event at the Sydney Opera House and directed their Big Heart Sing program. In the past 5 years she has held a regular conducting position with Hummingbird Choirs, Sydney Voices, Scots College, and Epping Boys High School.

Whether working with seasoned professionals or enthusiastic beginners, adults or children, Melissa brings joy, energy, and a deep love of music to every rehearsal and performance. Her mission is simple: to help people everywhere experience the transformative power of making music together.



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FESTIVAL OF VOICES SING IT A CAPPELLA! WORKSHOP CHOIR

Chris Beswick
Muriele Biber
Wendy Bowler
John Bryant
Grace Bryden
Jillian Callaghan
Sharon Campbell
Catherine Carroll
Julia Coffey
Roger Cox
Libby Crothers
Jen Currie
Elizabeth Curtis
Kat Dawson
Edwina Day
Elizabeth Donaldson
Alan Downes
Bernadette Duffy
Sue Duncan
Carol Duthie
Vanessa Echeverria-Newton
Sally Edwards
Janice Emmerton
Joseph Fogelman
Joanna Forbes
Helen Fryer
Anne Germon
Joh Goode
Jocelyn Gracia
Melanie Greenwood

Michael Gunton
Kylie Haberecht
Angela Harris
Joanne Harrison
Shari Hatfield
Cathy Hermans
Janet Hewson
Judith Holds
Anita Jenkins
Sara Jinga
Leanne Johnson
Leanne Johnson
Michael Johnson
Melissa Jovanovic
Mary Kennedy-Jones
John Lawlor
Gabriella Le Roux
Christine Madden
Jeneen McLeod
Andrew McMaster
Anne McMaster
Juliette Mendelovits
Jorg Metz
Dianne Morrison
Deborah Mullins
Anat Nadler
Michael Newton
Rhonda Newton
Lynne O'Rourke
Stephanie Payne

Amelia Rankin
Dawn Rawle
Tony Rea
Amanda Roe
June Rogan
Darren Rogerson
Annette Rooney
Mark Salter
Hennie Schrijver
Gillian Shepherd
John Stuart
Helen Taranto
Alex Terno
Ruth Thompson
Daphne Toombs
Cynthia Townley
Helen Townley
Jean-Marie Voon
Jude Waldron
Fiona Watson
Heike Weiss
Emilie Willcox
Karen Williams
Kate Wilson
Nicole Wilson
Sandra Windmill
Pam Wray



FESTIVAL^{OF} VOICES

OTHER EVENTS YOU MIGHT LIKE!

Club Broadway

Sat 11 July

3.00 pm

The Grand Poobah

Mamma Rosa's Tombola

Sat 11 July

4.30 pm

**Long Gallery, Salamanca Arts
Centre**

Apple Shed Shindig

Sat 11 July

6.00 pm

Willie Smith's Apple Shed

One Last Song: Festival Finale

Sun 12 July

1.00 pm

Federation Concert Hall

Acknowledgements:



HUTCHINS

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SCAN FOR MORE:

