

2026 Harmony Day Songwriting Competition

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

2026 Theme: Harmony – Stronger Together

Entrants and Entries

- This competition is open to all Primary and Secondary School students in Australia. Entries are based on the student's school year for 2025.
- Songs can be written by more than one person. In such a case, any prize(s) awarded will be shared equally between the songwriters.
- Students may submit one individual entry and one joint entry with other students.
- Songs do not have to be performed by the songwriter(s), but the performer must be enrolled in a school in Australia at the time of recording. The performer, if he or she is not the songwriter, does not qualify for a prize.

Entries by Multiple Students

In the case of multiple students entering a single entry the "Year of Study" will be determined from the student in the group with the highest "Year of Study".

Prizes

Prizes will be awarded for the winners in the following sections of the competition:

- Junior Section 1: Foundation – Year 3
* *Foundation (Kindy, Prep, Reception, Pre-Primary, Transition)*
- Junior Section 2: Years 3 – 6
- Senior Section 1: Years 7 – 9
- Senior Section 2: Years 10 – 12
- However, the above sections may be combined or otherwise altered at the absolute discretion of Moving Forward Together Association Incorporated (MFT).

In each section the winner will receive \$250.

Songs

- Songs may not be more than 2 minutes long
- The lyrics for the song must be original.
- Lyrics must express the theme of the 2026 competition ‘Harmony – Stronger Together’ but do not have to incorporate these exact words.
- You can either choose to write your own tune or use one of the two tunes that you can download from our website - <http://movingforwardtogether.org.au/songwriting-competition/>
- These tunes have been composed by Ms Julie Simonds, manager of the Music Program at the Conservatorium High School.
- If lyrics are set to original music, you will not be judged on the music you write, only the lyrics.
- While the quality of the recording will not be a part of the judging criteria, songs must be clearly audible to the judges.
- The judges may reject any entry that they consider to contain inappropriate language or sentiments.
- If an Artificial Intelligence Program has been used to create, or partly create, an entry then this must be disclosed at the entry form question about this matter and details of how the Artificial Intelligence Program has been used must be provided.

Submission of Entries

- Enter using the online entry form on our website <http://movingforwardtogether.org.au/songwriting-competition/>
- When entering, you will be asked to upload the recording of your song in MP3 format and the lyrics in a Word or PDF document. These files must be named as follows:
 - The recording of a performance of the song in MP3 format. Name the file yourname.mp3 (eg RobertLalas.mp3)
 - The song's lyrics in Word or pdf. Name the file yourname.docx (e.g. RobertLalas.docx)
- To enter the Competition, entrants must follow the directions on the entry form. There is no entry fee.
- All entries must be received no later than 15 April 2026, or such later date as the judges may determine, to be eligible for judging in the Competition.

Judging

- A panel of judges, consisting of music educators and experienced musicians, will be appointed by Moving Forward Together Association Incorporated (MFT) to judge the Competition.
- The judges' rulings are final and without appeal in all matters related to this Competition and the awarding of the Prizes
- When judging the songs, the judges will be considering the following:
 - Originality
 - Expression of the theme of the competition
 - Imagery used
 - Suitability of the lyrics to the tune

Prizegiving Function

The prize winners will be advised of their success once the judging has been completed and the prize winners, together with a limited number of guests, will be invited to the prize giving function.

Each winner will be invited to perform their song or have it performed by another person.

Promotion

Entrants will retain copyright and other intellectual rights for any entry entered in the competition, however, as a condition of entry in the competition, the owner of such entry grants a perpetual license to Moving Forward Together Association Incorporated (MFT) which entitles MFT to use the entry as submitted and to make and publish a recording of the entry for publicity purposes in connection with the Competition (or any future competition) without any compensation.

MFT may reject entries that it considers inappropriate for any reason. MFT can publish or decline to publish, or use or decline to use, any submitted entry at its sole discretion

Indemnity

MFT assumes no responsibility for lost, stolen, delayed, damaged, illegible, incomplete, postage due or misdirected entries, or for any problems with technical malfunction or any telephone network or lines, computer on-line systems, servers, access providers, computer equipment, software failure or any entry to be received or transmitted, congestion on the internet or at any website, or any combination thereof including any injury or damage to an entrants or any other person's computer related to or resulting from using or downloading any material in the contest.

By entering this Contest, entrants agree that MFT and its members, directors, and other groups supporting the competition, are not liable for any loss or damage of any kind to the entrant or any other person in connection with this Contest or participation in any Contest related activities, including but not limited to the use or misuse of a prize or any portion of a prize including personal injury or property damage.

MFT reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to modify, cancel or suspend this Contest or any part of it should external circumstances arise which are beyond the reasonable control of MFT.

MFT is not responsible for any errors or omissions in printing or advertising this Contest. This Contest will run in accordance with these Contest Rules, subject to amendment by MFT

Enquiries

All enquiries related to the competition should be emailed to office@movingforwardtogether.org.au

Privacy Policy

Moving Forward Together is committed to a strict privacy policy. It will not share any personal data about entrants with any other party, without the consent of the parent, teacher, program manager or guardian. Moving Forward Together collects personal information for the purposes of registration, program evaluation and to keep you informed about the contest.