

Win \$1,000 for your choral composition!

Composers with a unique creative voice and clear compositional ability are invited to participate in the Vanguard Premieres Choral Composition Contest 2012. Two \$1,000 prizes will be awarded; winning compositions in the General and Emerging Composers Categories will be premiered by Vanguard Voices, a 70-voice, mixed adult community choir based in Dearborn, Michigan, U.S.A.

Deadline for receipt of entries is **FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2012**

Sponsored by  *vanguard voices* G. Kevin Dewey, artistic director

Vanguard Voices is sponsored by the Dearborn Recreation Department and is choir-in-residence at Henry Ford Community College.

1) WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER?

- a) Composers of any nationality who are aged 18 or older by the entry deadline – **Friday, April 13, 2012.**
- b) Composers may submit as many compositions as they wish. Each composition must be treated as a separate entry, accompanied by the required entry materials and fee.
- c) The following composers are not eligible for the 2012 contest: 1) any composer who has been the recipient of a Vanguard Premieres commission; 2) any composer who received a General or Emerging Composers Category prize in a previous Vanguard Premieres contest; 3) any composer who is a member of Vanguard Voices during the **2011-2012** season.

2) WHAT ARE THE COMPOSITION CATEGORIES AND PRIZES?

- a) Prizes will be awarded in two categories:
 - i) General Category (all ages, 18 and over, as of entry deadline)
 - ii) Emerging Composers Category (ages 18-30, as of entry deadline)Entrants aged 18-30 will automatically be entered in both categories.
- b) A \$1,000 prize will be awarded to the winning composer in each category.
- c) In addition to the prize money, each winning composer will receive a travel stipend of up to \$500 to attend the dress rehearsal and premiere concert.
- d) The winning composition in each category will be premiered in concert by Vanguard Voices during its **2012-2013** concert season (**September 2012 – June 2013**). The specific premiere dates will be determined by **September 1, 2012.**
- e) A limited number of compositions may be selected for Honorable Mention consideration. The composers of these pieces will have the option of accepting \$200 and a premiere performance of the selected piece during the **2012-2013** Vanguard Voices concert season.
- f) Prizes and/or honorable mentions are limited to one per composer.

3) WHAT ARE THE COMPOSITION REQUIREMENTS?

- a) Approximate duration: between 4 and 12 minutes.
- b) Voicing: mixed chorus SATB. Divisi is allowed, with a recommended upper limit of 8 parts (SSAATTBB). A limited amount of solo work is acceptable.

- c) Accompaniment options:
 - i) None (*a cappella*)
 - ii) Accompaniment by any combination of the following:
 - (1) Piano or organ
 - (2) Brass quintet (2 trumpets, French horn, trombone, tuba) or subset
 - (3) Percussion (up to two players, including tympani)
- d) Text may be secular or sacred and may be in any language. An English translation must be provided for any text not in English. If possible, a word-by-word translation would be appreciated.
- e) If the submitted lyrics are not in the public domain, and the composer is not the author and copyright holder of the lyrics, a written statement of permission signed by the copyright holder must be enclosed.

4) WHAT ARE THE ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

In addition to meeting the composition requirements above, submitted works:

- a) Must be original, not an arrangement of an existing composition or song.
- b) Must not be a commissioned work.
- c) Must currently be unpublished and must not be published prior to **July 1, 2012**.
 - i) Self-published works are eligible if they have not been sold or otherwise released to the public prior to **July 1, 2012**.
- d) Must not be performed publicly, other than in a religious service, prior to **July 1, 2012**.
- e) Must not be recorded or broadcast prior to **July 1, 2012**.
- f) Must not have won or placed (second, third, honorable mention, etc.) in any other contest prior to **April 13, 2012**.
- g) Must not be entered in any other contest in which the winners will be announced between **April 13, 2012** and **June 11, 2012**.
- h) Note that winning and honorable mention compositions will be subject to additional restrictions. See sections 8) and 9) below.

5) WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF MATERIALS?

- a) The following items must be submitted with each composition:
 - i) One high-quality copy of the full score and complete set of parts, as applicable.
 - (1) For *a cappella* compositions, submit a single chorus score.
 - (2) For compositions accompanied only by keyboard, submit a single full score.
 - (3) For compositions with brass and/or percussion accompaniment, submit a full score, a choral/ keyboard score, and separate parts for each brass and percussion instrument. The full score for a composition with brass accompaniment may be either transposed or in concert pitch.
 - ii) A legibly completed and signed entry form.
 - iii) A nonrefundable entry fee of \$25 in U.S. funds, payable to Vanguard Voices. Non-U.S. entrants should submit either an international money order or a check drawn on a U.S. bank; sending cash through the mail is not recommended. Payment through PayPal may be possible for some non-U.S. entrants; please contact Vanguard Premieres for information.
 - iv) Additional documentation (if applicable)
 - (1) English translation for any text not in English (word-by-word if possible).
 - (2) Written statement of permission signed by the copyright holder, if the text is under copyright protection.

- b) Entries printed using music notation software are encouraged. Legibly handwritten entries are also acceptable. Manuscript size should be either U.S. letter (8-1/2 inches x 11 inches) or A4.
- c) **The composer's name and any other identifying information must not appear anywhere on the music.**
 - i) The composer's name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address should appear **only** on the entry form. The judge will not have access to the entry forms until the final decisions have been made.
- d) No recordings will be accepted.
- e) Compositions must be mailed. Faxed or e-mailed compositions will not be accepted. Please do not send your original manuscript as Vanguard Voices cannot be responsible for materials lost in transit.
- f) Each composer will be notified of receipt of an entry by e-mail or postal mail.
- g) Scores will be returned only if the composer provides a self-addressed envelope with appropriate postage affixed.
- h) The following will be considered ineligible:
 - i) Late entries
 - ii) Incomplete entries
 - iii) Illegible copies
 - iv) Any entries with composer identification on the music

6) HOW WILL THE ENTRIES BE JUDGED?

- a) Entries will be judged by the Artistic Director of Vanguard Voices. All judging decisions are final.
- b) If, in the opinion of the judge, no composition meets the expected standards for either the General or Emerging Composers Category, no prize will be awarded for that category.
 - i) If no prize is awarded in the Emerging Composers Category, the judge reserves the right to award two prizes in the General Category.
- c) Criteria for selection include evidence of a unique creative voice and of choral compositional ability, as well as suitability for performance by Vanguard Voices. Vanguard Voices is a 70-voice, mixed adult community choir. Interested composers may request a copy of the Vanguard Voices repertoire list and/or purchase a CD recording of the choir.

7) HOW WILL ENTRANTS BE NOTIFIED OF RESULTS?

- a) Contest results will be sent to entrants by e-mail or postal mail by **June 11, 2012**.
- b) Contest results will be posted on the Vanguard Voices website (www.vanguardvoices.org) by **June 18, 2012**.
- c) Each winning and honorable mention composer will be contacted by Vanguard Voices to complete the award process:
 - i) Agreement of rights. The composer will be required to sign a form confirming the items stated in sections 8) and 9) below.
 - ii) Final version of score and parts. The composer must provide a new score and set of parts bearing the composer's name and appropriate dedication (see section 8c).
 - iii) Distribution of prize money. A check will be sent upon completion of items i) and ii).
 - iv) Scheduling of premiere concert. See section 2d) above.
 - v) Travel stipend. Winners of the General and Emerging Composers Categories will be reimbursed for up to \$500 of transportation and accommodation expenses associated with attendance at the dress rehearsal and premiere concert. Receipts must be submitted to Vanguard Voices within one month after the premiere concert.

8) WHAT RIGHTS ARE GRANTED TO VANGUARD VOICES FOR WINNING AND HONORABLE MENTION COMPOSITIONS?

- a) Vanguard Voices will have exclusive performance rights through **July 1, 2013**. Vanguard Voices reserves the right to perform the work in perpetuity.
- b) Vanguard Voices will have exclusive recording rights through **July 1, 2013**. Vanguard Voices reserves the right to record and distribute recordings of the work in perpetuity.
 - i) Vanguard Voices will have right to use recordings for promotional purposes (e.g., on the Vanguard Voices website).
- c) The following dedication must appear just above or below the title of the work on the first page and title page of the score and all parts in all manuscript and published editions:
 - i) Contest winner:

Winner of the 2012 Vanguard Premieres Choral Composition Contest
Sponsored by Vanguard Voices, Dearborn, Michigan, USA
G. Kevin Dewey, Artistic Director
 - ii) Honorable mention composition:

2012 Vanguard Premieres Choral Composition Contest - Honorable Mention
Sponsored by Vanguard Voices, Dearborn, Michigan, USA
G. Kevin Dewey, Artistic Director
- d) Vanguard Voices will have the right to make copies for distribution to the choir and instrumentalists.
- e) Each composer will be asked to provide biographical information for publicity purposes. Vanguard Voices will have the right to use the composer's name and composition title in future Vanguard Premieres communications.

9) WHAT RIGHTS ARE RETAINED BY THE COMPOSER FOR WINNING AND HONORABLE MENTION COMPOSITIONS?

- a) Copyright ownership will be retained by the composer.
- b) Publication rights will be retained by the composer. The composition must not be published prior to **July 1, 2013**.

10) WHAT IS THE VANGUARD PREMIERES PROGRAM?

Vanguard Premieres was introduced in 2003 to promote the creation of new choral works by established and aspiring composers; the program is a combination of commissions and composition contests. Each new composition is given its world premiere by Vanguard Voices. To date, the program has produced three commissions, eight contest winners, and 24 honorable mention compositions. The complete list of compositions is available on the Vanguard Voices website.

Vanguard Voices, established in 1992, is dedicated to seeking out and performing the best in traditional and contemporary choral music. Its members enjoy the challenge of singing *a cappella*, with the Vanguard Brass Ensemble, and with area symphony orchestras. The choir is featured on four CDs: *American Vanguard*, *The Boar's Head Festival*, *Vanguard Voices & Brass*, and *Vanguard Premieres Volume 1: 2003-2005*, a recording of the first 14 premiere compositions.

Artistic Director **G. Kevin Dewey** holds a bachelor's degree in jazz studies and a master's degree in choral conducting from Wayne State University. He has been conducting area choirs for three decades and also brings to the podium experience as a professional vocal and instrumental performer, composer, and arranger. Kevin is currently Director of Choirs at Henry Ford Community College, where he conducts several choirs and vocal jazz ensembles.

11) WHAT IS THE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR VANGUARD PREMIERES?

Vanguard Premieres	Telephone: (313) 317-6566
Henry Ford Community College	E-mail: premieres@vanguardvoices.org
5101 Evergreen Road	
Dearborn, MI 48128-1495 USA	Website: www.vanguardvoices.org

Please print or type.

Each composition must be accompanied by a completely filled out entry form and entry fee.

Name Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. Other _____

LAST

FIRST

MIDDLE

Age (AS OF APRIL 13, 2012) 18-30 31 or over Nationality _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____

Telephone (HOME) _____ (WORK) _____

(MOBILE) _____ (OTHER) _____

E-mail address _____

Title of composition _____

Date of composition _____ Approximate duration (minutes) _____

Accompaniment (PLEASE SPECIFY) _____

Text language _____ Text source _____

If text is under **copyright**, the composer must enclose a **written statement of permission** signed by the copyright holder.

I confirm that the information in this application is complete and that I have read and accepted the Vanguard Premieres Choral Composition Contest Guidelines. I understand that fraudulent, incomplete, or illegible entries will be disqualified.

Signature _____ Date _____

(optional) How did you hear about the Vanguard Premieres Choral Composition Contest?

- Flyer/mailing
- Internet posting (name of website) _____
- Print ad (name of publication) _____
- Other (please specify) _____

DEADLINE: All entries must be received on or before Friday, **APRIL 13, 2012**. Entries received after the deadline will not be eligible.

Entries should be mailed to:
Vanguard Premieres
Henry Ford Community College
5101 Evergreen Road
Dearborn, MI 48128-1495 USA

For information:
Telephone: (313) 317-6566
E-mail: premieres@vanguardvoices.org
Website: www.vanguardvoices.org

CHECKLIST

- One complete set of score and parts.
Reminder: The composer's name and any other identifying information must not appear anywhere on the music.
- English translation if original text is in another language.
- Written statement of copyright permission if text is under copyright.
- Legibly completed entry form.
- Nonrefundable entry fee of \$25 in U.S. funds, payable to Vanguard Voices.
- (optional) Self-addressed envelope with appropriate postage for return of score and parts.