Convention Mega Bulletin

SWEET ADELINES NZ 2026 Harmony Manawatū

Nau mai, haere mai, welcome TO CONVENTION 2026

The Manawatū Overtones are delighted to welcome you to our vibrant city and our beautiful Regent on Broadway Theatre. Papaiōea/Palmerston North is a city with a vision of becoming the Food Innovation Capital of New Zealand. The city has five large research institutes focused on research and innovation to create the food products of the future. It is also rumoured to have the most cafes and eateries per capita in the country. Fortunately, the Regent is located on Broadway Avenue that has many of those eateries on, or nearby, the Avenue.Thirteen quartets, ten choruses, our Mic Testing Quartet, Soundbite and our STAR chorus will enjoy the gracious setting of our beautiful 1930 Theatre. A Quartet from Freyberg High School and a choir from Palmerston North Girls' High will also entertain you. Our Regent Rural Rave Party will be a chance to let your hair down, regional style! Then to top it all off, our Judge Educators will impart their wisdom for us on Sunday morning.

CONVENTION PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 14 MAY			
2.30pm	6.00pm	Registration open	Regent Foyer
2.45pm	5.30pm	Auditorium opens	Regent Auditorium
3.00pm	4.00pm	Sound Check Chorus	Regent Auditorium
4.00pm	5.00pm	Directors, TCs & Quartets Briefing & Walk Through	Regent Auditorium
5.00pm	6.00pm	RAMM - Regional Annual Members' Meeting	Regency Room, Regent
FRIDAY 15 MAY			
8.40am	9.45am	STAR Chorus rehearsal	Regent stage
9.00am	6.00pm	Registration opens	Regent Foyer
10.30am	11.45am	Music in the Morning- From Warm-Up to Wow!	Regent Auditorium
12.00pm	-	Auditorium opens, Curtain call	Regent Auditorium
12.20pm	2.06pm	Quartet Competition	Regent Auditorium
2.06pm	2.36pm	Interval	-
2.36pm	3.30pm	Quartet Competition continues	Regent Auditorium
Short break followed by		Performance - Freyberg High School Quartet Swing Sisters	Regent Auditorium
		Regional Awards	Regent Auditorium
		Results & Winners' Circle - Results announced, The Winners Song, 3rd, 2nd, and 1st place quartets perform one song each	Regent Auditorium
5.15pm	5.45pm	Massed Sing	The Square
*5.00pm	5.30pm	*Massed Sing *(wet weather option)*	*Regent Auditorium*
5.30pm	6.00pm	Quartets collect results	Registration Desk, Regent Foyer
7.00pm	9.00pm	Chorus Rehearsals	Various (see details on Page 3)
8.00pm	9.00pm	STAR Chorus rehearsal	Regent stage
SATURDAY 16 MAY			
9.00am	12.30pm	Chorus Rehearsals	Various (see details on Page 3)
9.20am	10.20am	STAR Chorus Rehearsal	Regent stage
10.00am	6.00pm	Registration open	Regent foyer
12.00pm	-	Auditorium opens, Curtain call	Regent Auditorium
12.20pm	1.40pm	Chorus Competition	Regent Auditorium
1.40pm	2.10pm	Break	Regent Auditorium
2.10pm	3.20pm	Chorus Competition continues	Regent Auditorium
Short break followed by		Performance from Paris Troika – Palmerston North Girls' High Choir	Regent Auditorium
		Results announced	Regent Auditorium
		STAR Chorus Performance	Regent Auditorium
		Winners' Circle - 3rd, 2nd, 1st Place one song each The Winners Song, How We Sang Today	Regent Auditorium
5.30pm	6.00pm	TCs/Directors collect results	Registration Desk, Regent Foyer
5.30pm	-	Two buses leave for hotels	King Street
5.50pm	-	Two more buses leave for hotels	King Street
8.00pm	11.00pm	Afterglow - Regent Rural Rave Party	Regent, Various spaces
SUNDAY 17 MAY			
10.30am	1.00pm	Education Classes (See detail on Page 3)	Copthorne Hotel, 110 Fitzherbert Avenue, Palmerston North

General Notices

LANYARDS
Your convention lanyards must be worn to enter contest sessions and education classes.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY
No photography or videography is allowed in the auditorium during the contest sessions.

We have a **'Roving Photographer'** taking behind-the-scenes photos. Dot stickers are available at registration if you would prefer not to be in behind-the-scenes photos.

Quartet photography will be done backstage, immediately after each performance.

PRIVACY NOTICE
Attention! Our convention venues are areas where photography is being taken for marketing purposes. This includes social media, internet, print materials and video.

PUBLIC TICKET SALES
Tickets for friends and family are available via Ticketek and the Regent Box Office.

- $30per person for both days
- $20per person for one day.

The auditorium doors will open for audience at 12pm each day.

HARMONY BAZAAR
The Manawatū Overtones members have been busy making things for a spectacular Bazzar Table. The table is overflowing with Riser Bags to keep your music in on the risers, hand-knitted socks and children's hats, many other craft items and small bags of RJs Licorice for you to nibble on. We are sure everyone will find something they can't resist. (Cash and cash online system payments accepted)

SOCIAL MEDIA
We'll be sharing first looks of official photos, results, photos and videos on our socials so follow, comment, react and share:
facebook.com/SweetAdelinesNZ
Instagram @sweetadsnz

Tag your posts with
#sweetadsnz #HarmonyManawatū

VENUE ACCESSIBILITY
Visitors using wheelchairs can easily access the Regent on Broadway via several areas. Accessible areas include:

- Stalls (downstairs seating)
- Mezzanine
- Regency Room
- Rehearsal Room
- Bars and Toilets

The venue has designated areas for wheelchairs with access from the side ramp next to the theatre via the Regent Arcade.

The lift is located on the ground floor opposite the CentrePort bar (Regent Arcade side of the building) which gives access to the foyer areas of each of the floors. If assistance is required, please ask one of the venue team. The theatre has 2 wheelchairs on site which are available, if required.

Wheelchair seating is available in the Stalls in two locations in Row G and two locations in Row H.

For visitors who are hard of hearing or deaf the venue has a hearing loop system within the Auditorium.

Mobility parking is located at the front of the venue on Broadway Avenue. Parking cannot be reserved in advance.

Evacuation/Emergencies
In an emergency the Regent's trained staff will follow procedures to safely evacuate all visitors.

OUTFITS FOR THOSE IN MORE THAN ONE CHORUS
We have changing rooms at the back of the stage where OOTMs' can put their extra outfit. After singing in their first chorus, these members can change into the next costume and then join the traffic pattern of their second chorus.

People from Waikato, Christchurch and Faultline that are in the STAR chorus should put their extra outfits together in large bags and that can be put in a larger changing room sometime on the Friday. They should change into the STAR chorus outfit before returning to sit in the Auditorium. We will label the changing room doors and show them to TCs' during the briefings.

Thank you

Thanks to the Palmerston North City Council for grant funding to support our event.

PALMY
PAPAIOEA PALMERSTON NORTH CITY

Thanks to our Convention team & helpers

CONVENTION TEAM & HELPERS
- Shelley Bascand - Event Coordinator
- Stephanie Greaney - Chair of Regional Convention
- Jacqui Fletcher - Regional Competition Coordinator
- Leigh Agnew - Finance Coordinator
- Claire Takacs - Facilities Coordinator
- Shelley Phillips - Marketing Coordinator
- Leanne Wheeler - Education Coordinator
- Cindy Naresh - Panel Secretary
- Helen Linssen - Official Panel Liaison
- Jo Maxwell - Design
- Marilyn Bishop - Registrar
- Lisa Williamson - Afterglow Coordinator
- Chris Thompson - Volunteer Coordinator
- Kim Cairns - Awards Coordinator
- Sharon Connor - Website
- David Brooks - Statistician
- Measured 4 Sound Quartet - Quartet Goodwill Bags

A huge thank you to our incredible team of 30 convention volunteers whose time, energy, and hard work help make convention run smoothly behind the scenes—we simply couldn't do it without you.

REGIONAL MANAGEMENT TEAM
- Julie Earl - Team Coordinator
- Carolyn Currington - Directors' Coordinator
- Claire Takács - Events Coordinator
- Leanne Wheeler - Education Coordinator
- Leigh Agnew - Finance Coordinator
- Nikola Worrall-Bader - Membership Coordinator
- Shelley Bascand - Communications Coordinator
- Shelley Phillips - Marketing Coordinator

Supported by our fabulous Regional Resource Team.

Chorus Rehearsal Schedule

		On Stage, Regent	Green Room Regent Mezzanine	Regency Room Regent 2nd Floor	Rehearsal Room Regent 3rd Floor	Copthorne Hotel
FRIDAY 15 MAY	8.40 - 9.45am	STAR Chorus	-	-	-	-
	6.00 - 7.00pm	-	-	Waikato Rivertones	-	-
	7.00 - 8.00pm	-	Taranaki Harmony	Faultline Chorus	-	Dunedin Harmony
	8.00 - 9.00pm	STAR Chorus		-	-	Wellington City
SATURDAY 16 MAY	9.00 - 10.00am	-	Taranaki Harmony	-	-	-
	9.20 - 10.20am	STAR Chorus	-	-	-	-
	11.30am - 12.30pm	-	-	-	Manawatū Overtones	-

Music in the Morning

FRIDAY 10.30 - 11.45AM

A fun, feel-good session to kick off our contest weekend with a bit of sunshine for our bodies, voices and minds with Kate Sinclair (Master Director 600 Waikato Rivertones, Regional Faculty) and Jo Maxwell (Faultline Chorus, Regional Faculty). With interactive exercises, rounds, tags and games, we'll explore ways of engaging our voices, bodies and minds and build connection and energy to take you from warm-up to wow. The session will finish with a couple of massed songs before the contest session.

Afterglow! Regent Rural Rave Party

SATURDAY 8.00 - 11.00PM REGENT ON BROADWAY

(Pre-purchased tickets only)

Afterglow ticket holders will have a rural-themed sticker on their lanyard pouch to show at the door. From 8.30–9.00pm, the DJ will pause for "On the Stairs Singing", giving larger groups and choruses the chance to sing together on the main stairs between the foyer and Mezzanine Floor.

After that, the DJ will kick back off in the auditorium, while quarteting begins in the Regency Room. The Green Room will be available as a quieter space for catching up with friends and conversation. You'll find the main bar in the auditorium, with an additional bar upstairs. Both bars accept cash and cards. Tea, coffee, and supper stations will also be set up in several areas.

Massed Sing

FRIDAY 5.30PM

It's time to sing some of our favourite regional repertoire together. Gather at the steps in the centre of the Palmerston North Square or The Regent Auditorium if wet.

#	Song	Key	Director
1	**How We Sang Today**	**Bb**	Liz Watts - Manawatū Overtones
2	**A Million Dreams**	**G**	Alex Charlton - Nelson Bays Harmony
3	**That's What Friends are for**	**Eb**	Jo Hodgson - Wellington City
4	**Something in the Water**	**D**	Kate Sinclair - Waikato Rivertones
5	**San Fran Blues**	**Eb**	Robyn Abernethy - Dunedin Harmony
6	**A Thousand Years**	**D**	Gill Holmes - Taranaki Harmony
7	**Mood Indigo**	**Eb**	David Brooks - Whangarei Harmony
8	**Stadium Medley**	**F**	Sylvia Fountain - Manawatū Overtones
9	**Pepeha**	**Eb**	Virginia Humphrey-Taylor - Christchurch City

Education Classes

SUNDAY 10.30AM - 1.00PM

All Sunday education classes are being held at the Copthorne Hotel 110 Fitzherbert Avenue, Palmerston North

Please wear registration lanyards to all education classes. You can check which classes you registered for in your convention registration confirmation email.

	Session 1	
10.30 -11.30am	**Updates to Music Category**	Ferguson
	Updates to Sound Category	Steeple
	Expression and Visual Communication	Avenue
11.30am - 12.00pm	Break	
	Session 2	
12.00 - 1.00pm	**Coaching Under Glass - Quartet**	Avenue
	Coaching Under Glass - Chorus	Steeple

Nau mai, haere mai – Welcome to our Judging Panel



JANA GUTENSON – MUSIC JUDGE AND PANEL CHAIR

Jana has been a member of Sweet Adelines since 1985, but barbershop has been part of her life since birth. Her mother received her 60-year SAI membership pin in Seattle in 2010, and her father was a three-time International Champion with the Pekin Chorus of BHS. Jana is a member of the six-time International Champion Scottsdale Chorus, serving as baritone section leader and Music Team member since 1988. A Certified Director and Scottsdale's Associate Director, she frequently serves as an in-house coach. She has sung baritone in internationally competitive quartets, placing top ten with Affinity in 2008. Jana has coached quartets and choruses at all levels and served as faculty for quartet workshops and regional events across Sweet Adelines International and BHS. She is a Certified Music Category Judge and currently serves as Music Category Specialist on the SA Judge Specialist Committee. She also served on the International Regional Leadership Committee from 2014–2016 and was Education Coordinator for Golden West Region 21 for six years. In 2010, she received the Region 21 Hall of Fame Award and was named the 2016 NAfME/Sweet Adelines Music Educator of the Year. She also served as Co-Chair of the 2017 SAI International Education Symposium. Jana holds a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction and a BS in Marketing and Music Education, and recently retired after 23 years teaching elementary music in the Chandler School District.



MARY RHEA – SOUND JUDGE

Mary fell in love with barbershop harmony while in high school in Bartlesville, Oklahoma—just 50 miles from Sweet Adelines headquarters—though it would take a few more years before she discovered the organization that would become such a central part of her life. Like many, she only wishes she had found it sooner. As a proud Navy wife, Mary and her husband, Russ, embraced the adventure of life on the move, and she ensured that wherever the Navy sent them, there was a Sweet Adelines home waiting. Along the way, she sang in five regions, seven choruses, and ten quartets—including the 2010 International Champion Quartet, Zing! Mary has served on the International Board of Directors since 2017 and is currently the Immediate Past President of Sweet Adelines International. A passionate educator and coach, she is a Certified Sound Judge, a member of the International Faculty, and the Master Director of the OK City Chorus, 2022 Harmony Classic Champion Chorus. She is serving on the Education Direction Committee and the Editorial Review Board, helping to shape the musical and educational direction of the organization.



LISA HUNSZINGER – EXPRESSION JUDGE

Lisa Hunszinger has been singing with Sweet Adelines for 35 years and is a Master Director, having directed Alberta Northern Lights Chorus in Edmonton, Canada for the last 13 years. Lisa is also a coach, a member of the Region 26 Education Faculty, and a Certified Expression Judge. Lisa's passion for music began at the age of four when she took her first piano lesson, and she hasn't looked back since. She has grade 10 level in piano from the Royal Conservatory of Toronto and plays several other instruments as well. Lisa continued her music studies at the University of British Columbia and the University of Alberta, receiving a Bachelor of Education degree, as a Music Specialist. She taught choir and band in the public school system as well as private piano, theory, and voice lessons. Lisa is now retired from teaching and travelling as much as her schedule will allow. She is married to Peter, and they have two adult children, Kristina and Connor.



JEN WILLIAMS - VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS JUDGE

Jen Williams is a Sweet Adelines leader with nearly four decades of experience as a performer, director, coach, choreographer, and educator. She began her Sweet Adelines journey in 1986 at age 16, singing in her mother's chorus in Region 21, and quickly discovered her lifelong passion for barbershop harmony. Since then, she has performed with five choruses, four regions, and ten quartets, gaining a broad perspective on the organization she loves. Jen began directing in 1999 in Region 23, earned her Novice Director certification in 2001, and achieved Master Director status in 2017. Since 2016, she has served as director of the Dundalk Chorus in Region 19, leading with enthusiasm, clarity, and a commitment to musical excellence and engaging performance. Her leadership extends beyond the risers. She currently serves as Region 19 Education Coordinator (2023–present), joined the Sweet Adelines International Judging Program in 2019 in the Visual Communication category, and will serve as an International Faculty member from May 1, 2026. Jen works with choruses and quartets across multiple regions, helping singers connect to music through storytelling, character, and authentic performance. Her teaching style is interactive, encouraging, and fun, creating an environment where singers feel confident, engaged, and inspired to grow. She holds a special place in her heart for small choruses and is dedicated to helping them build confidence, community, and success. Jen is committed to inspiring singers and leaders at every level while giving back to the organization that has been her musical home for a lifetime.

OUR JUDGING PANEL ARE SUPPORTED BY

- Cindy Naresh - Panel Secretary
- Keren Lusty - Page
- Helen Linssen, OPL (Official Panel Liaison)

TRIAL SCORING Rowena Harper - Trial Scoring in the Quartet competition

- supported by Sharon Connor - Page

SANZ Education Events

Up ahead in 2026

Your Regional Management Team is excited to be coordinating a fantastic education calendar for the rest of 2026, with valuable opportunities to learn from both regional and international faculty in a mix of in-person, coach in residence and online education events.

BEC HEWITT COACH IN RESIDENCE
AUGUST

In August, we're thrilled to welcome internationally respected coach Bec Hewitt for her New Zealand coaching tour. Bec will be working with several choruses around the country, bringing her wealth of experience, fresh perspective, and world-class musical insight to our members.

Meet Bec Hewitt: *"I'm a coach and teacher of Vocal Production, Music/Vocal Interpretation, Balance/Blend and Practice Techniques. I love using my skills with singers, quartets and choruses to help them release their free and resonant voices and realise their potential. I'm also a member of both Region 34 and International Education Faculties for Sweet Adelines International."*

REGIONAL EDUCATION WORKSHOP
20–22 NOVEMBER | CHRISTCHURCH

Looking ahead to November, we'll be in Christchurch for a Regional Education Workshop from 20–22 November. Lead by our Regional Faculty team this will be a fantastic weekend of learning, connection, and musical growth for all members. Registration, venue, workshop songs and programme highlights will be released shortly.

ONLINE EDUCATION SERIES
ASSORTED SESSIONS | DATES TO BE ADVISED

Our online education programme continues through the year, providing opportunities to stay connected and keep developing from home.

Upcoming events in our Zoom series include two important DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion) sessions open to all members, plus dedicated Marketing and Team Coordinator/Finance Zoom sessions designed to support our leadership teams and strengthen chorus operations behind the scenes. Keep an eye out for more details coming soon!

Coming in 2027

CONVENTION 2027
29 APRIL - 2 MAY 2027 | HAMILTON

For only the second time in SANZ history, we're heading to Hamilton for Convention 2027! We'll take the stage in the stunning new BNZ Theatre, hosted with signature Waikato warmth by the Waikato Rivertones.

MORE EDUCATION

On the education front, your Regional Management Team is already planning an exciting calendar of events for 2027. Look forward to a Directors, Visual, and Music Leaders Workshop early in the year, along with a Coach in Residence programme planned for June/July. More details coming soon!

Thank You!

PRUE BLYTHE MEMORIAL TRUST SUPPORTING YOUNG SINGERS

Thanks to everyone who donated to help the Prue Blythe Memorial Trust support young singers with their convention registration. If you missed this opportunity and would like to support, you can still donate online here. Thank you for your support!

Prue Blythe Memorial Trust:
02 0874 0185261 05

International Representatives

The champion quartet from our competition this weekend is eligible to represent New Zealand (Region 35) at the international contest in Colombus, Ohio in October 2026 as competitor #47.
The Champion Chorus is eligible to represent New Zealand (Region 35) at the international contest in Seattle, October 25–30, 2027.



Vocalzone

Thanks to our sponsor Vocalzone!

We thank our generous sponsor SynergyNZ for supporting us at our convention again this year. Vocalzone Throat and Voice Pastilles will be available to purchase at the Registration Desk for only $8 per packet or 2 for $15 (below retail) over convention weekend with 100% of sales supporting Sweet Adelines NZ! Stock up on your favourite pastilles and help SANZ support you and your choruses. (Cash and online payment accepted).

VOCALZONE - THE WORLD'S #1 THROAT PASTILLE!

- Soothes and clears
- Relieves from throat irritation
- Helps keep a clear voice
- Contains powerful active ingredients
- Gluten & Lactose Free
- Suitable for Vegetarians and Vegans

Quartet Order of Appearance – Friday 15 May

Our Emcee Today: Elizabeth Moncrieff (Wellington City Chorus)
Quartet Traffic Patterns are available on the SANZ members website: **sweetadelines.co.nz/Conventioninfo**

TIME	#	QUARTET	CHAPTER	NOTES
12.30pm	Mic Testers	**Soundbite**	**Christchurch City** Carolyn Duggan TENOR, Edna Byron LEAD, Jacqui Matheson BARI, Mary Black BASS	
12.42pm	1	**FreeRange**	**Waikato Rivertones** Andrea Pettigrew TENOR Elesha Newton LEAD, Emma Wright-McHardie BARI, Jean Mackenzie BASS	
12.54pm	2	**Chordiality**	**Christchurch City** Rachel Pirie TENOR, Sarah Stanely LEAD, Heather Bentall BARI, Geesje Van de Linde BASS	
1.06pm	3	**Quaynotes**	**Wellington City** Colleen Wilton TENOR, Jo Hodgson, LEAD, Sandra Wardrop BARI, Jami Wallace BASS	
	4		*Quartet withdrawn*	
1.18pm	5	**Based On A True Story**	**Greater Auckland** Kristina Roper TENOR, Kathy Lopez LEAD, Steph Panzic BARI, Kate Gregory BASS	
1.30pm	6	**SoL!**	**Nelson Bays Harmony** Alexandra Charlton TENOR, Stephanie Hopkins LEAD, Vicki Banning BARI, Cherie Liddel BASS	
1.42pm	7	**Renew!**	**Waikato Rivertones** Christine Hommel TENOR, Melina Perry LEAD, Leanne Wheeler BARI, Carol Egan BASS	
			BREAK 30 MINS	
2.24pm	8	**Mind The Gap**	**Greater Auckland** Alexis Brook TENOR, Anna Graham, LEAD, Kym Lilford BARI, Alison Chetwynd BASS	
2.36pm	9	**Uncalled Four**	**Greater Auckland** Kim Ward TENOR, Samara Marsters, LEAD, Suzzanne Beresford BARI, Natalie Roffey BASS	
2.48pm	10	**Not Too Shabby**	**Christchurch City** Kim Miller TENOR, Ariane Hollis-Locke, LEAD, Adeline Teo BARI, Penny Minnoch BASS	
3.00pm	11	**Measured 4 Sound**	**Taranaki Harmony** Michelle Kemp TENOR, Gill Holmes, LEAD, Fy Tait BARI, Helen Belchamber BASS	
3.12pm	12	**Off The Wall**	**Dunedin Harmony, Melbourne, Christchurch City** Robyn Abernethy TENOR, Joyce Liang-Ridley LEAD, Sue Davis BARI. Virginia Humphrey-Taylor BASS	
3.24pm	13	**Gloss**	**Waikato Rivertones, Chapter at Large** Carole McMinn TENOR, Deb Petrin, LEAD, Robyn Baron BARI, Mary Cave-Palmer BASS	
			SHORT BREAK	
Followed by	-	**Swing Sisters**	**Freyberg High School**	

Chorus Order of Appearance – Saturday 16 May

Our Emcee Today: Joyce Liang-Ridley (Melbourne Chorus)
Chorus Traffic Patterns are available on the SANZ members website: **sweetadelines.co.nz/Conventioninfo**

TIME	#	CHORUS	NOTES
12.30pm	1	**Sounds of Hawkes Bay Chorus** Directed by Rachel Cadwallader	
12.44pm	2	**Dunedin Harmony Chorus** Directed by Robyn Abernethy	
12.58pm	3	**Wellington City Chorus** Directed by David Brooks	
1.12pm	4	**Waikato Rivertones Chorus** - EVALUATION Directed by Kate Sinclair	
1.26pm	5	**Nelson Bays Harmony Chorus** Directed by Alexandra Charlton	
		BREAK 30 MINS	
2.15pm	6	**Taranaki Harmony Chorus** Directed by Gill Holmes	
2.24pm	7	**Christchurch City Chorus** - EVALUATION Directed by Virginia Humphrey-Taylor and Ryan Heller	
2.38pm	8	**Greater Auckland Chorus** Directed by Jocosa Bruce	
2.52pm	9	**Faultline Chorus** - OPEN DIVISION Directed by Carolyn Currington	
3.09pm	10	**Manawatū Overtones Chorus** Directed by Liz Watts & Sylvia Fountain	
		BREAK	
Followed by	-	**Paris Troika** A Palmerston North Girls' High Choir	
	-	**STAR Chorus** Directed by Carolyn Currington (Faultline Chorus) and Kate Sinclair (Waikato Rivertones Chorus)	

Bus Times Saturday Post-Contest

Buses have been arranged to transport chorus performers back to your accommodation. Each bus will do a circuit to the choruses registered hotels.

The first two buses will depart at 5.30pm, and the last two will depart at 5.50pm. The bus pick up location is on the King Street (backstage) side of the theatre.

Contest Results

Full results will be available on the SANZ Facebook page and website following the contest sessions. Note: we allow some time before publishing to allow all competing quartets and choruses to view their results first.

The official verified results will be published on the Sweet Adelines International website following the contest weekend. **sweetadelines.com/events/regional-competition**

Contest Photos

We have organized many opportunities to capture every occasion at convention.

Neil MacKenzie, who has taken photographs at many of our conventions before will focus on the chorus and quartet performances. He has arranged for another person to take each quartet's photos backstage straight after their performance.

After Convention these photos can be accessed online through these links: **https://www.pixs.co.nz/gallery-collection/Sweet-Adelines-2026/C0000SqK2ZqUbbEE** or **http://bit.ly/3OIzRs2**

Daniel, a Roving Photographer, will take more informal shots. If you don't wish to be in those photos, please remember to get a circle sticker from reception and put it in on the front of your lanyard.

The Afterglow team has arranged two spaces people can use to take their own photos during our Regency Rural Rave. One is a rural theme and the other has a balloon arch.

Regional Awards – Celebrating Our Members

Regional Awards will be announced on Friday afternoon.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

SHOOTING STAR AWARD

Recognising a newer member who has made a great impact in a short time. A burst of energy, they have brought fresh enthusiasm, passion, talent and ideas to their chorus and are a potential future leader. For Sweet Adelines NZ Members of less than 3 years.

Congratulations to the 2026 Shooting Star award nominees:

- Heather Bentall - Christchurch City
- Emma Wright-McHardie - Waikato Rivertones
- Landa Van den Berg - Wellington City
- Lorna Fox - Taranaki Harmony
- Sharyn Richardson - Faultline Chorus
- Susanne Muller - Nelson Bays Harmony

ROCK STAR AWARD

This award recognises a member of Region 35 who is a 'rock star' behind the scenes. They have contributed an enormous amount to their chorus, undertaken many tasks, team or support roles over the years. They are hardworking, dependable, and make chorus life easier. This award is open to members of Sweet Adelines NZ of more than 3 years' membership.

Congratulations to the 2026 Rock Star award nominees:

- Carol Egan - Waikato Rivertones
- Jenni Masters - Manawatū Overtones
- Jo Andrews - Taranaki Harmony
- Julie Scoggins - Nelson Bays Harmony
- Mel Brewer - Wellington City
- Melanie Fowke - Faultline Chorus
- Sarah Lowery - Christchurch City

SPIRIT OF SWEET ADELINES AWARD

The Region 35 Spirit of Sweet Adelines Award recognises a member who epitomises the spirit of our organisation. They have not only contributed to chorus life, but also taken that extra step to carry the 'spirit' of Sweet Adelines beyond their chorus, within the region and as a great ambassador for us in the wider community. This award is open to all members of Sweet Adelines NZ.

Congratulations to the 2026 Spirit Award nominees:

- Leigh Whitelaw - Faultline Chorus
- Rowena Harper - Waikato Rivertones
- Sharon Connor - Dunedin Harmony & Wellington City
- Suzanne Berresford - Greater Auckland

SERVICE TO YOUTH OUTREACH AWARD

This award is presented in recognition of dedication to supporting youth in barbershop in New Zealand.

EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

The Sweet Adelines New Zealand Education Scholarship supports a member or Director of Region 35 to gain new skills, ideas, and contacts to benefit both the individual and the region. The scholarship subsidises training to the value of $5,000, and the award recipient is selected by the previous scholarship recipients.

MERIT AWARD

Merit Pins are awarded by the Regional Management Team to members who have made an outstanding contribution to the Region.

HONOURABLE MENTION AWARD

Honourable Mentions are awarded by the Regional Management Team to recognise the contribution of a member who has assisted the Region on a temporary basis or one-off project.

Longevity Awards

Congratulations to members on celebrating these membership milestones this year!

25 years

- Andrea Ward - Christchurch City
- Jean MacKenzie - Waikato Rivertones
- Melina Perry - Waikato Rivertones
- Yvette Gander - Christchurch City
- Donna Scandlyn - Sounds of Hawkes Bay
- Kathy Jamieson - Nelson Bays Harmony
- Kerry Macaskill-Smith - Waikato Rivertones
- Robyn Middleton - Foveaux Harmony
- Sheryl Willis - SouthCity Soundz
- Sherilyn Shanks - Foveaux Harmony
- Elizabeth Moncrieff - Wellington City

30 years

- Sharon Connor - Dunedin Harmony & Wellington City
- Leigh Whitelaw - Faultline Chorus
- Jan Davies - Dunedin Harmony

Directors Certification Programme

The Director Certification Program (DCP) is an educational, self-paced program, designed to provide opportunities to validate the skills and knowledge required to direct a Sweet Adelines chorus. Congratulations to these members who have completed the programme this year and will be presented their certificates:

- Rachel Cadwallader - Certified Director certificate
- Adeline Teo - Approved Director certificate

Arrangers Certification Programme

The Sweet Adelines Arranger Certification Program (ACP) helps members develop the craft of barbershop arranging. Congratulations to these members who have advanced in the programme this year and will receive their certificates:

- Kristina Roper - Beginning Arranger certificate

Past Quartet Winners

Full results are also available on the website: **www.sweetadelines.co.nz/pastresults**

REGION 35 WINNERS DATING BACK TO OUR FIRST CONVENTION IN 1990

Convention			Champion Quartet	Members of Champion Quartet	2nd	3rd	Novice Quartet (Regional Award)	Most Improved (Regional Award)	Audience Choice / Bravo	Senior*** (Regional Award)	High School Quartet
2025	CHC	Harmony Ōtautahi	648 Unlimited	Kate Sinclair, Jill Rodgers, Helena Lister, Mehernaz Darukhanawalla	587 Renew!	566 Top Shelf	518 Oomph	+16 Mistral Quartet	-	-	Dolcelatte - WDSG, St Paul's
2024	DUD	Soaring Sounds	637 Fire & Ice	Jane Martin, Cat Hay, Jane Esera, Henrietta Hunkin-Tagaloa	609 Level Up	592 Renew!	478 Not To Shabby	+36 Level Up	-	456 Intersection	Dolcelatte - Waikato Diocesan
2023	ALK	Voices at Victory	640 Unlimited	Kate Sinclair, Jill Rodgers, Helena Lister, Mehernaz Darukhanawalla	614 Zeal	589 Euphoria	526 Voilá	+80 Measured 4 Sound	-	-	Awhi - Tawa College
2022	Virtual	Harmony Aotearoa At Home**	606 Unlimited	Kate Sinclair, Jill Rodgers, Helena Lister, Mehernaz Darukhanawalla	567 Renew!	558 The Low-Down	481 Iridescent	+11 The Low-Down	-	-	Awhi - Tawa College
2021	CHC	Harmony Aotearoa*	*	Abbie Knight, Janice Munar, Toni Stephens, Hazel Hay	-	-	-	-	Symptomatic*	-	Event Cancelled
2020	-	FIESTAcappella	Competition cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions							-	Event Cancelled
2019	DUD	Autumn A Cappella	633 Roxy	Elizabeth Moncrieff, Jocosa Bruce, Claire Takacs, Shelley Phillips	618 Fire and Ice	611 Zeal	460 Southern Vibe	+139 Heist	-	-	Grace Notes - Hamilton Girls'
2018	WLG	A Cappellington	593 Fire and Ice	Jane Martin, Cat Hay, Jane Esera, Henrietta Hunkin-Tagaloa	567 L'Attitude	551 Hopscotch	461 Heist	+17 Acoustic Blue	-	-	Sinopia - Macleans College
2017	DUD	Distinctly Dunedin	614 L'Attitude	Carolyn Duggan, Toni Griffin, Patrice Driver, Virginia Humphrey-Taylor	603 Aftershock!	602 MOLTO!	428 Compass	+44 RED	Revelry	-	Noteworthy - Aotea College
2016	WLG	A Cappella Capital	608 MOLTO!	Kristina Roper, Jocosa Bruce, Suzanne Berresford, Philippa Rogers	607 Aftershock!	586 ZEAL	586 ZEAL	+72 Ce Soir	Revelry	-	L.A.S.S. - Kapiti College
2015	AKL	Pearls of Harmony	597 MOLTO!	Kristina Roper, Jocosa Bruce, Suzanne Berresford, Philippa Rogers	578 Aftershock!	561 Impact!	(not awarded)	+62 Aftershock!	Revelry	-	MarvelUs - Aotea College
2014	AKL	Sweet Beats	595 Key Note	Carolyn Duggan, Emma Hoadley, Raewyn Tidey, Virginia Humphrey-Taylor	570 MOLTO!	562 Impact!	445 Isotonix	+43 MOLTO!	Count Me In	-	MarvelUs - Aotea College
2013	ZQN	Reach for the Southern Stars	605 Sweet Life	Patti Cooke, Toni Griffin, Dina Wickers, Fiona Longuet-Higgins	596 The Fource	588 Key Note	441 Zeal	+100 Lipstick'n'Heels	-	-	The Rookies - Aotea College
2012	CHC	You Can't Stop The Beat	617 Even Time	Liz Moncrieff, Claire Takacs, Frances Williams, Henrietta Hunkin	590 Aftershock!	578 Decibellz	443 Best Kept Secret	+119 Pacific Swing	-	-	Dolce - Macleans College
2011	WLG	A cappella A-Buzz	612 Frankly Scarlet	Patti Cooke, Toni Griffin, Abigail Clarke, Thera van Poppel	573 Aftershock!	564 Decibellz	401 Bellebirds	+78 Decodence	-	-	The Fource - Aotea College
2010	WLG	Sing Up A Storm	630 Even Time	Liz Moncrieff, Claire Takacs, Frances Williams, Henrietta Hunkin	599 SingSpiration	592 Revelry	599 SingSpiration	-	-	-	The Fource - Aotea College
2009	AKL	Harmony on the Beach	620 Even Time	Liz Moncrieff, Claire Takacs, Frances Williams, Henrietta Hunkin	593 Perfect Timing	565 Close Quarters	481By Design	-	-	-	The Fource - Aotea College
2008	HLZ	River of Harmony	615 Even Time	Liz Moncrieff, Claire Takacs, Frances Williams, Henrietta Hunkin	592 Perfect Timing	554 Close Quarters	443 Extra Shot	-	-	-	Awesome 4some - Carmel
2007	CHC	Harmony Heatwave	604 Even Time	Liz Moncrieff, Claire Takacs, Frances Williams, Henrietta Hunkin	598 Perfect Timing	550 Primadonna	485 Singopation	-	-	-	Zesty - Cashmere High
2006	CHC	Sing! Ring! Bling!	609 Perfect Timing	Patti Cooke, Toni Griffin, Sue Davis, Virginia Humphrey-Taylor	567 Wisteria Lane	520 Hot Ash	479 Incognito	-	-	-	Zesty - Cashmere High
2005	WLG	Wellington In Harmony	575 Even Time	Liz Moncrieff, Claire Takacs, Frances Williams, Henrietta Hunkin	564 Perfect Timing	530 Hot Ash	(not awarded)	-	-	-	Strike Four - Aotea College
2004	WLG	Let it Ring	594 Perfect Timing	Patti Cooke, Toni Griffin, Sue Davis, Virginia Humphrey-Taylor	570 Hot Ash	539 Even Time	465 Keeping Outa Mischief	-	-	-	Downtown Girls - Hamilton G
2003	AKL	Sail 'n Song	602 4th Avenue	Fiona Bevege, Jill Rodgers, Helen Symonds, Roey Wyeth	581 Perfect Timing	557 Something Else	455 Even Time	-	-	-	Take Note - Tawa College
2002	AKL	Aim High	592 Perfect Timing	Dina Wickers, Toni Griffin, Sharon Wilkins, Virginia Humphrey-Taylor	561 4th Avenue	544 Something Else	443 QuarterToFour	-	-	-	Fresh 'n' Fruity - Wgtn Girls'
2001	CHC	Tune 'n Bloom	591 Perfect Timing	Dina Wickers, Toni Griffin, Sharon Wilkins, Virginia Humphrey-Taylor	545 4th Avenue	517 Something Else	403 Jigsaw Jive	-	-	-	BarBaa Sheep, Sacred Heart
2000	CHC	Millenium Music	584 Perfect Timing	Dina Wickers, Toni Griffin, Sharon Wilkins, Colleen Ashcroft	547 4th Avenue	502 In Full Swing	388 Sweet Shiraz	-	-	-	Backchat, Cashmere High
1999	WLG	Century Singout	531 No Exception	Jackie Bish, Margaret Thomas, Raewyn Hawksworth, Beverley Kentwell	518 Fascinatin'Jazz	499 Aristocats	443 In Full Swing	-	-	-	Dolce Adelina - Tawa College
1998	WLG	Capital Harmony	567 Perfect Timing	Dina Wickers, Toni Griffin, Loro Shandler, Colleen Ashcroft	482 Copyrite	482 Jazz Magic	-	-	-	-	L'Harmonie Fraiche -B Viard C
1996	AKL	Women of Note	508 Perfect Timing	Dina Wickers, Toni Griffin, Loro Shandler, Colleen Ashcroft	500 Copyrite	486 Jazz Talk	-	-	-	-	1997 Les Femmes - Rangitoto
1994	CHC	Attune in Harmony	511 Jazz Talk	Fiona Gray, Leigh Smith, Sue Davis, Virginia Humphrey-Taylor	510 Vocal Affair	502 Perfect Timing	-	-	-	-	1996 The Cutting Edge - Chilton
1992	WLG		597 Perfect Timing	Dina Wickers, Toni Griffin, Loro Shandler, Colleen Ashcroft	545 Export Quality	519 Sneak Preview	-	-	-	-	-
1990	AKL	Here's to the Winners	576 Export Quality	Patti Cooke, Chris Reynolds, Jan Smith, Barbara Letcher	535 Positive Image	467 Velvet Touch	-	-	-		-

The International Most Improved Award compares scores between the competitions last year and this year. The Regional Most Improved Award compares scores from the last time a chorus or quartet competed (which may not have been in the previous competition year).
Only choruses and quartets competing in the OPEN divison were eligible for the Audience Choice / Bravo award (2014-17). The award was discontinued in 2018, and was reinstated from 2019.
****The Senior Quartet Award was introduced in 2024. Senior Quartet award criteria is that all four singers must be aged 55 years or over and the sum of the ages must total at least 240 by the date of the quartet contest.*
**A New Zealand competiion was held in 2021, but was not an official Sweet Adelines International contest. All awards presented were by audience vote, rather than judging panel.*
*** The 2022 Competition was held by video entry only, with a virtual event held in place of the usual annual convention and competition.*

Past Chorus Winners

Full results are also available on the website: **www.sweetadelines.co.nz/pastresults**

REGION 35 WINNERS DATING BACK TO OUR FIRST CONVENTION IN 1990

Convention			Champion Chorus	2nd	3rd	Small Chorus	Midsize Chorus	Most Improved (International Award)	Most Improved (Regional Award)	Audience Choice / Bravo, WOW Award	High School Chorus
2025	CHC	Harmony Ōtautahi	641 Waikato Rivertones	626 Faultine	607 Greater Auckland	560 Foveaux Harmony	641 Waikato Rivertones	+41 Nelson & Foveaux	-	-	Heart Attack - Sacred Heart
2024	DUD	Soaring Sounds	618 Wellington City	587 Faultline	542 Dunedin Harmony	542 Dunedin Harmony	618 Wellington City	+34 Dunedin Harmony	+51 Taranaki Harmony	Greater Auckland	Heart Attack - Sacred Heart
2023	AKL	Voices at Victory	654 Christchurch City	630 Wellington City	615 Greater Auckland	615 Greater Auckland	630 Wellington City	-	+36 Manawatu Overtones	-	Just Voices - Tawa College
2022	Virtual	Harmony Aotearoa At Home	633 Waikato Rivertones	425 Whangarei	-	633 Waikato Rivertones	-	+5 Waikato Rivertones	+5 Waikato Rivertones	-	Just Voices - Tawa College
2021	CHC	Harmony Aotearoa	Wakato Rivertones*	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nelson Bays Harmony*	Event Cancelled
2020	-	FIESTAcappella	Cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions								Event Cancelled
2019	DUD	Autumn A Cappella	628 Waikato Rivertones	595 Greater Auckland	542 Dunedin Harmony	542 Dunedin Harmony	628 Waikato Rivertones	+5 Greater Auckland	+36 Dunedin Harmony	Nelson Bays Harmony	Heart Attack - Sacred Heart
2018	WLG	A Cappellington	681 Christchurch City	590 Greater Auckland	514 Manawatu Overtones	514 Manawatu Overtones	590 Greater Auckland	(not awarded)	(not awarded)	-	Macapella - Macleans College
2017	DUD	Distinctly Dunedin	660 Wellington City	614 Faultline	613 Greater Auckland	586 Bella A Cappella	660 Wellington City	+18 Dunedin Harmony	+45 Bella A Cappella	(not awarded)	ACBC - Aotea College
2016	WLG	A Cappella Capital	659 Waikato Rivertones	643 Wellington City	643 Faultline	535 Manawatu Overtones	659 Waikato Rivertones	+74 Waikato Rivertones	+88 Manawatu Overtones	Capital Harmony	ACBC - Aotea College
2015	AKL	Pearls of Harmony	685 Christchurch City	595 Faultline	585 Waikato Rivertones	541 Bella A Cappella	595 Faultline	+56 Bella A Cappella	+71 Faultline	Wellington City	ACBC - Aotea College
2014	AKL	Sweet Beats	621 Greater Auckland	602 Waikato Rivertones	485 Bella A Cappella	447 Manawatu Overtones	485 Bella A Cappella	(not awarded)	(not awarded)	Nelson Bays Harmony	ACBC - Aotea College
2013	ZQN	Reach for the Southern Stars	623 Wellington City	524 Faultline	520 Sounds of Hawkes B	524 Faultline	496 Dunedin Harmony	+20 Faultline	+28 Whangarei Harmony	-	Maiden Tawa - Tawa Coll
2012	CHC	You Can't Stop The Beat	677 Christchurch City	626 Greater Auckland	526 Dunedin Harmony	504 Faultline	526 Dunedin Harmony	(not awarded)	+34 Taranaki Harmony	-	ACBC - Aotea College
2011	WLG	A cappella A-Buzz	644 Waikato Rivertones	620 Wellington City	511 Foveaux Harmony	511 Foveaux Harmony	508 Nelson Bays	+39 Sounds of Hawkes	+39 Sounds of Hawkes	-	ACBC - Aotea College
2010	WLG	Sing Up A Storm	677 Christchurch City	640 Wellington City	567 Faultline	531 Dunedin	567 Faultline	+25 Nelson Bays	+63 Manawatu Overtones	-	ACBC - Aotea College
2009	AKL	Harmony on the Beach	643 Greater Auckland	579 Faultline	511 Dunedin Hamrony	579 Faultline	(no award)	+6 Faultline	+40 Nelson Bays	-	Sweet Margaritas QMC
2008	HLZ	River of Harmony	624 Waikato Rivertones	573 Faultline	507 Foveaux Harmony	507 Foveaux Harmony	573 Faultline	+40 Nelson Bays	+48 Capital Harmony	-	ACBC - Aotea Collegel
2007	CHC	Harmony Heatwave	621 Wellington City	582 Faultline	519 Whangarei Harmony	519 Whangarei Harmony	621 Wellington City	+24 Faultline	+34 Whangarei Harmony	-	Maiden Tawa - Tawa Coll
2006	CHC	Sing! Ring! Bling!	666 Christchurch City	639 Greater Auckland	612 Waikato Rivertones	519 Whangarei Harmony	612 Waikato Rivertones	+31 Waikato Rivertones	+67 Christchurch City	-	Maiden Tawa - Tawa Coll
2005	WLG	Wellington In Harmony	617 Wellington City	587 Faultline	581 Waikato Rivertones	546 SouthCity Soundz	617 Wellington City	+52 Twin City Sounds	+52 Twin City Sounds	-	Maiden Tawa - Tawa Coll
2004	WLG	Let it Ring	618 Greater Auckland	598 Wellington City	555 Faultline	555 Faultline	598 Wellington City	+116 SouthCity	+116 SouthCity Soundz	-	Maiden Tawa - Tawa Coll
2003	AKL	Sail 'n Song	599 Christchurch City	563 Wellington City	534 Waikato Rivertones	477 Whangarei Harmony	563 Wellington City	+45 Whangarei Harmony	+45 Whangarei Harmony	-	Maiden Tawa - Tawa Coll
2002	AKL	Aim High	605 Greater Auckland	544 Faultline	544 Wellington City	544 Faultline	544 Wellington City	+116 SouthCity	+116 SouthCity Soundz	-	Maiden Tawa - Tawa Coll
2001	CHC	Tune 'n Bloom	547 Waikato Rivertones	546 Wellington City	530 Faultline	546 Wellington City	547 Waikato Rivertones	+55 Wellington City	+136 Twin City	-	Uptown Girls - HamiltonGHS
2000	CHC	Millenium Music	606 Christchurch City	545 Faultline	528 Whangarei Harmony	528 Whangarei Harmony	545 Faultline	+52 Whang H, Marl H	-	-	Stars'n'Stripes - Macleans
1999	WLG	Century Singout	585 Greater Auckland	522 Faultline	476 Whangarei Harmony	522 Faultline	-	+44 Nelson City	-	-	-
1998	WLG	Capital Harmony	616 Christchurch City	577 Greater Auckland	526 Dunedin Harmony	498 Whangarei Harmony	-	+104 Whangarei	-	-	-
1996	AKL	Women of Note	540 Greater Auckland	487 Dunedin Harmony	481 Faultline	394 Whangarei Harmony	-	+85 Twin City Sounds	-	-	-
1994	CHC	Attune in Harmony	555 Christchurch City	518 Greater Auckland	488 SouthCity Soundz	406 King Country	-	(not awarded)	-	-	-
1992	WLG		584 Christchurch City	526 Greater Auckland	499 Faultline	-	-	+64 Faultline	-	-	-
1990	AKL	Here's to the Winners	535 Christchurch City	500 Greater Auckland	435 Faultline	-	-	(not awarded)	-		

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