



Information to start a *With One Voice* Program in your community

Welcome

The *With One Voice* movement is about strengthening communities and inspiring individuals to find their voice. We believe empowered individuals and supportive communities are better placed to solve society's big challenges including cross-cultural integration, unemployment, mental illness, productivity, skills shortages, loneliness and isolation, family fragmentation, homelessness and more.

The *With One Voice* movement is more than just singing with your local community choir. It is an opportunity to create real connections between the diverse people in your community. It is about reaching out to those who are experiencing disadvantage and encouraging the socially advantaged in our community to engage with, learn from and help these people.

We welcome all communities from across Australia to create a *With One Voice* choir.

If you would like to apply to set up and run a *With One Voice* program in your community, please read and understand the following information, visit <https://www.creativityaustralia.org.au/apply/> and then complete the online application form <https://goo.gl/forms/6EjBhqoNmkF4Suaz2>.

How the *With One Voice* program works

With One Voice programs are set up and ran by local volunteers using the resources and materials provided by Creativity Australia.

By establishing a local community choir under the auspices of Creativity Australia (as a registered charity) you hold a licence that enables the choir to raise funds to support projects and initiatives at a local level. The choir is set up as an unincorporated association under the umbrella of Creativity Australia. This includes an independent bank account which is jointly managed by the local choir volunteers and Creativity Australia.



There are seven key components to the program:

1. bringing together a diverse range of local community individuals and organisations to promote, commence and participate in the program
2. finding an extraordinary music leader (who is empathetic and inspiring)
3. finding a safe, nurturing space to sing (that is accessible and close to public transport or infrastructure)
4. seeking out diversity (all are welcome - all ages, backgrounds and cultures...no auditions)
5. showcasing your choir ... share the love (perform locally, celebrate accomplishments)
6. nurturing social connections (rehearse weekly, share supper, share the "Wish List")
7. building sustainability (develop community & business connections, recruit some helpers, start fundraising).

Two ways to establish a *With One Voice* choir

There are two ways to establish a *With One Voice* choir:

1. Apply for seed funding to start a *With One Voice* choir
2. Establish a new community choir with funding from local sources.

Costs

It can cost up to \$25,000 per annum to run a *With One Voice* choir, though for most programs venue and/or supper are donated taking the costs down to \$15,000.

Costs of running a choir may include:

Conductor (depending on total number of rehearsals and performances)	\$10,000 - \$12,000
Venue	\$5,000
Supper	\$5,000
Resources (Insurances, licences, T-shirts, incidentals)	\$3,000
Total	\$23,000 - \$25,000

The organising committee (and entire choir) is responsible for raising the funds to keep the program running every year. Where in-kind support can be found (ie venue and/or supper), this will reduce the total amount of fundraising the organising committee and choir need to undertake.

There are three key ways a choir can raise money:

1. Membership contributions
2. Performance donations
3. Sing for Good Crowd Funding
4. Donations from local Community Foundations, businesses and local government to support participation of disadvantaged participants, your conductor, venue and supper

Most *With One Voice* choirs can raise between \$6,000 - \$12,000 per year through membership contributions (e.g. employed participants pay a \$500 per year membership and are encouraged to make donations to support the participation of those less fortunate). A further \$1,000-\$3,000 can be raised through performance donations.

The *With One Voice* weekly program format

The *With One Voice* format is very simple: weekly rehearsals of approximately 100 minutes, roughly aligned using the following times:

- Singing: 60 mins
- Wish list: 10 mins
- Supper: 20 mins
- Clean up: 10 mins.

The Wish List is a very special part of the weekly program. It is the chance for members to help and care for one another as a true 'neighbourhood community'. During the weekly rehearsal Wish List volunteers read out wishes/requests and other things being offered by members. Some examples of exchanges through *With One Voice* wish lists are assistance with resumes, learning languages or how to use the internet, invitations to events, furniture, clothes, help moving house, job opportunities and other tuition.

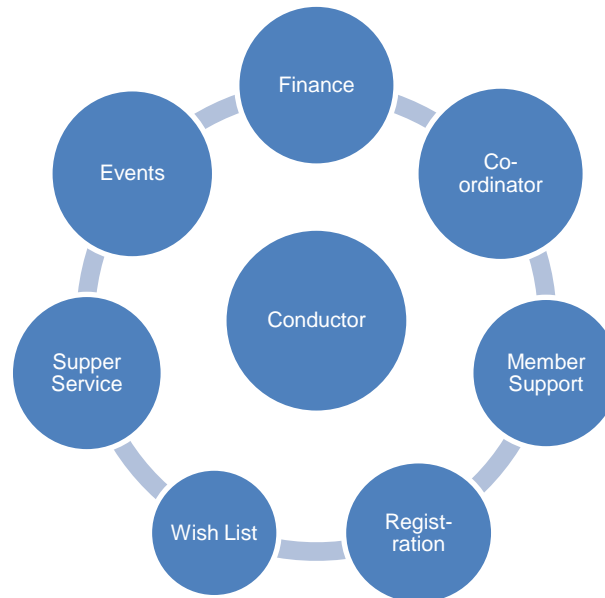
Summary of steps to build a *With One Voice* choir

1. Convene a local committee that includes representatives from your local area. This could include representatives from council, business, retirees, charities etc.
2. Find a conductor
3. Find a venue for weekly program rehearsals
4. Decide how to provide supper
5. Connect to local government and charities, groups supporting disadvantage, businesses, traders and residents and ask them to participate by:
 - i. participating themselves and sending staff and clients
 - ii. sponsoring disadvantaged participants
 - iii. promoting to their networks via newsletters (electronic or otherwise), social media, booking a performance for a function
 - iv. donating to support venue, supper or conductor costs
 - v. hosting a launch event for business, community and government leaders to learn more about the program
6. Hold a launch event
7. Hold the first rehearsal and start singing no more than four(4) weeks later
8. Find a performance opportunity no more than four (4) months from the first rehearsal.

Volunteer roles required within each *With One Voice* choir

Each *With One Voice* choir comprises the volunteer roles listed below. It is expected that the person applying to run the program will be the Coordinator, or alternatively, that the application will be from a group of people, one of whom is the Coordinator. While not every role needs to be filled at the time of application, the goal will be to have these roles filled within three months.

NOTE: The conductor role is not voluntary.



What we expect from you and your team

1. Weekly delivery of rehearsals (min 45 times per year), that:
 - i) are run from a central, accessible and welcoming venue
 - ii) include sharing of wishes and a small supper (i.e. tea, coffee, sandwiches, fruit)
2. A minimum of four (4) community performances per year
3. The group represents the diversity of the community. It has approximately 50/50 mix of socially advantaged and socially disadvantaged participants that:
 - i) welcome and include everyone from the community, in particular those experiencing disadvantage
 - ii) support and encourage socially advantaged individuals to engage with, learn from and help participants experiencing disadvantage
4. To secure a venue and the weekly supper
5. Repertoire that includes songs that represent hope, joy, diversity and fun
6. Delivery of the program that has no barriers to entry for any participant. It is available to ALL: i.e. people who can't read music, have not sung before, are from a Non-English-Speaking Background, have a disability, are from different cultures/ faiths or do not have an ability to pay.
7. Fundraising to cover the direct costs of your conductor, venue, supper and program resources and quarterly financial reports of income and expenses.

What you can expect from us

1. Program materials, including:
 - i) posters and other marketing material templates to adjust to your community
 - ii) welcome page and registration forms to adjust to your community
2. Detailed program “How to” video tutorials and written guide for
 - i) running the weekly rehearsal
 - ii) organising performances & events
 - iii) volunteer roles
 - iv) promoting your choir
3. Listing on website with a page for your *With One Voice* choir to share where and when you meet, photos, videos, performances, stories, outcomes from Wish List etc
4. Promotion through campaigns (i.e. Sing for Good) and social media
5. Spreading the word about your *With One Voice* choir as part of our overall marketing and media plan.
6. Training for your conductors
7. Phone & email support & mentoring to help set up your program
8. Monthly reports to enable you to manage the program.

Who should apply?

Creativity Australia welcomes applications to establish community-based *With One Voice* choirs from a group of individuals or community organisations that have an interest in building healthier, happier, more inclusive and stronger communities.

There is no limitation on who can apply to start a *With One Voice* program, however, the organising committee, once fully established, cannot be made up of one group of people or organisation. The organising committee must represent the community and applications will be assessed based on their diversity and/or plan to achieve diversity.

It is anticipated that the types of community organisations that may wish to form a community choir under the *With One Voice* program may include:

- local schools - disability organisations - job seeker organisations -
- community based organisations such as the Lions Club, Rotary, Freemasons -
- refugee groups / organisations - churches / religious groups
- sports groups, (*such as footy clubs, tennis clubs, bowling clubs*) - mental illness groups.

Groups of individuals are also welcome – and encouraged – to start a *With One Voice* program.

The above is not an exclusive list, however is intended to help stimulate discussion in the wider community about establishing a *With One Voice* choir in your local area. If you would like to discuss your application to establish a *With One Voice* choir, please contact Creativity Australia.

Please note, local and state councils are not eligible to apply.

Seed funding

Creativity Australia is offering a limited number of communities seed funding to start their own *With One Voice* program. The seed fund is to cover initial costs of conductor, supper and venue (if these can't be found in-kind) while the program establishes itself in the community. The \$10k grant will be paid in four instalments of \$2500 after choirs have met 4 establishment milestones (i.e. 1st rehearsal, launch).

Success is determined by our unique "Health of Choirs" indicators that measure member engagement and participation through the program App. During the first six months one of our program staff will mentor the organizing committee to interpret the indicators and use them to focus their efforts to lay a strong foundation for the choir to succeed.

In addition (and separate to the initial \$10k seed grant) individual communities may also apply for an allowance of up to \$2,500 to support their conductor in their development.

Apply now

By starting a *With One Voice* choir in your local community you will be changing lives and building healthier, happier, more inclusive and stronger communities. Visit www.creativityaustralia.org.au/apply to download an Expression of Interest form. Applications for all 2018 rounds close close 5pm (Victorian time)

Friday March 2nd

Friday June 1st

Friday August 31st

Friday November 9th .

Applications will be judged against the criteria on the following page. We are looking for communities that are ready to support themselves and have the basic capabilities to do this. The program has been set up to ensure people who are genuinely committed to making a difference in their communities have access to the resources to make it happen.

Further information

If you would like more information regarding starting a *With One Voice* program, please contact our office on:

- Email: withonevoice@creativityaustralia.org.au Phone: 03 8679 6088

Criteria for Expressions of Interest

Below are six key criteria that all applications are judged against. Each criteria has a maximum allocation of 5 points and it is prioritised in the order below.

Criteria # 1: Understanding and commitment to the *With One Voice* model and purpose

1 = No understanding of model and are just looking for funds to cover their existing choir

5 = Excellent understanding of model and demonstrated examples of how they will benefit from following the model

Criteria # 2: Diversity and inclusiveness

1 = Homogenous; either just disadvantage or one group of people

5 = Already have a diverse group of people assembled, or set of partnerships to generate a diverse and truly inclusive group

Criteria # 3: Readiness to deliver

1 = Just a coordinator (the person applying)

5 = More than four (4) people in an organising committee, conductor, supper and venue providers (confirmed and named)

Criteria # 4: Community need

1 = Low level of disadvantage

5 = high level of disadvantage (with appropriate diversity) demonstrated by appropriate evidence and statistics

Criteria # 5: Partnerships

1 = Makes no reference to existing or potential partners

5 = Already has existing partners and has identified other possible partners

Criteria # 6: Capability of organizing committee

1 = Haven't identified specific people to do specific role on organising committee

5 = Have identified specific people to do specific roles and have letter of support