



Cantate Domino

THE SECOND
**NAGALAND CATHOLIC
CHORAL FIESTA**

The Triennial Diocesan Sacred Music Choral Competition

**23 NOVEMBER 2024
KOHIMA, NAGALAND**

Organised by
CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION OF NAGALAND

In collaboration with the **Nagaland Catholic Youth Movement**
& the **Nagaland Catholic Women Association**

With the patronage of the **Bishop of the Diocese of Kohima**

Cantate Domino canticum novum;
cantate Domino omnis terra.
Cantate Domino, et benedicite nomini ejus;
annuntiate de die in diem salutare ejus.

Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord and bless his name;
announce his salvation day by day.

Psalm 96:1-2

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Catholic Centre, D'Block, Kohima, Nagaland



Categories

- A. Chamber choir
- B. Vocal ensemble – Western
- C. Vocal ensemble – Ethnic/Folk
- D. Hymn composition

General Rules for Categories A, B, and C

1. The competition is open to Catholics of the Diocese of Kohima.
2. There is no age limit.
3. These are inter-parish competitions. A parish can participate in all the 3 categories subject to one team per category. However, a singer can participate in only one category.
4. The competition is intended for amateur choirs/ensembles.
See the category regulations for minimum of professional singers allowed in each category. Here, 'professional singer' is defined as one whose main livelihood is earned by singing.
5. All the performances will be a *cappella*.
Accompaniment, including percussions, will not be allowed. While choreography, clapping, or other forms of body percussion, are not forbidden, only vocal performance will be judged.
6. Use of conductor and holding of scores is allowed.
7. There will be pre-recorded video audition. Only non-studio recording will be admissible.
8. Participants must take responsibility for honouring copyright and performance rights of songs they choose for the competition.
9. By registering, the participants agree to photography, recording, and broadcasts in any medium by the organisers.
10. Five finalists will be selected in each category.
11. The order of performances in the finals will be determined by the organisers.
12. The last date of submission of videos is **03 October 2024**. The lists of finalists will be declared on or before 10 October 2024.
13. The finals will be held on **23 November 2024** at Kohima, Nagaland.
14. Additional rules (including amended rules, if any) for the finals will be published on 10 October 2024.

Adjudication & Evaluation

1. The jury for Categories A, B, and C will comprise of reputed musicians.
2. The jury for Category D will comprise of reputed theologians and musicians.
3. The decision of the jury will be final and cannot be contested.
4. *See the category regulations for criteria for assessment in each category.*

Category regulations

A. Chamber choir

NUMBER OF SINGERS 16 to 28

A choir can have only a maximum of 2 professional singers (excluding the conductor).

REPERTOIRE

For pre-recorded video audition

A-1 Stephen Paulus's *The Road Home*

The score will be given by the organisers with this information brochure.

For finals

A-1 (As above)

A-2 One choral piece chosen by the choir

- This piece must be in English or Latin.
- It can be from any period or style of Western music.
- Duration of performance of the song must be less than 5 minutes.
- The words must conform to Catholic teaching.
- The score must be submitted at the time of registration.
- The organisers reserve the right to disapprove the piece and demand for replacement within a week, failing which the choir will be deregistered.
- Once approved, it cannot be changed.

REGISTRATION & SUBMISSION OF ENTRY

- There is no registration fee.
- A choir registers itself for the competition by submitting the following:
 - (i) The pre-recorded video for audition
 - (ii) The list of official names of the choir members certified by the parish priest and a lay leader (PPC secretary/catechist/Catholic association president) that all are Catholics and that all rules have been followed — in PDF.
 - (iii) The score of the A-2 — in PDF.
- Submission is to be made to cankma1@gmail.com by the last date.

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

The performances in both the audition and the finals will be judged according to the following criteria (with equal weightage):

1. Intonation
2. Vocal quality
3. Fidelity to score
4. Overall artistic impression

Category regulations

B. Vocal ensemble – Western

NUMBER OF SINGERS 4 to 8

An ensemble can have only a maximum of 1 professional singer (excluding the conductor).

REPERTOIRE

For pre-recorded video audition

B-1 A hymn from *All You Hills (AYH)*

- The ensemble can use any arrangement (and not necessarily the one in AYH).
- Duration of performance of the song must be less than 5 minutes.

For finals

B-1 (As above)

B-2 One piece chosen by the ensemble

- This piece must be in English.
- It can be from any period or style of Western music.
- Duration of performance of the song must be less than 5 minutes.
- The words must conform to Catholic teaching.
- The words must be submitted at the time of registration.
- The organisers reserve the right to disapprove the piece and demand for replacement within a week, failing which the choir will be deregistered.
- Once approved, it cannot be changed.

REGISTRATION & SUBMISSION OF ENTRY

- There is no registration fee.
- An ensemble registers itself for the competition by submitting the following:
 - (i) The pre-recorded video for audition
 - (ii) The PDF scan of the B-1 hymn in AYH.
 - (iii) The list of official names of the ensemble members certified by the parish priest and a lay leader (PPC secy./catechist/Catholic association president) that all are Catholics and that all rules have been followed — in PDF.
 - (iv) The words of the B-2 — in PDF.
- Submission is to be made to cankma1@gmail.com by the last date.

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

The performances in both the audition and the finals will be judged according to the following criteria (with equal weightage):

1. Intonation
2. Vocal quality
3. Overall artistic impression

Category regulations

C. Vocal ensemble – Ethnic/Folk

NUMBER OF SINGERS 4 to 8

An ensemble can have only a maximum of 1 professional singer (excluding the conductor).

REPERTOIRE

For pre-recorded video audition

C-1 *Any piece of ethnic/traditional/folk/fusion style in a language/dialect native to Nagaland*

- Duration of performance of the song must be less than 5 minutes.
- The words must conform to Catholic teaching.
- An English translation of the words must be submitted at the time of registration.

For finals

C-1 (As above)

C-2 *Any piece of ethnic/traditional/folk/fusion style in a language/dialect native to Nagaland*

- Duration of performance of the song must be less than 5 minutes.
- The words must conform to Catholic teaching.
- An English translation of the words must be submitted at the time of registration.
- The organisers reserve the right to disapprove the piece and demand for replacement within a week, failing which the choir will be deregistered.
- Once approved, it cannot be changed.

REGISTRATION & SUBMISSION OF ENTRY

- There is no registration fee.
- An ensemble registers itself for the competition by submitting the following:
 - (i) The pre-recorded video for audition
 - (ii) The words of C-1 and C-2 along with English translations — in PDF.
 - (iii) The list of official names of the ensemble members certified by the parish priest and a lay leader (PPC secy./catechist/Catholic association president) that all are Catholics and that all rules have been followed — in PDF.
- Submission is to be made to cankma1@gmail.com by the last date.

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

The performances in both the audition and the finals will be judged according to the following criteria (with equal weightage):

1. Intonation
2. Vocal quality
3. Overall artistic impression

Category regulations

D. Hymn composition

1. The hymn entered for competition must not have been previously published or recorded.
2. The hymn must be suitable for Catholic liturgies/devotional services/programmes.
3. The hymn must be in English or in a language/dialect native to Nagaland.
4. A simple audio recording of the hymn sung by a singer is to be submitted along with the text. This is for the purpose of judging the melody. Therefore, even if an instrument or a backup singer is used, the melody must be prominent. Production value and quality of performance/recording will not be judged.
5. At most two persons (lyricist and composer) can jointly submit a hymn.
6. An individual can submit at most 3 hymns.
7. Hymnwriters must certify that their submissions are their own, original creative work.
8. The parish priest must certify that that the hymnwriter is a Catholic.
9. The hymnwriter retains the copyright of the text and tune, but by participating, the organisers gain the permission to publish or record the hymn with due credits anytime in the future.
10. The winners will be announced during the NCCF on **23 November 2024** at Kohima, Nagaland.

REGISTRATION & SUBMISSION OF ENTRY

- There is no registration fee.
- A hymnwriter registers himself/herself for the competition by submitting the following:
 - (i) The text of the hymn (with an English translation if it is in another language) — in PDF.
 - (ii) An audio recording of the hymn — in MP3.
 - (iii) A note certifying that the submission is his/her own, original creative work — in PDF.
 - (iv) Name of the hymnwriter certified by the parish priest that he/she is a Catholic — in PDF.
- Submission is to be made to cankma1@gmail.com by **03 November 2024**.

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

The submissions will be judged according to the following criteria (with equal weightage):

1. Originality of the melody
2. Emotional & spiritual impact of the melody
3. Doctrinal soundness, clarity & depth of the lyrics
4. Poetic quality of the lyrics

Prizes

A. Chamber choir

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|-----------------------|------------|------|
| First prize | ₹ 1,50,000 | |
| Second prize | ₹ 1,00,000 | |
| Third prize | ₹ 50,000 | |
| 2 remaining finalists | ₹ 20,000 | each |

B. Vocal ensemble – Western

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|-----------------------|----------|------|
| First prize | ₹ 40,000 | |
| Second prize | ₹ 25,000 | |
| 3 remaining finalists | ₹ 10,000 | each |

C. Vocal ensemble – Ethnic/Folk

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------|------|
| First prize | ₹ 40,000 | |
| Second prize | ₹ 25,000 | |
| 3 remaining finalists | ₹ 10,000 | each |

D. Hymn composition

| | | |
|-------------|----------|--|
| First prize | ₹ 15,000 | |
|-------------|----------|--|

In addition, ₹ 10,000 each will be awarded to at most 3 entries that meet the gold standard benchmark as determined by the jury.

Citations will be awarded to all winners and finalists.

