2024 CHOIRFEST

A FESTIVAL OF LIGHT AND INSPIRATION

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8



DWIGHT SCHOOL LONDON

Dear heads of schools and music teachers,

We are delighted to once again invite you to our annual Dwight School London ChoirFest! This year will see our talented students take to the stage for the choral extravaganza for the 7th time, and the 2024 edition will take place from the 3rd to the 8th of October 2024, in our vibrant city of London.

The London ChoirFest 2024, themed "Hope: A Festival of Light and Inspiration" is set to be a captivating celebration of choral music and artistic expression. Set against the backdrop of London's dynamic and diverse cityscape, this festival seeks to uplift and inspire audiences



through the transformative power of music, emphasising themes of hope, unity and resilience. We eagerly anticipate welcoming schools from around the world for four days of workshops, rehearsals, social events, performances and a final concert at the prestigious Pentland Theatre within the Finchley Artsdepot. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to explore London's iconic landmarks during the weekend.

Our lineup of choirs from around the globe will not only highlight the rich diversity of our group of schools but also celebrate the unique musical cultures and languages of our students. The past global musical performances from different campuses, ranging from classical masterpieces to contemporary pieces, have consistently showcased the remarkable talent and enthusiasm of our students.

London's renowned classical music scene, featuring institutions such as the Royal Albert Hall, Barbican Centre, and Southbank Centre, along with the dazzling West End Musicals, further enriches the city's cultural diversity and offers opportunities for our students to experience world-class performances.

With that being said, the London ChoirFest 2024 offers an excellent platform for students aged 11 to 18 to collaborate on musical projects, expand their cultural understanding, and enhance their singing and stage performance skills. As in previous years, we encourage all participating schools to prepare two musical pieces for the final concert. These can be of any style, accompanied or unaccompanied, maintaining a choral character, with a total programme duration of approximately 8 minutes per campus.

Please find information about the London ChoirFest schedule and practicalities in this document.

We hope you will join this exciting programme! Please register by emailing me before 7th June. Should you require further information about this event or wish to schedule an online meeting to discuss it, please do not hesitate to contact me via email (rdeng@dwightlondon.org). I look forward to hearing from you regarding your participation in London ChoirFest 2024.

Kind regards Richard Deng

Proposed schedule

Below is an outline of the trip. A full schedule will be sent at a later date.

Wednesday 2nd October

Participating schools arrive in London

Thursday 3rd October 09:00 - 17:00

- Welcome breakfast for visiting schools from 09:00
- All day rehearsals and workshops for all students
- Social event (15:45 17:00) for all participating students/chaperones

• All day rehearsals and workshops for all students

independently)

students



Tuesday 8th October 14:30 - 20:00

- Dress rehearsal at the Artsdepot from 14:30
- Concert from 18:30 20:00

Wednesday 9th October

Visiting students depart from London

Further details

Participation fee:

£150 per school (as a contribution towards the venue hire and catering costs), plus £10 per student for the festival t-shirt. You will be invoiced after the event.

How to register:

Please notify <u>Richard Deng</u> of your intention to participate and then further information will be shared. Registration deadline is 7th June.

Cost projection for visiting students:

- Cost for flights: As applicable
- Accommodation: Local hotel at approximately £60-£100 per night per student (twin rooms)
- Lunches at the local cafes: £10 per person. Alternatively from a local grocery store: £5 per person. If visiting campuses want to use the Dwight Cafe for their lunch they need to notify us in advance. Approximate cost per person for a hot meal, snack and drink at our cafe is £6.
- Dinners and snacks: approximately £20 £25 per student per day for a basic meal such as a pizza, salad, drink and a few snacks.
- Sights & shows (optional): as applicable. See links below as a guide.

Suggested local hotels:

- The Premier Inn, London Southgate
- The Premier Inn, New Southgate
- Glenlyn Hotel, Woodside Park

Suggestions for your weekend in London Concerts and Shows:

- Royal Opera House
- Royal Albert Hall
- Southbank Centre
- Barbican Centre
- West End Theatre

Areas to explore:

- Day out in Greenwich (you can see the <u>Cutty Sark</u>, the <u>Royal Observatory and the</u> Docklands Light Railway there as it goes through the Canary Wharf skyscrapers)
- <u>Covent Garden</u> (street performers, ice cream and general atmosphere)
- <u>South Bank</u> of the river (<u>London Eye</u> or walk from Waterloo towards Tower Bridge.. for street performers and seeing all the sights on the river.. or you can get on a boat at Waterloo pier and cruise down the river)

Sights & attractions:

- <u>Tower Bridge experience</u> (cross the bridge on the very top with glass floor so you can see right below you.. and learn how the bridge rises)
- London Transport Museum
- <u>HMS Belfast</u> (ship built for the Royal Navy and now a museum ship)
- Natural History Museum
- Science Museum
- British Museum
- London Dungeon
- Madame Tussauds
- The Shard (viewing gallery on top of the tallest building in London)
- IFS Cloud Cable Car (cross the river on the cable car at the Docklands)
- <u>Open top bus tours</u> (hop on and off)

<u>Time Out London</u> is also an excellent guide to shows and exhibitions around London.

Planetarium, Maritime Museum, Greenwich Market and lovely riverside walk.. take the



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