



Thankyou for your enquiry regarding the Young Voices of Melbourne. Please find enclosed information about the musical opportunities we have to offer young people interested in singing with us. Should you require further information, or wish to make an audition time, please do not hesitate to contact the Artistic Director, Juliana Kay on 0431 878743 or juliana@yvm.au. The following general information is designed to provide you with a brief summary of our organisation.

General Information

Founded by Mark O'Leary OAM in 1990, and now led by Juliana Kay, the Young Voices of Melbourne exists to create choral music of a high standard and to foster excellence in music education in the community. Young Voices of Melbourne Inc currently runs six choirs catering for boys and girls aged 6 - 30, including the YVM Training Choirs, Young Voices of Melbourne, YVMen for secondary school age boys and EXAUDI choir for young adults. Entry is by audition, and auditions are held each November, or at other times depending on availability of places. We also run the Very Young Voices of Melbourne program for babies and toddlers - no auditions necessary!

Young Voices of Melbourne is a child-focussed choir. Our first priority is to provide experiences for our members that are enjoyable, stimulating and educational in the broadest sense. Artistic Director Juliana Kay is recognised Australia-wide as an authority on children's choirs and Kodaly music education.

Young Voices of Melbourne is a non-profit organisation, governed by a Committee of Management. Costs are covered by Tuition Fees, performance fees and fund raising activities. The choir is listed on the Federal government's register of Cultural Organisations, and as such can offer tax deductability to its donors.

Rehearsals are held at the music department of St Catherine's School School, Heyington Place Toorak. Entry to the music department is from the main gate in Heyington Place. (EXAUDI rehearses at Armadale Baptist Church.)

Young Voices of Melbourne is a small, friendly organisation. Each week we work with around 200 singers but group sizes are small and each member receives the individual attention he or she needs to fulfil his or her potential. Strong bonds are formed between choir members as they share new experiences and strive together for excellence.



Rehearsal Groups



Young Voices of Melbourne operates an early childhood music program with six choir rehearsal groups. Following their audition with the Director of Music, singers are allocated to the appropriate group for their age and ability. New members are only asked to make a commitment to the choir once they have attended enough rehearsals for them to be sure that they are happy to continue. Entry to all groups is by audition, and promotion from one group to another is entirely at the discretion of the Director of Music, and depends on age, maturity, progress in acquiring musical skills, the availability of a place and general readiness. All groups rehearse in Toorak, except Exaudi which rehearses in Armadale.

Very Young Voices of Melbourne

Approximate age level: 0 - 5 (in various groups - no auditions)
A Kodaly-based early childhood music class. See our web site for more information: <https://yvm.com.au/very-young-voices-of-melbourne/>

Beginning Training Choir

Approximate age level: 6 - 7 years (school grades 1 and 2)
Number in group: approximately 10 - 20
Music Education Programme: This is a singing-based music class in which children develop confidence in music making and begin to acquire the skills and gain an understanding of the concepts which will enable them to have successful and enjoyable experiences in music.
Performances: The Beginning Training Choir performs at Young Voices of Melbourne concerts generally three times a year. The emphasis at this level is more on skill development and enjoyment rather than public performance.
Rehearsal time: Monday afternoons during the state school term, 4.30 - 5.30pm.
Teacher: Marion Stafford

Junior Training Choir

Approximate age level: 8 - 9 years (school grades 3 and 4)
Number in group: approximately 15 - 25
Music Education Programme: Emphasis is placed on the development of confidence and enjoyment in music making. Children develop skills in singing technique, ear training and music reading in a way which encourages personal expression in a relaxed and fun environment. Children begin work on the Sight Singing School resources using books and a web site.
Performances: The Junior Training Choir is more educationally oriented than performance oriented. However the Junior Training Choir does generally perform 3 or 4 times during the year, sometimes combined with the Senior Training Choir or Main Choir.
Rehearsal time: Monday afternoons during the state school term, 4.30 - 5.30pm.
Teachers: Elizabeth O'Leary (with tutors Amelia Alder and Juliana Kay)

Rehearsal Groups (Continued)

Senior Training Choir

<u>Approximate age level:</u>	10 - 12 years (school grades 5, 6 & 7)
<u>Number in Group:</u>	approximately 30 - 40
<u>Music Education Programme:</u>	Emphasis at this level is on the further development of skills in singing technique, ear training and music reading, as well as the development of good rehearsal skills, proficiency in part singing and personal confidence.
<u>Performances:</u>	The Senior Training Choir performs 4 or 5 times each year, sometimes combined with the Main Choir or the Junior Training Choir.
<u>Rehearsal time:</u>	Monday evenings during the state school term, 5.30 to 7.00pm. Senior Training Choir members also attend a residential weekend rehearsal camp each year.
<u>Teachers:</u>	Elizabeth O'Leary (with tutors Amelia Alder and Juliana Kay)



Main Choir

<u>Approximate age level:</u>	12 - 18 years
<u>Number in Group:</u>	50 - 60 singers
<u>Repertoire/Music Education Programme:</u>	The Choir aims to give its members an excellent aesthetic education by performing a variety of good choral music at a very high standard. Repertoire is chosen from the best music suitable for young voices composed over the last five hundred years, as well as good arrangements of folksongs from many countries, and other appropriate material. Contemporary Australian and international choral music is central to the choir's repertoire. Much emphasis is also placed on the development of personal skills in vocal technique, ear training and music reading. These skills are developed through our Sight Singing School program, which is the basis for the choir's music education programme. We also encourage the development of personal skills such as organisation, self-discipline, reliability, responsibility, co-operation and initiative as these skills are all important in choral music making.



Rehearsal Groups (Continued)

Performances:

The choir is normally involved in approximately eight performances each year, and tours each year. A list of the last couple of years activities can be found on the next page. In 2025 the choir will be travelling to the UK, Italy and Austria over the July school holidays.

Rehearsals:

Thursdays 6.15 - 8.15pm plus a small group musicianship skills session either before rehearsal (5.30 - 6.00pm) or after (8.30 - 9.00pm) allocated depending on skill level and age. The choir also has one residential weekend rehearsal camp each year which all members are expected to attend. If due to illness or important school or family commitments a rehearsal cannot be attended, choristers should message or email Juliana before the rehearsal to make an apology and catch up on any news.

Conductor:

Juliana Kay

YVMen

Approximate age level:

12 - 18 years for boys with changed or changing voices.

Conductor:

Amelia Alder (and Juliana Kay)

Repertoire, Music Education Programme and Rehearsal Commitments:

YVMen works closely with Main Choir, rehearsing at the same time, attending camp, and usually performing and touring with Choir. YVMen members also attend the same small group musicianship sessions as the Main Choir. YVMen performs often with the Main Choir, but also has its own repertoire and sometimes performs with Exaudi.

EXAUDI

Approximate age level:

18 - 30 years

Conductors:

Juliana Kay and Mark O'Leary

Our young adult choir rehearses on Monday nights from 7.30 - 9.30 in Armadale, performs in its own concerts as well as at YVM events and tours each year. Recent tours have been to New Zealand (2024), Italy and Spain (2023), the National Folk Festival in Canberra (2022), Festival of Voices in Hobart (2021) and Scotland and Ireland (2019). More information is available separately.



Young Voices of Melbourne Activities 2022 - 2024

Young Voices of Melbourne 2022 Program Summary

18th - 20th February	Rehearsal Camp	Exaudi rehearsal Camp (Lyrebird Camp, Yellingbo)
19th March	Invitation Performance	Exaudi performance at Windfire Festival (Geelong)
25th - 27th March	Rehearsal Camp	Senior Training Choir Camp (Candlebark Farm)
14th April - 18th April	Tour	Exaudi tour to Canberra for the National Folk Festival
29th April - 1st May	Rehearsal Camp	Choir Rehearsal Camp (Candlebark Farm)
15th May	YVM Concert	YVM Back in Business Concert (MLC)
15th May	YVM Concert	Exaudi Back in Business Concert (MLC)
2nd - 8th July	Tour	YVM and YVMen Tour to Festival of Voices (Hobart)
23rd July	Invitation Performance	Senior Training Choir performance at the Kodaly Primary Day
23rd July	Invitation Performance	Choir and YVMen Pink Floyd tribute concert (Hamer Hall)
2nd September	Festival	YVM and YVMen performance at the Kodaly Choral Festival
10th September	YVM Concert	Exaudi Gathering Voices Concert (St Kilda Town Hall)
11th September	YVM Concert	Training Choirs Concert (St John's Southgate)
22nd October	Invitation Performance	Exaudi Town Choir show for Melbourne Fringe Festival
4th December	YVM Concert	YVM Christmas Concert (Ian Roach Hall, Scotch College)
4th December	YVM Concert	Exaudi Christmas Concert with New Zealand Youth Choir

Young Voices of Melbourne 2023 Program Summary

10th - 12th February	Rehearsal Camp	Choir-YVMen Rehearsal Camp (Candlebark Farm)
17th - 19th February	Rehearsal Camp	Exaudi rehearsal Camp (Lyrebird Camp, Yellingbo)
3rd March	Invitation Performance	Exaudi performance Atom, Heart, Mother, (Town Hall)
24th - 26th March	Rehearsal Camp	Senior Training Choir Camp (Candlebark Farm)
1st April	YVM Concert	Exaudi, YVM and Malcolm Dalglish (Hawthorn Arts Centre)
13th April - 23rd April	Tour	YVM Tour to Townsville and Cairns
20th May	Festival Performance	Choir-YVMen, Come to the Music Festival in Bendigo
4th June	YVM Concert	YVM and Exaudi Winter Concerts (MLC)
24th June - 9th July	Tour	Exaudi Tour to Italy and Spain
10th August	YVM Concert	Concert with Gioventu in Cantata (St John's Southgate)
17th August	Invitation Performance	Performance at St Paul's Chapter House
27th August	Invitation Performance	Exaudi Concert in Healesville (Memo Theatre)
2nd September	YVM Concert	Concert with Yarra Voices and Young Voices of Hobart
9th September	YVM Concert	Exaudi Gathering Voices Concert (Abbotsford Convent)
10th September	YVM Concert	Training Choirs Concert (St John's Southgate)
3rd December	YVM Concert	YVM and Exaudi Christmas Concerts (Leonardian Centre)

Young Voices of Melbourne 2024 Program Summary

9th - 11th February	Rehearsal Camp	Choir Rehearsal Camp (Candlebark Farm)
16th - 18th February	Rehearsal Camp	Exaudi rehearsal Camp (Lyrebird Camp, Yellingbo)
5th March	Invitation Performance	ASEAN performance for world leaders
14th & 16th March	Invitation Performance	Mahler's 3rd Symphony with the MSO (Hamel Hall)
22nd - 24th March	Rehearsal Camp	Senior Training Choir Camp (Candlebark Farm)
26th March	YVM Concert	Family Concert with Malcolm Dalglish, USA
28th March - 3rd April	Tour	YVM and YVMen Tour to National Folk Festival, Canberra
5th June	Festival	YVM and YVMen performance at the Kodaly Choral Festival
16th June	YVM Concert	Winter Concerts: Exaudi & YVM (James Tatoulis Auditorium)
27th June	YVM Concert	YVM and Ragazzi Boys Chorus from the USA (The Edge)
4th, 5th & 6th July	Invitation Performance	Carmina Burana with the Melbourne Symphony (Hamer Hall)
6th - 14th July	Tour	Exaudi Tour to New Zealand
30th July	Festival	Training Choirs at the Kodaly Junior Choral Festival
6th September	Invitation Performance	Choir and YVMen Pink Floyd tribute concert (Hamer Hall)
7th September	YVM Concert	Training Choirs Concert (St John's Southgate)
8th September	YVM Concert	Exaudi Gathering Voices Concert (75 Reid St)
25th September	Invitation Performance	Exaudi performance at the Kodaly National Conference
12th October	Invitation Performance	Exaudi CUDDLE Project filming
31st October	Invitation Performance	Holocaust Memorial Concert with MSO (Hamer Hall)
8th December	YVM Concert	CELEBRATION! Concert at Melbourne Recital Centre

2025 Tuition Fees and Other Costs

Tuition Fees

The Young Voices of Melbourne is a non-profit organisation. Tuition fees are paid to make a contribution towards the cost of staff, administrative and office expenses, venue hire, insurance, music purchase, training materials, performance uniforms and general running costs. YVM is registered for GST but there is no GST levied on tuition fees.

2025 Fees:

Beginning Training Choir & Junior Training Choir: \$450 per half year(semester)
Senior Training Choir: \$650 for first semester \$450 for second semester
Main Choir and YVMen: \$690 for first semester \$495 for second semester
(Senior Training Choir and Choir/YVMen semester 1 fees include weekend rehearsal camp costs.)
Exaudi: \$220 per semester (not including rehearsal camp costs)

Invoices are issued, and a \$30 fee may be applied to late payments.

Tuition fees do not have to be paid until a new member has attended 2 or 3 rehearsals. Please note however, that once paid tuition fees are not refundable. New choir members may be asked to pay a non-refundable \$60 deposit to secure their place. (This deposit is deducted from the first tuition fees.)

Other Costs

A440 Tuning Fork (main Choir only)

Main choir members are required to obtain an A440 tuning fork for use in rehearsals and in practice at home. These are available from choir for \$14.50 or from many music shops.

Music Bag

All choir members need to purchase a YVM music bag (\$14.00).

Performance Uniforms

All choir members are required to purchase a pair of black uniform performance trousers and a choir T-shirt for performance. Please see uniform guidelines sheet for details of costs. (Casual clothes are worn at rehearsals).

Weekend Rehearsal Camps

Senior Training Choir, Main Choir and YVMen members attend one rehearsal camp each year. Attendance is compulsory, and cost is included in tuition fees. No refunds are given for singers who are not able to attend camp.

Tours (main Choir and YVMen)

While going on tour does involve cost to choir members, tours are subsidised by the Touring Fund, supported by fund raising activities and sponsorship. Hence tours are always very good value. For example 2015 New Zealand Tour was \$1,800 for 10 days and the 2017 Japan tour \$2,600 for 2 weeks, the 2019 WA Tour was \$1,600 and the 2022 Festival of Voices Tour to Tasmania was \$1,200. The 2025 Europe Tour cost is \$6,200. Tour costs are all inclusive.

Music folders, Training Programme booklets and Music

Each member of the Young Voices of Melbourne is issued with a folder in which to store music and Sight Singing School booklets. These, together with three pencils and an eraser, must be brought to every rehearsal. Music issued to choir members is on loan only, and must be paid for if lost or damaged.



Uniform Items

Beginning Training Choir, Junior and Senior Training Choir Performance Uniform

Approx. cost

Red YVM T-Shirts	Available from choir	\$15.00
Uniform black dress pants (guidelines provided)		
Black socks		
Low-heeled black shoes (<u>T-Bars, Runners or boots are not acceptable.</u>)		
Red hair ribbons		

Main Choir and YVMen Uniform Items Required

Black YVM performance T-shirt (short-sleeved)	Available from choir	\$30.00
Black YVM performance shirt (long-sleeved)	Available from choir	\$35.00
Uniform black dress pants (guidelines provided)		
Black socks		
Black flat-heeled shoes (not T-bars or boots)		
Red hair ribbons		

Choir members should always turn up to performances in the requested uniform items, and should come changed whenever possible, with hair done.

All prices are approximate, and are provided to choir members at cost. Exact prices depend on current availability.

Please make sure clothing is clearly named!

Staff Information

Juliana Kay: Artistic Director

Juliana is a conductor, composer and teacher with a deep-rooted love for choirs and choral music. Equally at home working with children, community groups and professionals, Juliana strives to create musical experiences that are both engaging for singers and memorable for audiences. A trained secondary school teacher and Kodaly-inspired educator, she has been conducting choirs and teaching in schools since 2016, while maintaining her own practice as a singer and award-winning composer. She is regularly commissioned to write new music for chamber choirs, amateur choirs and school choirs across Australia, and in 2024 was one of four finalists for the Australian Art Music Awards: Choral Work of the Year. In 2018 she founded innovative chamber choir Choral Edge, which saw her regularly experimenting with multimedia performances and collaborations with comedians, visual artists and theatre directors. Outside of Australia, Juliana has led singing and musicianship workshops in Chile through the Global Leaders Program, observed and learned from conductors in New Zealand, USA and Cuba, supported by the Sydney Symposium Choral Foundation Conducting Scholarship, and conducted Exaudi on tours to Scotland/Ireland, Italy/Spain and New Zealand.

Elizabeth O'Leary: Director of Training Choirs

Elizabeth is a passionate music educator, conductor and choral performer. She has a decade of music teaching experience both within schools and in the wider community. Elizabeth is currently the Director of Training Choirs at Young Voices of Melbourne, teaches at Caulfield Grammar School, and is the founder of Very Young Voices of Melbourne, Kodály inspired music classes for children aged 0-5. In 2019, Elizabeth was awarded the Sarolta Kodály Scholarship to study at the Kodály Institute of the Liszt Academy, where she completed an Advanced Diploma. She was awarded the Australian Kodály Certificate (AKC) in 2012 and is an accredited Kodály lecturer. She is an experienced workshop presenter and has taught musicianship and primary pedagogy as part of the AKC. Elizabeth performs regularly as a soprano and is currently a member of Alta Collective.

Amelia Alder: YVMen Conductor, Training Choirs Tutor

Amelia is a passionate performer, experienced music educator and conductor. As the director and co-founder of Vocal Australia (Australia's Contemporary A Cappella Hub) Amelia has also founded AUSACA Australian A Cappella Awards, GET VOCAL Festival and released three compilation albums featuring the best of Australian a cappella. Amelia has been a Head Judge for the Singapore International A Cappella Competition, the Contemporary A Cappella Recording Awards, has presented workshops at international festivals, and is the Australian Ambassador for the Contemporary A Cappella Society of America. With an Australian Kodaly Certificate, Amelia is an accredited Kodaly lecturer who has directed vocal groups at numerous schools, universities and organisations, and currently teaches violin and viola at Caulfield Grammar School.

Marion Stafford: Beginning Training Choir Teacher

Marion is an outstanding Kodaly teacher, with much experience teaching at all primary school levels. She has been Head of Music in the Junior Schools of St Michael's Grammar School and Mentone Grammar, and is currently head of Junior Music at Caulfield Grammar School Wheeler's Hill Campus. Marion is an Honorary Life Member of the Kodaly Music Education Institute of Australia.

Julia Pigin: Accompanist

Julia has been YVM's accompanist since 2000, playing for the choir in many concerts and recordings within Australia and abroad. As well as being a skilled and accomplished pianist, Julia is a master teacher with particular expertise in Kodaly teaching techniques.

Mark O'Leary OAM: Founder and Director 1990 - 2024

Mark O'Leary OAM is well known in Australia, widely respected for his work with Young Voices of Melbourne, Exaudi and Gondwana Voices. He has made 42 tours with YVM and Exaudi to all states and territories of Australia as well as Europe, the United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa, Canada, the USA, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Samoa, New Zealand and Japan, and recorded 13 Cds with these choirs. With Gondwana Voices he has made 5 international tours to Europe, North America, China and Taiwan and conducted the choir on 3 Cd recordings. He publishes Australian choral music in the Young Voices of Melbourne Choral Series and is the creator of the Sight Singing School books and website used in more than 50 countries. He has three degrees from the University of Melbourne, is a Churchill Fellow, and an Honorary Life Member of the Kodály Music Education Institute of Australia. In 2018 he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for services to education and choral music.

The Kodály Concept of Music Education

Kodály Philosophy

Zoltan Kodály (1882 - 1967) was a prominent Hungarian composer and teacher who revolutionised music education in Hungary, and whose ideas are now used in many countries world-wide.

- He believed that singing is the foundation of all music education - the voice being the most accessible and inexpensive of instruments.
- He believed that true music literacy is something everybody can enjoy.

Kodály Teaching

- Music education ideally starts in early childhood, with the pre-literate abilities - listening, singing through imitation and movement.
- Singing games involve children in musical activities which both entertain and train them.
- Only great music is used, so that children develop good taste in music.
- Older students without prior experience, and adult amateurs may also be trained.
- The curriculum is sequential and developmental.
- Pitch skills are developed by the use of solfa syllables, handsigns and a system of moveable 'doh'.
- Basic time names are used to express rhythms in the early stages.
- Aural skills, musical memory, part-singing skills and general vocal confidence are all developed.

For more information visit www.kodaly.org.au

Kodály and Young Voices of Melbourne

Kodály teaching methods are used in the music literacy and aural training of all members of Young Voices of Melbourne. All children are taught 'moveable doh' solfa and handsigns, as well as rhythm time names and music staff reading. YVM's sight singing program (Sight Singing School), developed by Mark O'Leary is Kodály based and children work through a series of graded sight singing exercises by using a series of books or our online program. This program is used by singers in more than 55 countries around the world.

Expertise

All YVM staff are trained and experienced Kodaly practitioners. Founder Mark O'Leary has been actively involved in the Australian Kodály movement for many years, having served on the National Council of Kodály Australia, and being a long term member of the Victorian Branch committee, of which he was President for fifteen years from 2005 - 2020. Mark has organised the Kodály Choral Festival and Kodály Junior Festival for more than 30 years, and is convenor of many events for the organisation. Our staff are regular lecturers in Kodály Teaching Methodology, Conducting and Aural Musicianship for Kodály Australia and Marion Stafford, Mark O'Leary and Julia Piggini are all honorary life members of Kodály Australia.



Other Information

Parental Involvement

There is much scope for parental involvement in the Young Voices of Melbourne. The choir is proud to be a community organisation which is strengthened by the involvement of parents and friends of the choir. Volunteer involvement helps to keep costs low, and provide extra opportunities for our young singers.

Following is a list of ways that interested parents can become involved:

- fund-raising: project organisation or helping out with specific fundraising activities
- supervision of choir members: at rehearsals, concerts, camps and tours
- medical assistance: nurses and doctors often travel with the choir on tour
- catering: help with food is needed at choir functions and on tours and camps
- clerical tasks: assistance is often needed to help with postouts, photocopying, collating and other basic office tasks
- library: the choir has a music library that needs to be kept in order
- front of house duties: manning the box office, distributing programmes, ushering etc
- uniform: uniforms need constant maintenance and assistance with washing, ironing, making and repairing is always appreciated
- design skills: assistance with graphic design for choir publications
- marketing and public relations: help can range from distributing leaflets to planning marketing strategies
- internet advice: help in maintaining and improving the choir's web presence.
- Parents may also apply to serve on the Management Committee which governs the choir's activities.

Attendance

All members of the Choir and Training Choirs are expected to make every effort to attend every rehearsal and performance. This is essential if a high standard is to be maintained. If due to illness or important school or family commitments a rehearsal (or performance) cannot be attended, choristers should contact Juliana Kay on 0431 878743 or juliana@yvm.au before the rehearsal to make an apology and catch up on any news. It is also important for safety reasons that children not at rehearsals are accounted for. If choir members are only mildly unwell, it is recommended that they attend rehearsal in a non-singing capacity as much can be learned by listening. Children who do not regularly attend rehearsals and who miss performances for unacceptable reasons will be asked to re-consider their commitment to the choir.

Parking-Transportation

St Catherine's School music department is located just inside the main gates in Heyington Place Toorak. There is plenty of parking in Heyington Place and tram and train services nearby.

Application Procedure

If you would like to audition for the Young Voices of Melbourne, please contact Juliana Kay on 0431 878743 or juliana@yvm.au. As places are limited in our groups, it is sometimes necessary to have to wait some time for an audition. New members are welcome to attend a couple of rehearsals before making a final commitment to join.

Contact Juliana Kay
juliana@yvm.au



Young Voices of Melbourne: Profile

The Young Voices of Melbourne was founded in February 1990 by Mark O'Leary OAM, following his return from a Churchill Fellowship study tour of outstanding children's choirs in England, Hungary, Finland, Canada and the U.S.A. It is now regarded as one of Australia's finest children's choir programmes. In 2025 Juliana Kay took over the leadership of YVM, following Mark's retirement as Director after 35 years.

The choir was created to produce choral singing of excellence in an environment which is challenging, creative, enjoyable, innovative and above all educational. Young Voices of Melbourne has its own unique Kodaly-based training programme which develops skills in music reading, ear training and vocal skills. Young Voices of Melbourne operates six rehearsal groups; a Beginning Training Choir, Junior Training Choir, Senior Training Choir, main Choir, YVMen and Exaudi catering for singers aged from 6 to 30 years. All choirs rehearse once a week and rehearsal groups are of a size that all members of the choir receive the individual attention they require to fulfil their potential.



Since its first rehearsals in February 1990 the Young Voices of Melbourne has maintained a busy programme of activities. As well as producing its own concerts, the choir has performed for various organisations in many venues around Melbourne. The choir has also been successful in competition, has performed on national television and radio, has performed with professional ensembles such as the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and has established strong links with other young choirs in Victoria, interstate and overseas. YVM has toured to all states and territories of Australia and made eleven international tours. Highlight include:

- 1996 - the choir's first international tour with concerts in Germany, England and Hungary.
- 1998 - South Africa Tour performing at the 23rd World Conference of the International Society for Music Education World Conference in Pretoria
- 1999 - Outback tour from Adelaide to Alice Springs
- 2000 - Great Places in Victoria Tour, singing in spectacular locations around the state with American hammer-dulcimer virtuoso and composer Malcolm Dalglish
- 2001 - Canada and the USA Tour, where it was invited to perform at Festival 500 in St John's Newfoundland.
- 2003 - International Kodaly Symposium and Festival of Young Voices in Newcastle NSW.
- 2004 - United Kingdom and the Canary Islands Tour, where it sang at the 26th International Society for Music Education World Conference,
- 2005 Tasmania Tour where it performed at the inaugural Festival of Voices in Hobart and performance of the theme for Chris Lilley's television show "We Can be Heroes".



Profile (continued)

- 2006 - Performance in the opening ceremony of the Melbourne Commonwealth Games, and a major performance of Karl Jenkins' Songs of Sanctuary (Adiemus) in Fed Square
- 2006 - Top End Tour to Darwin and Katherine.
- 2007 - Western Australia, Singapore and Thailand Tour where YVM was awarded two first prizes in the A Voyage of Songs International Choral Festival
- 2008 - Into the Sky Tour with Malcolm Dalglish, performing at the Port Fairy and National Folk Festivals as well as Sydney, Newcastle, Grafton, Murwillumbah and Brisbane
- 2010 - Europe Tour to Italy, Slovenia, Hungary and the UK
- 2011 - YVM's first pacific island tour to Samoa.
- 2013 - USA Tour performing in New York, San Francisco, Disneyland and at festivals in Idaho and Montana.
- 2015 - New Zealand Tour visiting Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Queenstown
- 2016 - Top End Tour 2
- 2017 - Japan Tour visiting Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto and Ikeda
- 2018 - Festival of Voices Tour to Tasmania
- 2019 - WA Tour where YVM was a featured choir at The Australian National Choral Association's Choral Fest in Fremantle in 2019.
- 2023 - Townsville and Cairns Tour
- 2024 - National Folk Festival Tour to Canberra with Malcolm Dalglish
Performance for ASEAN World Leaders
Six performances with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra at Hamer Hall
- 2025 - A tour to the UK, Italy and Austria is planned for July



The choir performs a wide variety of the best music written for young voices over the past 500 years, including music by living Australian composers, and many songs in original languages. The choir has a strong commitment to Australian music and performs much music by living Australian composers. Young Voices of Melbourne has released twelve CD recordings:

- Mostly Australian Songs, 1995
- International A Cappella, 1997
- Mixed Fortunes, 1999
- YVM-Y2K, 2000
- Christmas, 2002
- Journeys, 2004,
- Spin me 'round, 2007
- Into the Sky Tour (live), 2008
- YVM at King's, 2010
- Out There, 2014
- Mosaic, 2018
- Carol, 2019



www.yvm.com.au

Profile (continued)

Young Voices of Melbourne has also recorded for other artists including eight CDs with children's educators-entertainers Susie Davies-Splitter and Phil Splitter, with the MSO and Gondwana Voices on the CD of the music for the opening ceremony of the Melbourne Commonwealth Games, and on a Christmas Cd for comedy trio Tripod.

The choir's name has become well known throughout Australia through the Young Voices of Melbourne Choral Series, published by Mark O'Leary. The Choral Series consists of arrangements by Mark O'Leary of Australian folksongs, Christmas carols and other songs as well as songs by Australian composers. Choirs all around the world have performed pieces from the Young Voices of Melbourne Choral Series. The choir is also well known for the professional development activities it runs for choral music educators. Young Voices of Melbourne has presented three national Choir Conductor's Conferences attended by delegates from all over Australia, and presented more than 170 workshops in places in all states and territories of Australia.

Young Voices of Melbourne is a non-profit making incorporated association funded by tuition fees paid by parents, performance fees, concert profits and fund-raising activities. The Management Committee consists of music staff, choir parents and other interested persons. Under Australian tax law Young Voices of Melbourne is an Income Tax Exempt Charity and a Deductible Gift Recipient, enabling the choir to accept tax deductible donations of \$2.00 or more. Enquiries regarding the Young Voices of Melbourne should be directed to Artistic Director Juliana Kay on 0431 878743 or juliana@yvm.au.



Juliana Kay: Artistic Director

Juliana is a conductor, composer and teacher with a deep-rooted love for choirs and choral music. Equally at home working with children, community groups and professionals, Juliana strives to create musical experiences that are both engaging for singers and memorable for audiences. A trained secondary school teacher and Kodaly-inspired educator, she has been conducting choirs and teaching in schools since 2016, while maintaining her own practice as a singer and award-winning composer. She is regularly commissioned to write new music for chamber choirs, amateur choirs and school choirs across Australia, and in 2024 was one of four finalists for the Australian Art Music Awards: Choral Work of the Year. In 2018 she founded innovative chamber choir Choral Edge, which saw her regularly experimenting with multimedia performances and collaborations with comedians, visual artists and theatre directors. Outside of Australia, Juliana has led singing and musicianship workshops in Chile through the Global Leaders Program, observed and learned from conductors in New Zealand, USA and Cuba, supported by the Sydney Symposium Choral Foundation Conducting Scholarship, and conducted Exaudi on tours to Scotland/Ireland, Italy/Spain and New Zealand.