



The #UGCY2025



# ENTRY PROCESS

## WELCOME

Welcome to the 13th Annual University Gospel Choir of the Year (UGCY) competition! This year, we are excited to invite choirs from across the UK to showcase their talent and creativity in one of the largest inter-university gospel choir events of the year.

## Theme

"Whatever God Says He Will Do, Will Always Come to Pass"

Based on Numbers 23:19 (NIV) – "God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?"



## Key Dates

- Entries Open: November 1, 2024
- Closing Date for Audition Videos: November 29, 2024,
- Challenge Submission Deadline: December 7, 2024
- Christmas Video Submission Deadline: December 14, 2024
- Finalists Announced: January 1, 2025
- UGCY 2025 Finals: April 5, 2025 (subject to change)

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# 3 Step Audition Process



01



## Audition Video

- Length: Up to 5 minutes.
- Content: The audition video must showcase your choir's singing abilities and must align with this year's theme.
- Deadline: Submit by November 29, 2024, by 17:00.
- Judging Weight: This video will contribute 70% to your overall score.

## Golden Save Challenge

- 2 Challenges (OPTIONAL!!!!):
  - a. "Messiah (Be Like Thee)" Challenge: Perform a one-minute rendition of the UGCY theme tune, "Messiah (Be Like Thee)."
  - b. Vocal Warm-Up Challenge: Showcase your choir's most creative vocal warm-ups.
- Submission Deadline for Challenges: Videos for both challenges must be submitted by December 7, 2024.
- Scoring: The combined score from both challenges will determine one choir that will receive a "Golden save," allowing them to automatically advance to the finals.

02



## Christmas Video

- Length: 1 minute.
- Content: Perform a creative arrangement of a Christmas song.
- Submission Deadline: December 14, 2024.
- Judging Weight: This video will be posted on social media during the week of Christmas. Voting will be based on likes/comments from UGCY social media followers, accounting for 30% of your overall score.

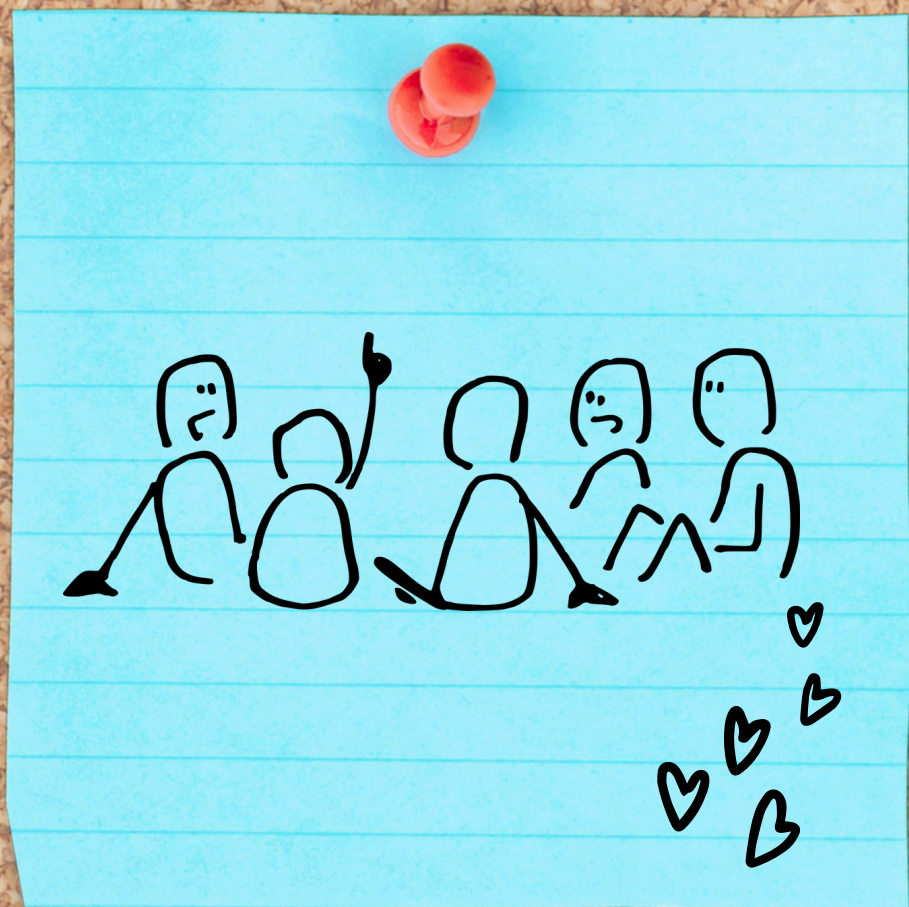
03



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# Submission Criteria



## How to Submit

- Step 1: Choir leader submits the entry form for the entire choir via [UGCY.CO.UK](http://UGCY.CO.UK)
- Step 2: Individual choir and band members must register as participants in a separate registration form. Only those who register can participate.

## Judging Criteria

- Vocal Ability: Tone, pitch, overall singing quality, and harmony.
- Creativity: Originality and artistic expression, especially in relation to the UGCY theme.
- Choreography: Movement, staging, and overall performance presentation including: Connection with the audience in performances and submissions.
- Arrangement: Complexity and originality of the musical arrangement.
- Use of UGCY Theme: Alignment of the performance with the UGCY theme.



## Video Guidelines

- All videos should be submitted via the official UGCY website.
- Ensure your entries are uploaded in the correct format (landscape for audition videos and portrait for challenge videos).
- At UGCY, we want to emphasize that while we value creativity and presentation, our primary focus is on the quality of your vocals. We understand that students have busy schedules, and we don't want to add any unnecessary pressure.
- Please keep this in mind as you prepare your videos:
- Video Editing: Don't worry about producing a highly edited video. We appreciate raw talent and genuine performances more than polished video quality.
- Our goal is to celebrate your music and passion, so focus on what you do best—singing! We're excited to hear your amazing voices and see how you embody the spirit of the UGCY theme.

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# Judging Process



The UGCY 2025 competition consists of three parts: the Audition Video, the Golden Save UGCY Challenges, and the Christmas Video. Here's how each part will be judged:



## Audition Video:

- Format: The audition videos will be reviewed by a panel of esteemed judges who are experts in the gospel and music genres.
- Weight: This video will contribute 70% to your overall score.
- Criteria: Judges will assess vocal ability, creativity, and alignment with the UGCY theme.
- Deadline: Audition videos must be submitted by November 29, 2024, by 17:00.



## Golden Save UGCY Challenges (Optional):

- Format: Two challenges will be conducted:
  - "Be Like Thee" Challenge: A one-minute rendition of the UGCY theme tune, showcasing creativity and vocal talent.
  - Vocal Warm-Up Challenge: A showcase of your choir's most creative vocal warm-ups.
- Voting: Challenges will be posted on UGCY's social media platforms, and the audience will vote for their favorites.
- Weight: The combined scores from both challenges will determine one choir that will receive a "Golden Save," allowing them to automatically advance to the finals.
- Deadline for Submissions: Challenge videos must be submitted by December 7, 2024.
- Note: Participation in the challenges is optional but highly encouraged!



## Christmas Video:

- Format: The Christmas video will be a 1-minute performance of a creative arrangement of a Christmas song.
- Voting: This video will be posted on social media during the week of Christmas, and the audience will vote based on likes/comments from followers of the UGCY social media pages.
- Weight: This video will contribute 30% to your overall score.
- Deadline: Christmas videos must be submitted by December 14, 2024.

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The fine print!



## Ts & Cs

- All members must be at least 18 years of age as of December 31, 2024.
- The choir must have a meaningful relationship with a UK Higher Education Institution.
- At least 60% of the choir must consist of current students.
- Choirs should have 8 to 70 members, and all member names and contact details must be submitted.
- Good quality audition video (max 5 minutes) required.
- Provide your own band/backing track if selected as a finalist.
- Members must be available on April 5, 2025 (subject to change), for the finals in London.
- Costs incurred (clothing, transport, accommodation) are the choir/university's responsibility.
- GDPR Compliance: Members consent to their details being added to our mailing list and shared with sponsors for job/career-related purposes.

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