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Pensacola Choral Society to host YOUNG VOICES 2018 singing contest

Competition is open to high school, college students

The Choral Society of Pensacola will host YOUNG VOICES 2018 singing competition this fall on the Pensacola State College campus.

Open to high school and college students, the four-state competition is set for 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 20, in Ashmore Auditorium, Building 8, on the Pensacola campus. The competition will be open free of charge to the public.

Along with cash prizes of \$150 to \$500, winners will be invited to perform at the Choral Society's Thursday, Nov. 1, concert.

Singers between the ages of 14 and 30, who are currently enrolled in a high school, home school or college or university in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi or Louisiana, are eligible to compete. The divisions are High School: Students in grades 9-12; College Level 1: Freshman or Sophomore; and College Level 2: Junior or Senior.

Judges will have the option of recognizing a winner and runner-up in each category.

Competitors should prepare two selections (art song or operatic aria) of contrasting styles, one of which is to be sang in English. All selections must be memorized. Competitors will be assigned individual times to perform on the Ashmore Auditorium stage. They may provide their own accompanists or request one from the Choral Society.

A YOUNG VOICES 2018 entry form can be downloaded from the Choral Society website at www.choralsocietyofpensacola.org. There is a non-refundable \$25 entry fee and, if an accompanist is needed, an additional \$25 fee. All entry forms and payments must be submitted online and received by 5 p.m. CST Oct. 5.

For more information, visit www.choralsocietyofpensacola.org or email Charlie Smoke at charlie@choralsocietyofpensacola.org or call 850-484-1806.

The Choral Society of Pensacola is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the study, performance and presentation of vocal music in its many forms; to the improvement of its members' musicianship; and to engagement in the regional arts community. Made up of community volunteers, the chorus presents three or four concerts annually, under the direction of Xiaolun Chen, as well as other programs.

The Choral Society of Pensacola is funded in part by the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs; the Florida Council on Arts and Culture; Art, Culture, and Entertainment, Inc.; Pensacola State College; and area businesses, corporations, and individuals.