

## MEMORANDUM

**TO** : RAMM, SANZ  
**FROM** : Selena Bernath, Faultline Chorus and YSIH Team Administrator  
Suzanne Beresford, Greater Auckland Chorus and National YWIH  
Coordinator  
Bronwyne Allbright, Waikato Rivertones, YSIH Coordinator, Waikato (until March 2024)  
**DATE** : 26 April 2024  
**SUBJECT** : **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DISCUSSION AT 2024 SANZ SOARING SOUNDS; IDEAS FOR FURTHER SUPPORT FOR YOUNG WOMEN UNDER 25; PROMOTING AND IMPLEMENTING JOINT SANZ / YSIH INITIATIVES**

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### Purpose

To consider recommendations that might be implemented by SANZ RMT to promote SANZ to Young Singers in Harmony (YSIH [www.ysihsnz.com](http://www.ysihsnz.com)) younger women / upper voices in secondary schools and under 25s and as a consequence, provide educational benefits to SANZ members.

To have a brainstorm session during the 2024 SANZ regional convention at RAMM or at another time during the 2024 Convention (for example, as an additional option for the education workshops) to explore the discussion items outlined in Recommendation Item (2).

### Background

#### Current initiatives to support pathways for younger women into SANZ

As SANZ members and representatives / support administration for Young Singers in Harmony we want to acknowledge the good initiatives that SANZ has put in place to date as follows:

1. Reduced SANZ fee for under 25s.
2. Active SANZ regions who have been doing joint SANZ / YWIH workshops (eg Waikato).
3. An established YSIH Coordinator position (at a national level).

#### What are the opportunities?

SANZ is well known by secondary school students and under 25s in regions where there is (or until recently had) an active SANZ / YWIH person within the region.

The majority of the members on the YSIH Management Team are mostly members of BHNZ. The BHNZ women members are, we believe, all former members of SANZ and / or YWIH. As a result, there is an imbalance of SANZ supported activities with YSIH across New Zealand.

There is an opportunity to have more active SANZ / YWIH regional representation to promote joint activities.

Some young women under 25 may have a financial barrier to involvement (eg student loans etc) and may be underrepresented in some choruses.

SANZ members currently have limited involvement in judging, coaching, arranging and education in YWIH / YSIH activities.

#### What are the benefits?

If we address these areas through an RMT planned programme of initiatives, the outcomes will be as follows:

1. The promotion and sustained implementation of more joint SANZ / YWIH regional joint activities.
2. More younger women joining SANZ which will add richness to our chapters, grow our membership and help with succession planning.
3. SANZ members getting upskilled in judging, coaching, arranging and educating through YSIH activities.

### **Recommendations for RMT action / RMMM discussion**

We recommend that:

1. SANZ RMT explore further options as follows to support YSIH upper voices / young women and under 25s:
  - a. up to three scholarships of up to \$200 each be made available for three YSIH or under 25 women members as a contribution towards the SANZ regional fee and chapter annual fee;
  - b. provide reduced fees for under 25s at SANZ national education workshops and actively promote these and the scholarships in regions.
2. 2024 SANZ RAMM discuss through a brainstorm session facilitated by Selena Bernath:
  - a. How might we more actively promote SANZ to YSIH young women and women under 25s?
  - b. How and when might we put in place SANZ regional representation, in addition to the national Coordinator role, to promote sustainable joint SANZ / YSIH activities for young women?
  - c. How might SANZ members be more actively involved in YSIH, which would result in the benefit of getting upskilled in judging, coaching, arranging and educating.
  - d. What other ideas and options might SANZ members have that would result in the outcomes outlined?
  - e. What two identified initiatives RMT will explore and implement over the next 2 years.

[Signed]

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