

# 2022-2023 Education Report

2022-2023 was a year we were able to start joining together for face-to-face events again following the disruption of Covid-19.

Following on from the success of Harmony Aotearoa in 2021, we held a virtual regional convention in May 2022 with a small number of chorus and quartet entries. Many of our regional choruses were still in the early stages of being able to come together for face-to-face rehearsals as Covid was still very much present.

## In person education

We were fortunate to be able to hold two weekend workshops – one in the South Island (Christchurch) and one in the North Island (Auckland) later in 2022 where members of the regional faculty (Carolyn, Jocosa, Melody, Suzanne, Kristina) presented classes on a range of topics designed to encourage new and experienced members to have fun, learn and sing together. We were also fortunate to have the added expertise of several guest presenters who were able to contribute in their specialised fields including Rowena Harper (Arranging), Shelley Bascand (Visual Communication), Sarah Rae (Visual Communication) and Nicky McCaughan (Visual Communication). Suzanne Berresford, (successful Education Scholarship recipient 2022) designed the programme for both workshops. These workshops were free to all Sweet Adeline members and were well attended.

As a result of the Covid traffic light restrictions, the regional Young Women in Harmony competitions did not take place in 2022. As we hadn't managed to hold any significant events since 2020, it was decided to hold the Young Singers In Harmony nationals in Palmerston North in September and open it up to all schools, including new schools, to enter without needing to qualify first. It was heartening to be able to offer all young singers the chance to sing and get together again.

## 2023 and beyond

Looking forward to this year's regional convention and beyond, there are several events planned to utilise the skills of our regional faculty including expanding the faculty numbers, holding a Director's retreat/workshop and offering some virtual workshops in specialty areas.

We have our panel of international judges presenting education classes on the Sunday following Convention in Auckland and expect these to be well attended.

Best wishes from the education team and thank you for your support over the past year.

Leanne Wheeler  
Regional Education Coordinator  
14 April 2023