



2024 JSRB Bel Canto Award

Applications close: **Sunday, 19th May 2024**

Sydney Finals: **Saturday, 7th & Sunday, 8th September 2024**

About

Established in 2011 the Joan Sutherland and Richard Bonynges Bel Canto Award is to help educate, develop and promote young opera singers in the art of Bel Canto. In 2024, the Final will be held in conjunction with the 2024 Sydney International Song Prize.

Eligibility

1. The 2024 Joan Sutherland & Richard Bonynges Bel Canto Award is open to **ALL AUSTRALIAN and NEW ZEALAND PROFESSIONAL and NON-PROFESSIONAL OPERA SINGERS** aged **20-32** as of **30 September 2024**
2. Australian and New Zealand citizens and residents ONLY may apply. All voice types welcome.
3. It is essential all entrants read these Rules carefully and agree to abide by them.

Auditions

1. ALL Auditions will be held live and in person.
2. Singers must provide their own accompanist for the live heat auditions in their relevant city.
3. All finalists must be in Sydney for the Finals weekend to compete over the two days of competition. All costs involved in flying to and staying in Sydney for the Finals on 7 & 8 September 2024 are to be met by each individual finalist. However, a small travel fee will be provided for each finalist not based in Sydney and depending on location.
4. An official accompanist will be provided for the Finals in Sydney.

Application Inclusions

1. **APPLICATION FORM** - all entrants must complete the official online **Application Form**.
2. **REPERTOIRE** - Each entrant must provide a list of 5 contrasting arias to be performed.
 - 2a. One aria must be by Mozart or Handel.
 - 2b. One aria must be sung in Italian by an Italian composer.
 - 2c. At least two languages must be included in the full list.
 - 2d. Arias from oratorio and operetta are acceptable.
 - 2e. Arias must be sung in the original language and key and be **no longer than 8.30mins**.
 - 2f. Entrants may choose their first aria to perform in the heats. A minimum of two arias will be heard in the heats with the possibility of a third aria or part thereof. Four of the five arias will be heard in the Final but five arias must be submitted on the application.

Application Inclusions continued...

3. **FUTURE PLANS and Q&A** - outline your future aims and plans. No longer than **1 page**. Bullet points preferable where possible.

Please include answers to the following questions in your response.

- What repertoire/roles do you see yourself singing now?
 - If you received a cash prize what would you use the money for in relation to your future plans?
4. **CV/Biography** - no longer than **1 page**. Bullet points preferable where possible.
5. **PHOTO** - please provide a recent and clearly labelled publicity photo. (jpeg or png)
6. **PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP, RESIDENCY AND AGE** - provide a copy of your passport or birth certificate.
7. **ENTRY FEE \$80. To be paid through the online portal.**

Judging

1. The 2024 competition will be held via live auditions in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Brisbane, Auckland and London. See below.
2. A Live Final will be held over two days on **7 & 8 September** in Sydney. All chosen finalists must sing on both days.
3. The decision of the judging panel is final.
4. No correspondence will be entered into with the judges, the members of the Foundation or with any third party regarding the judges decision.
5. Entrants will be judged on their quality of voice, artistry, musicality, language, communication, current standard and future plans.

2024 Prizes: \$67,000 in cash prizes

1. First Prize Joan Sutherland & Richard Bonyngé Bel Canto Award and trophy: \$30,000
2. Second Prize Richard Bonyngé Award: \$10,000
3. Third Prize: \$7,000
4. John Wegner Award: \$5,000 - donated by Mignon Wegner
5. Remaining finalists prizes: \$4,000 each
6. Best Mozart and Handel singer: \$5,000
7. Audience Choice Award: \$1,000
8. Encouragement Award: \$1,000 to a singer who isn't in the Final.
9. Tait Memorial Trust Award: A chance to perform in London at one of the TMT concerts.

Entries and Enquiries

1. **All entrants'** applications must be received by **Sunday 19 MAY 2024**.
2. No incomplete entries will be accepted. All documentation and full payment must be received.
3. An email will be sent acknowledging receipt of application.
4. No previous first prize winners of the Bel Canto Award are eligible to enter.
5. Previous grant recipients are eligible to enter.
6. Singers may enter both the Bel Canto Award and Song Prize but must be prepared to compete in both sections if they make the Finals.
7. The JSRB Foundation reserves the right to film or photograph any part of the competition.

Audition Dates and Cities

London - 17 or 18 June - TBC

Perth - 18 July

Melbourne - 20 July

Auckland - 22 July

Brisbane - 24 July

Sydney - 26 & 27 July - Opera Australia

Finals in Sydney - 7 & 8 September 2024 - Independent Theatre, North Sydney

Disclaimer: The JSRB Foundation reserves the right not to award prizes and make changes to the competition as they see fit.

Joan Richard
Sutherland Bonyngé
FOUNDATION

Sydney
INTERNATIONAL
Song Prize



Joan Sutherland & Richard Bonyngé
Bel Canto Award and Foundation



Joan Sutherland & Richard Bonyngé
Bel Canto Award



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