



Preliminary Screening: March 15 – May 15, 2023
 Finals Night: August 18, 2023

RATIONALE:

Cebu is not only home to good food, rich culture and heritage, and warm people but it is also a breeding ground for homegrown music talents. It is one of the country’s pride in producing original Cebuano music. Apart from classical and pop singers, choral singing is also eminent in this vast cultural landscape. Due to the pandemic, music production has been put to a halt, more so, choral singing. Now that everything is getting back on track, the music industry is slowly gaining traction from audiences once again. As the Casa Gorordo Museum celebrates its 40th Anniversary this year, it hopes to help revive the music industry, particularly choral singing and songwriting, through this competition.

The Casa Gorordo Museum’s “Best of Cebu Songwriting & Choral Competition” aims to provide an avenue for Cebuano composers to showcase their original compositions relevant to the museum’s 40th year theme, which is “sharing the best of Cebuano culture.” Interested participants must already consider that his composition is well fitted to be interpreted by a choral group. All submitted entries will be blind screened by a pre-selected committee of composers, lyricists, arrangers, and performers. There will only be ten (10) entries that will advance to the performance night. The shortlisted entries will be interpreted by a choir group composed of 12-24 members only.

TIMELINE:

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|-----------------|--|
| March 15, 2023 | - Announcement of contest |
| May 15, 2023 | - Deadline of submission of entries |
| June 15, 2023 | - Final Deliberation of Top 10 |
| June 17, 2023 | - Announcement of Top 10 |
| June 19, 2023 | - Meeting with the Top 10 and MOA signing of grants |
| August 3, 2023 | - Deadline of submission of the 1-minute promotional video |
| August 17, 2023 | - Deadline of voting for the best promotional video |
| August 18, 2023 | - Final Performance Night |

AWARDS:

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|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Grand Champion | - 100,000.00 |
| 1 st Runner-up | - 75,000.00 |
| 2 nd Runner-up | - 50,000.00 |
| Best Interpretation Award | - 50,000.00 |
| The Msgr. Rudy Villanueva Award | - 30,000.00 |
| People’s Choice Award | - 20,000.00 |
| Best Choral Arrangement | - 10,000.00 |

PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARD

This award is given to the music video judged solely on the number of likes and shares garnered by the participating group in our YouTube account. Full details of the mechanics will be posted in our Facebook page soon.



GUIDELINES AND MECHANICS

I. GENERAL GUIDELINES

- a. This contest is open to all Cebu-based composers, lyricists, and arrangers. Participants may be an individual or a collaboration of multiple composers. There will be no limit to the number of entries that a participant can submit.
- b. All interested participants should consider creating compositions that are well fitted to be interpreted by a choral group.
- c. The composition must relate to Casa Gorordo Museum's 40th Anniversary theme, "Sharing the Best of Cebuano Culture."
- d. Any participant may get inspiration of his composition from various topics and genres so long as it promotes the best of Cebuano culture.
- e. Language used for the composition must be 90% in Cebuano.
- f. Submitted entries by the participants must be all original and have not been submitted, recorded, published, or released to any previous and/or current songwriting competitions or on any streaming platform whether for personal or commercial purposes. Any submitted, recorded, published, or released materials submitted to this competition will automatically be disqualified.
- g. Participants must own all rights, including the copyright, of the entry submitted.
- h. The composition should not exceed 5 minutes including the intro and extro.
- i. Production requirements borne out of joining the competition will solely be shouldered by the participants.

II. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

- a. Interested participants must fill out the online form via the Casa Gorordo Museum's website at <https://casagorordomuseum.org>.
- b. The following requirements must be submitted as attachments after filling out the online form:
 - i. Completely filled-out online form
 - ii. Individual photos of participants
 - iii. Valid ID with proof of Cebu residence or barangay certificate
 - iv. PDF and editable word copies of lyrics
 - v. .mp3 copy of audio file with vocals (minimum 128 kbps, maximum of 320 kbps)
- c. All attachments must use the title of the song as the file name.
- d. All entries must be submitted through the online portal on or before May 15, 2023, 11:59 pm.
- e. Entries submitted thereafter will automatically be disqualified unless any announcement on the extension of the deadline is clearly expressed by the organizers.

III. SCREENING

- a. All compositions will be blind screened by a committee composed of composers, choir directors, performers, culturalists, and media.
- b. An entrant once declared a finalist is not allowed to recall his participation to the final performance night.
- c. The criteria for screening are as follows –

Lyrics (Theme Relevance, Literary Quality)	- 50%
Music (Musicality, Creativity, Suitability for	



Choral treatment, etc.)	- 50%
TOTAL:	100%

IV. GRANTS

- a. Ten entries will advance to the competition proper on August 18, 2023. All shortlisted compositions will receive a 20,000.00 grant which will partially subsidize the arrangement of the composition into a more comprehensive choral piece, produce a 1-minute music video, and purchase materials for the group's costumes.
- b. All shortlisted entrants will submit the following requirements:
 - i. List of choir members (in PDF format)
 - ii. PDF and editable word copies of the choral music sheet with piano accompaniment
 - iii. One (1) group photo of the choir group
 - iv. Expense report

V. PROMOTIONAL VIDEO (for PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD)

- a. The group is required to produce a 1-minute promotional video showcasing a short highlight of the composition and an explanation of the inspiration behind the song composition.
- b. The promotional video will be shot at Casa Gorordo Museum on a pre-arranged date. All production materials and logistics will be shouldered by the participants.
- c. All shortlisted participants must submit their promotional video (in mp4 format) on or before August 3, 2023.

VI. FINAL PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES

- a. The shortlisted composers will have the full discretion to choose the choral group to interpret and perform his or her song composition.
- b. The choir group must be composed of 12-24 singing members only, excluding any instrumentalists or accompanists, if any. Any excess or lack of members will automatically disqualify the entire group.
- c. The songs may be sung acapella or accompanied live, by any instrument/s, or minus one. The use of native instruments is allowed. The composition should be arranged to at least four voices whether mixed choir (SATB) or four equal voices (SSAA, or TTBB).
- d. The choral group chosen by the composer/s may represent a school, parish, district, company, agency, or newly formed interested groups that are based in the Province of Cebu. Any choral group that is directly or indirectly trained by any member of the screening committee and board of judges shall automatically be disqualified from joining the contest.
- e. A choir member and/or group may only perform in one entry.
- f. All participating entrants must perform the assigned composition or choral piece arranged by Msgr. Rudy Villanueva as the second song to be interpreted during the final performance night.
- g. Choral performance time should not exceed ten (10) minutes. Time starts at the first note sung by the choir. Penalties will be applied to the raw score for the following infraction:
 - a. 30-59 seconds – 1 point
 - b. 60 seconds and above – 2 points
- h. Order of performance will be drawn by lots on an arranged date a week before the final performance night.



- i. The criteria for judging for the songwriting are as follows –

Lyrics (Theme Relevance, Literary Quality)	- 40%
Music (Musicality, Creativity, etc.)	- 40%
Overall Performance (choir direction, choral arrangement, etc.)	- 20%
TOTAL:	100%

- j. The criteria for judging for the best choral interpretation are as follows –

Vocal Technique & Style	- 35%
Fidelity to the Score	- 35%
Overall Performance	- 20%
Audience Impact	- 10%
TOTAL:	100%

VII. THE MSGR. RUDY VILLANUEVA AWARD

This award refers to the best interpretation of the assigned choral piece arranged or composed by Msgr. Rudy Villanueva which must be performed during the final performance night. The group will be judged according to the following criteria:

Vocal Technique & Style	- 35%
Fidelity to the Score	- 35%
Overall Performance	- 20%
Audience Impact	- 10%
TOTAL:	100%

VIII. SPECIAL PERFORMANCE

All shortlisted participants, through its selected choral group, are required to perform Msgr. Rudy Villanueva’s “Cebu, Cebu!” as an intermission number. Music score sheets will be provided to the group during the announcement of the Top 10. The choral group’s non-participation in the finale song will merit a 5-point deduction on the raw score.

IX. DISQUALIFICATION

Any violation of the above guidelines or failure to comply with the submission requirements will subject the participant and its submitted entry to be disqualified from joining the competition.

X. PROPRIETARY RIGHTS

While all participants remain to have full proprietary rights on all submitted materials from pre-screening until the performance night, the participant, likewise, agrees that Casa Gorordo Museum and its mother company, the Ramon Aboitiz Foundation Incorporated will retain perpetual exclusive rights to use the whole composition, or any part thereof, for its marketing campaigns or activities where it deems fit and appropriate. Moreover, the organizer reserves the right to alter or modify any portion of the composition or lyrics that may not be legally acceptable pursuant to its corporate policies while in its exercise to use the material for whatever legal purpose.

XI. SELECTION OF WINNERS

The winners will be announced during the final performance night on August 18, 2023. The judges’ decisions are final and irrevocable. ###