The Idea of North – Secondary Schools Vocal Festival

The Arts Unit is pleased to announce that we are working with The Idea of North to promote a cappella singing in NSW Public Secondary Schools. The Festival is not a competition or an Eisteddfod but a celebration of the joys of singing. Recognition of performances will be given through the awarding of Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates.

1. Groups will be categorised as Treble voices, Broken voices or Mixed Voices. Each of these three groups of performers will have their own day for performance:
   - Monday 19 October - Treble voice ensembles (eg. SA, SSA, SSAA, etc)
   - Tuesday 20 October - Mixed voice ensembles (eg. SAB, SATB)
   - Wednesday 21 October - Broken voice ensembles (eg. TB, TTBB, etc)
   The final number of days will depend on the number of groups involved in each of the three voice categories.

2. There will be two sub-categories within each voice group: groups with 3-9 voices and groups with 10+ voices.

3. While the focus is on a cappella singing, accompanied groups may also register. Either piano/guitar or rhythm section but not more than three or four people - (schools to provide their own accompaniment). Ensembles may be conducted or un-conducted.

4. Songs can be in any genre – including Jazz, Folk, Pop, Open (Classical, Barbershop etc)

5. Groups can perform songs in more than one genre based category. However, groups will need to prepare (and perform) two songs in each genre-based category they enter.

6. Gold, silver and bronze certificates will be awarded in each section and all Gold Awarded Groups will perform in a concert at the end of their day of performances. The Idea of North will also perform at each of these concerts. Parents, friends etc will all be invited to attend.

7. Registration is now open on The Arts Unit’s website. Early bird registration will close on 1 May 2015 and standard entries by 26 June (last day of Term 2). Early bird entry will cost $100 for each category entered. Standard registrations - up to 26 June - will cost $120 for each category entered.

8. Details of days’ schedules, timings etc will be forwarded as soon as possible after the close of registrations.

9. The Idea of North will be awarding several prizes to outstanding groups. These will include the opportunity to perform with The Idea of North at one of their public gigs, the opportunity for The Idea of North to work with the group in a personal coaching session and the opportunity for The Idea of North to provide a performance at the group’s school. The number of these awards will depend on a number of factors including the number of groups in each category.