



**Woden Valley
Youth Choir**

VOICES OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

Woden Valley Youth Choir Announces New Singing Group for Boys with Changing Voices

22 November 2017 -- Woden Valley Youth Choir Artistic Director, Kimberley Steele, announced four new choirs including one specialising in young males with changing voices.

Unfortunately, when a boy's voice starts to change, they are often either asked to leave their singing group, or are too embarrassed to stay. Once they leave, they often don't return to singing.

With puberty hitting boys earlier (18th century males' voices changed around 17 years of age, now it's around age 13), this means the window for boys to learn to sing is narrowing.

Woden Valley Youth Choir wants to keep these young people singing by training them through their changing voice with a specialist singing group.

"Woden Valley Youth Choir is the only choir in the Canberra region to offer a choir specifically for this group of young males," Kimberley Steele says. "Using specialist training, we'll be able to help boys adapt to their new voices as their vocal range changes - which is sometimes week to week!"

The new male choir is one of a raft of changes to Woden Valley Youth Choir's offerings announced this week. As well as the existing junior and senior choirs, a new younger junior choir plus two 'a capella' ensembles will be launched from 2018.

"Woden Valley Youth Choir has always been about more than just singing," Kimberley Steele says. "We've always trained young people to be musicians and instill a love of music they will carry for their lives. With our new singing groups, we hope to share that love of singing with even more young people in the region."

WODEN VALLEY YOUTH CHOIR AUDITIONS

Saturday, 2 December 2017

See wvyc.org.au/join-us for more details.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

For interviews and enquiries, please contact wvyc.director@gmail.com or phone 0412 334 660.

ABOUT WODEN VALLEY YOUTH CHOIR

Formed in 1969 by Don Whitbread, Woden Valley Youth Choir has given thousands of Canberra children the gift of a musical education and entertained audiences around the world in the process. WVYC is the organiser and official choir for Canberra's Stage 88 Carols by Candlelight, has appeared at events such as the National Apology for Enforced Adoption and the Canberra Centenary Concert. The choir has also performed for royalty, prime ministers and Nelson Mandela. In 2016, the choir participated in Opera Australia's touring production of The Marriage of Figaro.

In its nearly 50 year history, WVYC has only had three Artistic Directors, Don Whitbread (1969 - 1996), Alpha Gregory (1997-2016) and Kimberley Steele (2017 - present).

www.wvyc.org.au