

LABBS CONVENTION 25th OCTOBER – 27th OCTOBER 2024

BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

LABBS QUARTET COMPETITIONS (Women's and Mixed)

Please make this information available to all members of the quartet.

Lanyards must be WORN and visible at all times apart from when you are in the contest system.

The Women's and Mixed Quartet semi-finals and finals will be held on Friday 25th October, 2024.

The competition will be held in accordance with current LABBS Contest and Judging Rules (which can be downloaded from the LABBS website) with which you should be familiar.

1. **Eligibility:** In order to compete, all competitors must be full members of LABBS and have paid a full "all-events" convention registration fee. Additionally, quartets must be registered with the LABBS Quartet Registrar (quartetregistrar@labbs.org.uk) and any changes in personnel since entering contest must be notified to her prior to the competition.
2. **Stage Time:** There will be no stage time for quartets this year. You may want to consider applying for the Sound Check Chorus which takes place on the Thursday evening. Details are available on the LABBS Website, note the application form will close at the end of day on 30th September.
3. **Dressing Areas:** These are in the Solent Hall. If you have members with walking difficulties, please email Tom Knight at chiefcourier@labbs.org.uk for more information.
 - a. Males are not permitted to enter the women's Solent Hall dressing areas at any time.
 - b. Male competitors and gender-neutral dressing rooms are in the Solent Lounge.
 - c. Quartets are responsible for bringing their own dress rails if required.
 - d. All belongings and dress rails should be removed from the dressing areas immediately after the contest.
 - e. Competitors are advised not to bring valuable items to the Convention Centre. Personal items remain the responsibility of the owner at all times.
 - f. No water will be provided in the dressing rooms, please bring your own reusable and identifiable, filled water bottle.

PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE STRICT BAN ON AEROSOLS/PERFUMES/HAIRSPRAY ANYWHERE IN THE CONVENTION CENTRE, TO AVOID ANYONE BEING ESCORTED OUT AND PREVENTING YOUR QUARTET FROM BEING ABLE TO PERFORM! PHOTOS ANYWHERE IN THE DRESSING ROOMS IS ALSO NOT ALLOWED. (See full information on the info page of the convention mini-website).

4. Please leave the dressing area in full stage attire (including shoes), carrying no more than a small handbag/bag and your pre-filled reusable water bottle, if needed. Competitors who do not wish to use their allocated dressing area must be available for collection from this location at the time specified on the timetable.
5. A courier will collect contestants from their dressing area and escort them to their warm-up room and from there to the stage. Performers requiring special assistance to move through the system should be accompanied by someone to help them if required. Prior to the competition, please inform the Chief Courier who will provide specific instructions. The Chief Courier's table will be situated outside the arena using the door to the left of the stage as you look at the stage.
6. **Warm-up Rooms:** A – Branksome, B – Meyrick, C – Westbourne. No water will be provided in the warm-up rooms; please bring your own, prefilled, in a reusable water bottle.
7. On exit from the warm-up room, handbags/small bags and reusable water bottles will be looked after by your courier. Please ensure that your bags are **small** and **light** and only contain essential, non-valuable items.
8. **Stage**
 - a. The centre of the stage will be clearly marked.
 - b. Quartets enter stage left and exit stage right. If you require anything different, please contact Donn Roberts (Stage Manager) on stagemanager@labbs.org.uk
 - c. Nobody other than the quartet will be allowed on to the contest stage and anyone attempting to do so will be refused entry by the Stage Manager.
 - d. White stage lighting will be used throughout the competition. Full stage lighting will be illuminated when the competitor is announced by the MC.
 - e. When you are ready to commence your performance, indicate your readiness to the Stage Manager, who will then inform the MC. The MC will ask Stewards to close the doors and the house lights to go down and then introduce the quartet using the following phrases:
 1. **Contestant number**
 2. **From**
 3. **First names (tenor, lead baritone, bass)**
 4. **Registered Quartet Name**
9. Please be aware that the panel judges will be sat in one row with a row of shadow judges behind.
10. Mic-warmers should note the following instructions: Mic-warmer 1 must stop at the end of their first song and await confirmation from the Panel Chair before continuing. The Stage Manager will inform mic-warmer 2 whether or not the quartet is required to stop after their first song, as instructed by the Panel Chair.

11. Judging will begin immediately following the formal announcement of the quartet by the MC. No further signal will be given to the quartet to commence its performance either before or between songs.
 - a. Quartets are requested to keep acceptance of applause to a courteous minimum.
 - b. If there is a false start to either song, the quartet should stop singing and restart the song. It should be noted that Performance Judges will continue to judge the performance but Singing and Music Judges will restart their marking at the recommencement of the song.
 - c. Official photographs will be taken during the performance.
 - d. Quartets should take note of Article XII of the LABBS competition rules in relation to making verbal comment during their performance.
 - e. Should an emergency situation arise, which, in the opinion of the Panel Chair, adversely affects the performance, Article XIV of the competition rules shall be applied.
12. If the competitor has any complaint about the conditions they experienced during their performance, they must inform their courier immediately upon leaving the stage. Any repeat performance will be at the discretion of the Panel Chair in accordance with Article XIV of the competition rules.
13. Competitors and members of the audience should not engage the judges (including shadow judges) in conversation whilst they are seated at the judging tables.
14. The awards ceremony will take place following the Quartet Finals. Presentations will be on stage, then photographs will be taken immediately on stage.
15. Trophy winners are reminded that they are liable for any engraving costs. Please ensure that you collect the trophy box from the Administrative Judges. It is your responsibility to ensure that any trophy awarded is returned the following year cleaned and with the original box to the Administrative Judges.
16. Unfortunately, due to time constraints, the winning quartet will not be asked to perform an acceptance song. However, they will be performing in the show on Saturday evening. You may sing two of the songs you have already sung in the LABBS competition. The silver and bronze quartets will be performing on the Celebration Song Spot - 2024 in the Foyer on Saturday night after the show.
17. From Convention 2024, there will be **no printed copies of scores**. All scores will be loaded onto the LABBS Website as soon as possible after the Quartet Finals. Please do **not** approach the Administrative Judging table for these. Access to your performance recordings will be sent by email to your quartet contact details provided.

18. **Written evaluations** will be emailed to the email contact for evals supplied on your contest entry form. All competitors will receive their written eval on **Sunday 17th November** and competitors are requested not to contact any judge other than the one providing the evaluation. If you have not received your evaluation by Monday 18th November, and you've checked your spam folder, please contact the Education Director on educationdirector@labbs.org.uk.

If you elected to have a virtual evaluation, a member of the judging panel will be in touch to organise this at a mutually convenient time.