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New Zealand Youth Choir, Hastings 2012. (Photo: Tony Speakman)

Infratil invest in New Zealand Youth choir

Infratil, owner and operator of businesses in the energy, airport, and public transport sectors in New Zealand, is to become Principal Sponsor the New Zealand Youth Choir.

The sponsorship, which is for an initial three-year period, will provide a minimum of \$100,000 per year.

Choirs Aotearoa NZ Trust chair, Trevor Kempton, said, "This is an extremely significant and timely sponsorship for the organisation which opens the door for an exciting future for the Choir. It will allow opportunities to increase its size and reach, and develop its full potential through performances and recordings. We are very fortunate to have Infratil as a partner and are excited about the future with their backing."

Like most not-for-profit organisations in the current global financial climate and the shadow of Christchurch's earthquakes, Choirs Aotearoa has had to consider cutting back its activities and reassess its overhead costs. David Squire, Music Director of NZYC, now looks forward with optimism. "This substantial investment in the Youth Choir has enabled us to reinstate important rehearsals and plan with confidence into the 2013 season. This is a real boost for us and we hope to see the number of places available in the choir increase from 45 to around 60 as a result."

The New Zealand Youth Choir's first gig under the Infratil banner is with the NZSO National Youth Orchestra in September. This will be the first collaboration between New Zealand's two leading youth music organisations since they performed together in 1998. A week-long residential course in the Living Springs Camp at Governors Bay, near Lyttelton, leads to a concert in the CBS Arena in Christchurch on 8 September featuring a performance of Michael Tippett's 'A Child of Our Time'.

Tickets for this concert will be available from Ticketek. See the August 2012 'The Sharp Edge' newsletter for more details.

Mozart Requiem by Candlelight

This 'sold out' performance on 6 June performed by **Voices New Zealand** and the Vector Wellington Orchestra under Karen Grylls in the Wellington Cathedral of St Paul was a resounding success.

To read John Button's Dominion Post review [click here](#).



Mozart Requiem by Candlelight. (Photo: Matt Grace)



Andrew Baldwin
(Photo: Grant Armishaw)

NZYC Alumnus joins Holst Singers

Andrew Baldwin, a former NZ Youth Choir tenor, is currently studying at the Royal College of Music in London and has recently successfully auditioned to be a tenor in the renowned Holst Singers with its Director of Music, Stephen Layton.

Read more about Andrew and the Holst Singers in the August 2012 'The Sharp Edge' newsletter.

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