

# MUSIC: COUNT US IN 2021

## National Songwriting Competition – Brief



Help us write the song that stops the nation!!

[Music: Count Us In](#) (MCUI) is Australia's biggest school initiative; celebrating music and music education across the country. 2021, will be MCUI's 15<sup>th</sup> year. The program comes together on our national Celebration Day when hundreds of thousands of students from all over Australia come together online to sing the same song, on the same day, at the same time.

Winners of the MCUI National Songwriting Competition will help us write the 2021 MCUI Program Song. A small group of finalists will be selected to take part in our 2021 Songwriting Workshop and write the song in collaboration with each other, Program Ambassador John Foreman OAM and our 2021 Program Mentor (tbc). Previous Mentors have included Lior, Marcia Hines, Jay Laga'aia, Katie Noonan, Justine Clarke and many more.

### About the MCUI Program Song

The program song will be learned and performed by students of all ages and abilities. We are looking for song entries written by students that are catchy, optimistic and upbeat. Your song should be positive and not too tricky. It can be in any style or genre but remember to consider what will be popular amongst young people all over the country. Send us a submission that demonstrates your ability to write for young people.

### Lyrics

What would you like to hear more than half a million young people sing about? We would love to receive entries about diversity, resilience, inclusion, community, singing, music and making music together, but we would also like to hear about what is important to you. Think about issues that are important to you and other young people when you are writing.

### Guidelines

- You may work on your own or with co-writer(s)
- Your song (or song idea/excerpt) should be 2mins – 4mins in length
- Write in a key that is approachable for beginner singers (i.e. C, F, G or D major etc.)
- Keep the time signature straightforward (i.e. 4/4, 6/8 or 3/4 etc.)
- Write within a range that suits young voices (i.e. Middle C – D an octave above)

### Other Information

- The 2021 Program Song will be developed collaboratively
- The song will be used to develop lesson plans and digital resources
- Finalists will receive a fee for their contribution to the 2021 Program Song
- Songwriters must be school students (P – 12) primary, secondary, home school etc.

**Submissions are due by 5pm Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021.**

Submit your entry here – <https://musicaustralia.org.au/program/countusin/the-song/national-songwriting-competition-2021/national-songwriting-competition-2021-submit-your-entry/>

Contact us with any questions – [rachel@musicaustralia.org.au](mailto:rachel@musicaustralia.org.au),