

Children, Handel, Malta Philharmonic and Australian choir lend Save Valletta Skyline Appeal a helping hand



Grand performance of Handel's Messiah in January

St Paul's Anglican Pro-Cathedral in Valletta is to stage a grand performance of Handel's glorious Messiah in aid of the Valletta Skyline Appeal featuring the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra, University of Western Australia Choral Society and Goldberg Ensemble.

Hailed as 'one of Man's grandest musical achievements', Handel's Messiah - a narrative drama about the life of Christ and meditation on the idea of a Messiah - still awes listeners more than 250 years after the composer's death.

A group of choristers from the University of Western Australia Choral Society are flying over specially from Perth to take part in the performance of the masterpiece which will be conducted by Maestro Michael Laus and feature leading Maltese singers Gillian Zammit, Claire Massa, Juan Gambina and Albert Buttigieg.

With a history stretching over eight decades, the society has over the years joined other choirs for performances in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane (with Luciano Pavarotti), Verona, New York, Vienna, Moscow, St Petersburg.

Almost 200 children, the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra and the University of Western Australia Choral Society and Goldberg Ensemble are the latest to have lent the St Paul's Anglican Pro-Cathedral Save Valletta Skyline Appeal a helping hand as it attempts to raise €3 million to restore the iconic church, which has been found to have been in a state of structural distress.

They join the ranks of private donors, Prince Charles, who made an undisclosed personal donation the fund and who toured the Pro-Cathedral during a visit to Malta last month, and billionaire theatrical producer Sir Cameron Mackintosh, who owns a home in Valletta and who personally contributed €100,000 to the cause.

The campaign, launched last February, aims to raise the €3 million needed for the restoration of Pro-Cathedral's tower and 60-metre spire, built between 1839 and 1844, which have deteriorated dramatically in recent years.

There are, however, substantial sums still required to achieve the campaign's target.



EU funds for Malta 2014-2020



PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIAT FOR EUROPEAN FUNDS AND SOCIAL DIALOGUE

Office Space Required Valletta, Floriana or the Central Region Area

The Ministry for European Affairs and Equality would like to receive offers for the lease of office space with a minimum area of **3,000 square metres** and parking amenities located in **Valletta, Floriana or a locality in the Central Region Area in Malta**.

Information is to be submitted in a sealed envelope, and deposited at the Directorate for Corporate Services, Ministry for European Affairs and Equality, Tal-Pilar, 31B, Marsamxett Road, Valletta by noon of **Friday 1st December 2017**.

Full details may be accessed from the following portal <http://meae.gov.mt/en/Tenders/Pages/Tenders-and-Quotations.aspx>

Expenditure may be co-funded through

European Union/Bilateral Funding



Acting President awards prizes to Save Valletta Skyline Children's art competition winners

Dolores Cristina, Acting President of Malta, meanwhile, has presented the winners of the Save Valletta Skyline Children's art competition with their winning certificates at a ceremony at San Anton Palace in the presence of their families, teachers and their friends.

The winners, out of almost 200 entries, are as follows:

Age 5-8 years

Winner Sven Azzopardi (Age 8)

Runner-up Dorothea Vosyle (Age 6)

Runner-up Sophie Gonzi (Age 6)

Age 9-11 years

Winner Harriet Diggle (Age 11)

Runner-up Kade Farrugia (Age 9)

Runner-up Kylie Vella (Age 10)

Age 12-16 years

Winner Isabelle Rizzo (Age 12)

Runner-up George Sheehan (Age 13)

Runner-up Giulia Demarco (Age 14)

Special Prize for the face of the competition

Jake Dimech



After an enthusiastic take-up of the Save Valletta Skyline Children's art competition, which was organised in aid of the St Paul's Anglican Pro-Cathedral Restoration Appeal, the organising committee had great pleasure in announcing the winners and runners-up in the three different age categories that were identified in the presence of the Acting President of Malta.



The Acting President extended her warm appreciation and thanks to all those art teachers, parents, friends and family who encouraged so many children to take part in the competition and congratulated all the entrants for their creativity that had directly contributed to the St Paul's Anglican Pro-Cathedral Restoration Appeal. She said the competition had highlighted the immense value of preserving Valletta's architectural heritage and the children's paintings and drawing had reflected this well.



The judges of the competition, who gave their time freely, are themselves artists of note, namely Norbert Attard and James Vella Clark. Norbert and James spent considerable time judging all the submissions, being overwhelmed by the high standard of artwork. "This made judging the paintings and drawing somewhat challenging!" said Attard.



Vella Clark added: "I was completely unaware that my son had entered but was delighted to see his lively painting."



Sir Martin Laing, co-chairman of the Restoration Appeal, said that holding the art competition had been a wonderful initiative. He thanked Lucy Paterson and Michele O'Brien for their hard work in organising the competition and the children and their teachers for having participated so enthusiastically and creatively. He said: "For those parents and children who had not been present to meet the Acting President, they would be able to see their paintings in a glossy new book entitled *Young eyes on Valletta*, which will include all the paintings that had been submitted. The book will be on sale on Wednesday, 2 December at 11am at St Paul's Undercroft, Café at St Paul's Pro-Cathedral, Valletta."

In addition Matthias Balzan's painting has been chosen for a commemorative Christmas card. Three paintings that had been chosen to present to HRH the Prince of Wales on his visit to St Paul's Pro-Cathedral on 4 October were made by Jacques Vella (12), Anna Sheehan (11) and Sarah Gatt (11).



The Committee also chose a number of pictures for a Highly Commended Category:

Age 5-8 years: Nicholas Mark (8), Elizabeth Mizzi (7), Ryan Callus (7), Neil Camilleri (7), Carl Mallia (8), Francesco Vella Clark (6)

Age 9-11 years: Emily Camilleri (11), Mariah Azzopardi (11), Gabriel Azzopardi (10), Katrina Formosa (11), Michela Delicata (10), Aimee Jade Galea (11)

Age 12-16 years: Alana Clements (16), Juliana Zammit (13), Kristina Barbara (11), Sasha Paris (13), Carston Mifsud D'Anastas (10), Eric Borg (12)

Please refer to the Save Valletta Skyline Face-book page for more details

