



World Headquarters of the
Seventh-day Adventist Church
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904 USA

Music Guidelines for All Participants at 2010 GC Session

1. Music is an avenue of communication with God. It “is one of the most effective means of impressing the heart with spiritual truth.” (Ed 168). Therefore it is an important and integral part of the GC Session in Atlanta. Through singing and instrumental music we want to bring glory to God and worship Him. Music at the GC Session is intended to create an uplifting atmosphere, to ennoble and purify our thoughts, to foster our commitment to the Lord, and to effectively influence us in the development of Christ’s character in our life and in that of others.
2. Because of the sensitivity regarding music in many parts of the world and the diverse opinions about suitable music in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, extreme care will be taken in all musical selections. Music at the GC Session should appeal to both intellect and emotions. It should reveal creativity and be well-balanced avoiding extremes in sound levels, dissonance, tempo, monotony, and repetitiveness. It should not trigger undesirable physical effects, but be educative and set an example for the worldwide church of what good music can be.
3. In vocal music the lyrics should stimulate our intellectual abilities as well as our emotions and our will power. Good lyrics are also creative, inspiring, and profound. They focus on the positive, and reflect moral values. They educate and uplift, and they must be in harmony with Seventh-day Adventist theology. In good vocal music, normally the text takes precedence over the music. Live accompaniment is both encouraged and preferred.
4. Because of the tight schedule, music longer than 4-5 minutes for solos and small groups may not be accepted. Presentations of choirs, orchestral groups, and large ensembles longer than 6 minutes may not be accepted at the discretion of the GC Session Music Committee.
5. Only the GC Session Music Committee will make the final selections and time slot assignments which will be appropriate to the meeting setting.
6. No one should expect to participate without prior approval.
7. Participants are expected to register at the GC Session Music Office in Atlanta no later than 24 hours before their scheduled appointment. At the time of registration, practice times can be scheduled. Participants are expected to report to the GC Session Music Office no later than 60 minutes before their performance time to be escorted backstage before performing or that time slot will be given to a backup and the participants will not be allowed to perform. The GC Session Music Committee is not obligated to reassign them.

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8. Participants must sign a release form for purposes of performance and recording when they register at the GC Session Music Office before a time slot can be assigned to them.
9. Each participant is self-funded for all expenses involved with travel, lodging, performance and all other expenses of being part of the 2010 GC Session.
10. Each musician/group should be prepared to perform any other music selection that the GC Session Music Committee might wish to have them perform at the Session from the recording they submitted with their application.
11. The Division must submit a full package for each performer to the GCS Music Committee before participant(s) will be considered. This package should include:
 - GC Session Music Committee Application form for participants.
 - A picture of the musician or group of musicians
 - A recording—preferably digital format (CD, DVD), or video/audiocassette—of the actual music selection to be considered. (This selection cannot be changed after approval.)
 - All copyright information about the song(s) to be considered.
 - A hard copy of words in English, or translated into English, of the song to be considered.
12. The deadline for submission of selections from the Division to the GC Music Committee is March 31, 2009.