



# St. Mark Festival 2024

## Mahragan Alkeraza



### Midwest Coptic Orthodox Churches English Choir Rules

This competition is for participants from KG-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Only.

**NOTE: "It is recommended that each person wishing to take part in the Mahragan choir competition, MUST pass the written spiritual exam."**

- ❖ Rules with detailed clarification should be communicated with the participating churches' representative at the beginning of the Mahragan.
- ❖ **Participants in Arabic Choir CANNOT participate in English Choir.**
- ❖ **English Choir(s) will be evaluated separately from the Arabic Choir(s).**
- ❖ Church choir(s) will be evaluated based on an average score.
- ❖ Must revolve around the theme of **St. Mark Festival 2024**
- ❖ Prepare a pamphlet that includes: 1. Church name 2. Choir name & age group 3. All of the songs' lyrics
- ❖ Bring 5 copies to the final competition day for the judges.
- ❖ Solos are allowed within the song.
- ❖ Uniform: Up to the church to decide.
- ❖ **Language: English or Coptic. Arabic is only allowed if your church DOESN'T participate in the Arabic Choir competition. Do not make the whole song Arabic, just parts of it.**
- ❖ The choir performance must not exceed 15 minutes **PER CHURCH**; a minimum of 2 songs. Any overtime will deduct points from the final score.
- ❖ All songs presented must be new for the choir, meaning the songs must be specifically for the Mahragan and not previously performed at a church event.
- ❖ College and adult servants are not allowed to sing or lip sing with the participants. They can only direct and play music.
- ❖ We encourage choirs to do heritage songs.
- ❖ The Mahragan Committee is NOT responsible for any tech issues. Please bring your own CD, DVD, USB, laptop, and any other connections or cables that you might need. The Mahragan Committee will only provide a screen and a projector with a VGA connection.
- ❖ Choir Performance Date: **Sunday, August 11th, 2024.**

#### Evaluation Sheet for Choir:

1. **Booklet:** design, contents, who made it **(5 points)**.
2. **Introduction:** name of the Choir, Church, songs. **(5 points)**.
3. **Costumes (5 points)**.
4. **Performance:** harmony of voices, melody with music, solo/group, difficulty (talented), seriousness **(30 points)**.
5. **Music:** live music should earn more points than recorded **(15 points)**.
6. **Visual aid:** projecting pictures, lyrics... **(5 points)**.
7. **Heritage:** Coptic, translated songs **(10 points)**.
8. **Creativity:** writing lyrics, writing the music, presentation to explain the song **(10 points)**.
9. **Accuracy:** matching the lyrics with Orthodox teaching, matching the Mahragan's theme **(10 points)**.
10. **Time:** subtract points for exceeding the time **(5 points)**.

**"The Lord is my Light and my Salvation" (Psalm 27:1)**