



**Commonwealth  
Music Relay**



## INFORMATION FOR MUSIC GROUPS, YOUNG PEOPLE AND TEACHERS



**We are excited to hear that you would like to compose your own version of Rotary's Music Relay Song for Peace!**

## Here are some answers to frequently asked questions

**Question** - Can I use any part of the song or the lyrics from Rotary's song in my own way?

**Answer** – YES. You can use any part of the song as a starting point for your own musical ideas.

For example, you might want to take a bit of the music and compose some variations from it. You might want to keep the chorus and write new words of your own for the verses. Maybe you want to keep the song as it is and play it on an instrument or arrange it for a choir. You might want to compose a variation of it. Perhaps you want to start with a little bit of the song and use it to improvise something on your instrument. There are LOTS of things you can do.

**Question** – Can I change the character of the song?

**Answer** – YES. Rotary's song 'A Thousand Voices' is a gentle, uplifting pop song – but it doesn't have to be. You can change it! Maybe you want to change the tempo to make it fast and exciting, or slow and thoughtful. Maybe you want to give it a Caribbean lilt, or an African drum pulse. It would sound lovely with a tabla and sitar accompaniment. How about a voice with djembe or dijeridoo? Maybe you want to arrange it for your local band or orchestra to play? All these would be wonderful. We will be very excited to hear anything that is played on an unusual instrument or that strongly represents a particular culture.

**Question** – How do I record my music when it is ready?

**Answer** – You can do this in any way – even on a simple mobile phone. We are not 'judging' the pieces on the quality of the recording. We are very happy to receive

your entry in any form that you like. Use our simple application form  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdSWkHsxHsemSf9-pmx00CwxywwTV\\_FFFoNorj4jazrhrsXHQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdSWkHsxHsemSf9-pmx00CwxywwTV_FFFoNorj4jazrhrsXHQ/viewform)

**Question** – Can I perform the music in my own language?

**Answer** – YES. We shall be delighted to hear performances of Rotary’s song in different languages from around the Commonwealth. This will be very special and interesting for everyone.

**Question** – shall I pass my music on to someone else

**Answer** – well, that’s up to you! It’s very important for you to send it to us – but if you can pass on or play your music to someone else and inspire them to have a go as well, your Key Music Relay Leader will be delighted! This is one of the ways that the project becomes a MUSIC RELAY – just like a sports baton relay.

**Question** – what will happen to my music when it is finished?

**Answer** – we shall upload your music onto an INTERACTIVE WORLD MAP. It will appear on the map of your own country, so that people all over the world can click on it and hear what you have done! We shall also be presenting the map at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetings in Samoa.

Your music will be one of the pieces representing Rotary’s role in the Commonwealth Music Relay on one or more special occasions in 2024.

**Question** – how many entries can I submit?

**Answer** – one entry per person or group. If you are a teacher working in a school, college, or music group, you can submit up to **two** entries from your organisation. If you have lots of students composing different pieces, then you might consider organising and filming a relay throughout your local community? This would be a **wonderful** thing for people to see and hear (*you could do it as an iphone movie or something similar, maybe*)? It would also be interesting for local or national media.

**Question** – I have other questions about my music which are not listed here

**Answer** – email [sally-ann@commonwealthresounds.com](mailto:sally-ann@commonwealthresounds.com) and your question will be answered as soon as possible.



**We hope you enjoy creating music for Rotary’s Music Relay Song for Peace!**