

AYC26 Theme Song Contest Rules

Congress Theme

Theme: MADE FOR MORE

Concept

“MADE FOR MORE” captures the theology of **fullness and flourishing** that deeply resonates with today’s generation. It speaks to the **human longing for purpose, wholeness, and transformation** – yet adds an outward, forward thrust. The theme gives language to movement, discovery, and vocation.

At its heart, “MADE FOR MORE” is aspirational and forward-oriented – inviting young people to step into the life of fullness and flourishing God designed them for.

Subthemes:

- Made for *belonging* – speaks to inclusion, feeling loved and cared for, and relational identity.
- Made for *believing* – calls to faith, trust in God, and conviction.
- Made for *becoming* – moves toward mission, growth, and transformation.

This is a journey theme that unfolds in three stages:

1. Identity and connection
2. Faith and trust
3. Purpose and sending

Congress Core Message

You are loved. You belong.

You believe in a God who is beautiful.

And now you can become who God created you to be.

Style

The song should be inspirational, contemporary, and worship-oriented, suitable for a large youth gathering. It should help young people lift their hearts in praise and express the AYC26 theme with joy and depth.

- Genre: Praise & Worship (modern, congregational style)
- Tempo: Energetic, hopeful, and engaging — not too slow or melancholic
- Melody: Catchy and easy to learn; singable for a wide audience
- Lyrics: Biblically grounded, positive, and aligned with the Made for More message
- Focus: The song should invite participation — something that 3,000 young people can sing together with conviction and unity.

You are encouraged to use creative musical elements (rhythmic drive, dynamics, vocal harmonies, or instrumental layers) while keeping it accessible for church or youth group worship settings.

Use of AI

Human creativity and touch are vital; AI may be used to enhance and improve the song. AI is an agent in the process, but not the source of your song.

Language

The lyrics must be written in English.

Files Expected

Please include the following:

1. Personal Information: Your full name, country, age, and a short introduction about yourself or the group band.
2. Lyrics: In Word (.docx) or PDF format.
3. Music Score: Include melody line and chords (PDF).
4. Recording: Audio or video version of the song with vocals and accompaniment (.mp3 or .mp4). This is the file which the jury will take in consideration for voting.

Deadline

Please send your song proposal to Isaac Chía (isaac.chia@eud.adventist.org) by **Thursday, April 9, 2026.**

Choosing the Winner

The winning song will be selected by the AYC26 Steering Committee. The result will be announced at the beginning of May 2026.

Reward

- 1st Prize: €250 or AYC26 Congress fee free.
- 2nd Prize: €150 or AYC26 Congress fee half price.

The composer of the winning AYC26 Theme Song will experience the joy of hearing over 3,000 young people singing their song together at the Congress! The song will also be featured on the AYC26 YouTube channel for everyone to enjoy and use afterward.

Open for Arrangements

By submitting your song, you agree to collaborate with the AYC26 music team if adjustments are needed to make the song more suitable for congregational worship. This may include:

- Transposing the key to fit a comfortable vocal range for both male and female voices.
- Simplifying rhythms or melodies for easier group singing.
- Adapting instrumentation or arrangements for live performance.

Your openness and teamwork will help make the song truly a shared expression of worship for everyone at AYC26.

Copyright

The copyright of the winner song will belong to the Inter-European and Trans-European Divisions of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The author will always be acknowledged, and their name will appear on the lyrics and score.

More information about the Congress: aycongress.org