



Choral Scholarships 2018 - 2019

The Chapter of Chelmsford Cathedral wishes to appoint up to six choral scholars for the academic year 2018-19. The scholarships are suitable for graduate or experienced gap-year singers; the choral scholars play a key role in the delivery of the *Opus Dei* in a cathedral serving one of England's largest Anglican dioceses. The region is fast expanding and the Cathedral's ministry is growing with that of the diocese to meet new needs. Chelmsford is a growing city with excellent new amenities and transport links to London and East Anglia, Stansted and Southend airports, and Harwich International Port.

The music programme at Chelmsford Cathedral is busy and varied, encompassing choral services and concerts in the cathedral and across the diocese, with frequent visits to venues around the region and abroad. In the last two years the Cathedral Choir has broadcast on Radio 3 and has sung for Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. Concert performances have included music from Duke Ellington's *Sacred Concerts* and Monteverdi's *Vespers*, and the choirs have given an annual performance of Handel's *Messiah*. Forthcoming plans include Fauré's Requiem, a Bach Cantata evensong, and a number of concerts and special services.

The regular work of the choir involves singing at the five choral services each week as well as their associated rehearsals. A choral scholar will be expected to be a good sight-reader, as the repertoire of the choir is wide and varied and rehearsal time is limited; previous experience of the Anglican choral repertoire is valuable but not essential. In recent years the scholars have sung regularly at locations around the city and county, performing close harmony songs and other styles of music - enthusiasm and entrepreneurial flair are useful attributes.

The scholarships run from the beginning of September until the end of July, including Christmas and Easter, and are currently worth £6360pa with accommodation provided in houses shared with other cathedral scholars, for which rent is deducted monthly. Additionally, singing lessons to the value of £750 are provided by the resident singing teacher, Colin Baldy. There are a number of opportunities locally for work to supplement the scholarship and it is expected that the choral scholars will play a full role in the life of the department and wider cathedral community. Options for paid and voluntary work may be discussed with suitable candidates.

The Cathedral Choir of boys and men provides the music at the majority of Cathedral services. Boys are recruited from a variety of local schools and the back row comprises lay clerks, choral scholars (and deputies) and a number of unpaid singing men.

The Cathedral Girls' Choir is directed by the Assistant Organist. Singing regularly for Evensongs on Tuesday evening, the girls join with the men of the choir for at least two Sundays' services per term, and at various special services in the church's

year including the Midnight Eucharist on Christmas Eve and the Epiphany & Candlemas Carol Service.

The Music Staff

Organist & Master of the Choristers	James Davy
Assistant Organist & Director of the Girls' Choir	Laurence Lyndon-Jones
Choir Matron	Keren Hollier
Music & Liturgy Assistant	Stephanie Brasier

A typical week's musical commitments are:

Thursday	4.30 - 6.00	Rehearsal & Evensong (Full or Men's voices, alternating on a weekly basis)
Friday	4.30 - 6.00 6.00 - 7.00 7.00 - 7.20	Rehearsal & Evensong (Full) Men's rehearsal <i>Compline (during Lent)</i>
Saturday	4.30 - 6.00	Rehearsal & Evensong (Full) * (see below)
Sunday	10.30 - 12.30 2.45 - 4.30	Rehearsal & Eucharist or Mattins (Full) Rehearsal & Evensong (Full)

Monday to Wednesday is normally free from choir duties, although from time to time services and other events take place, when the choral scholars will be expected to attend. The choir is normally free from duties on at least two Saturdays per month. Seasonal changes to this pattern are notified a half-term in advance.

Applications should be supported by the names of three referees, including

- Your current singing teacher
- Someone who has known you in a professional capacity for at least two years

Please send a letter of application and CV (including your e-mail address) by email to: stephanie.brasier@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk or by post to: *The Organist & Master of the Choristers, Cathedral Office, 53 New Street, Chelmsford, CM1 1TY*

Applications should be received by Friday 23 February 2018. Auditions will take place by arrangement as soon as possible thereafter.

To discuss informally any aspect of the scholarship, please contact James Davy via 01245 294481 (Music and Liturgy Assistant) or by email at james.davy@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk