

Temple Church

Female Choral Scholarships



Temple Church

Female Choral Scholarships

Academic Year 2022/23

Introduction

Temple Church wishes to give talented and gifted young female singers, who are thinking of pursuing a career in music, the opportunity to be led and supported through the experience of working in a professional environment.

This opportunity is open to female sopranos or contraltos who have begun and not yet finished secondary education, or who have recently finished secondary education but have not yet begun tertiary education (i.e. a 'gap year'). We are looking for outstanding singing and a high level of musicianship.

The individual(s) will sing regularly as part of our adult choir, the Temple Singers, made up of professional singers, all of whom have flourishing freelance careers across different areas of music (opera, consort, solo careers and teaching). They regularly sing services on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. Additionally they sing at memorial services, weddings and occasional concerts. For the academic year 2022/23 we are looking to appoint four choral scholars, and welcome applications from both sopranos and contraltos.

Value of Scholarship

The total amount of each scholarship will be £7,500. The expenditure of this scholarship will be tailored to fit the individual, in consultation with the Music Department of Temple Church. The scholarship will cover individual singing lessons (taking place in-house at Temple Church), the services of a mentor, and may also be used to cover other music-related expenses (contribution towards school fees, other music tuition, costs of sessions with accompanists, language coaching, master classes, books and scores, making audition recordings, application fees for further study, travel expenses etc).





Core Aspects of the Programme

We are able to offer a bespoke programme according to the needs and wishes of the individual, made up of the following:

- ◆ Professional performing opportunities (services, weddings, concerts) with the Temple Singers
- ◆ One to one mentoring (with a professional singer appointed by the Music Dept)
- ◆ Individual singing lessons (arranged in-house, with a singing teacher appointed by the Music Dept)
- ◆ Appraisals with Director and Assistant Director of Music
- ◆ Professional development, mock auditions, etc.
- ◆ General assistance in the Music Dept (which may include the opportunity of helping with the boy choristers' theory sessions and music library)
- ◆ Possible participation in outreach work with the Temple Church Choir
- ◆ Membership of the Temple Youth Choir (approximately two projects per year)



Person Specification

Essential

- ◆ In secondary/sixth form education (Year 12 or 13) OR in a gap year between school and university as at the beginning of the academic year 2022/23. For those on a gap year, they must be aged under 20 as at 31.8.23
- ◆ Able to travel into central London easily to fulfil the duties outlined below. (Some of the scholarship allowance may be used to cover travel expenses)
- ◆ Available on Tuesday evenings (for singing lessons and mentoring), Wednesday evenings, Sunday mornings and occasional additional evenings and Saturdays (see 'Duties' below)
- ◆ A developed musical understanding with the ability to be self-sufficient with the learning of the repertoire
- ◆ An ability to read music to a high level of competence
- ◆ Good general standard of musical education
- ◆ Enthusiastic, dedicated and highly-motivated
- ◆ Comfortable with the concept of singing in a small ensemble, sometimes one to a part

Desirable

- ◆ Experience of singing in ensembles
- ◆ Experience of the Anglican liturgy and repertoire

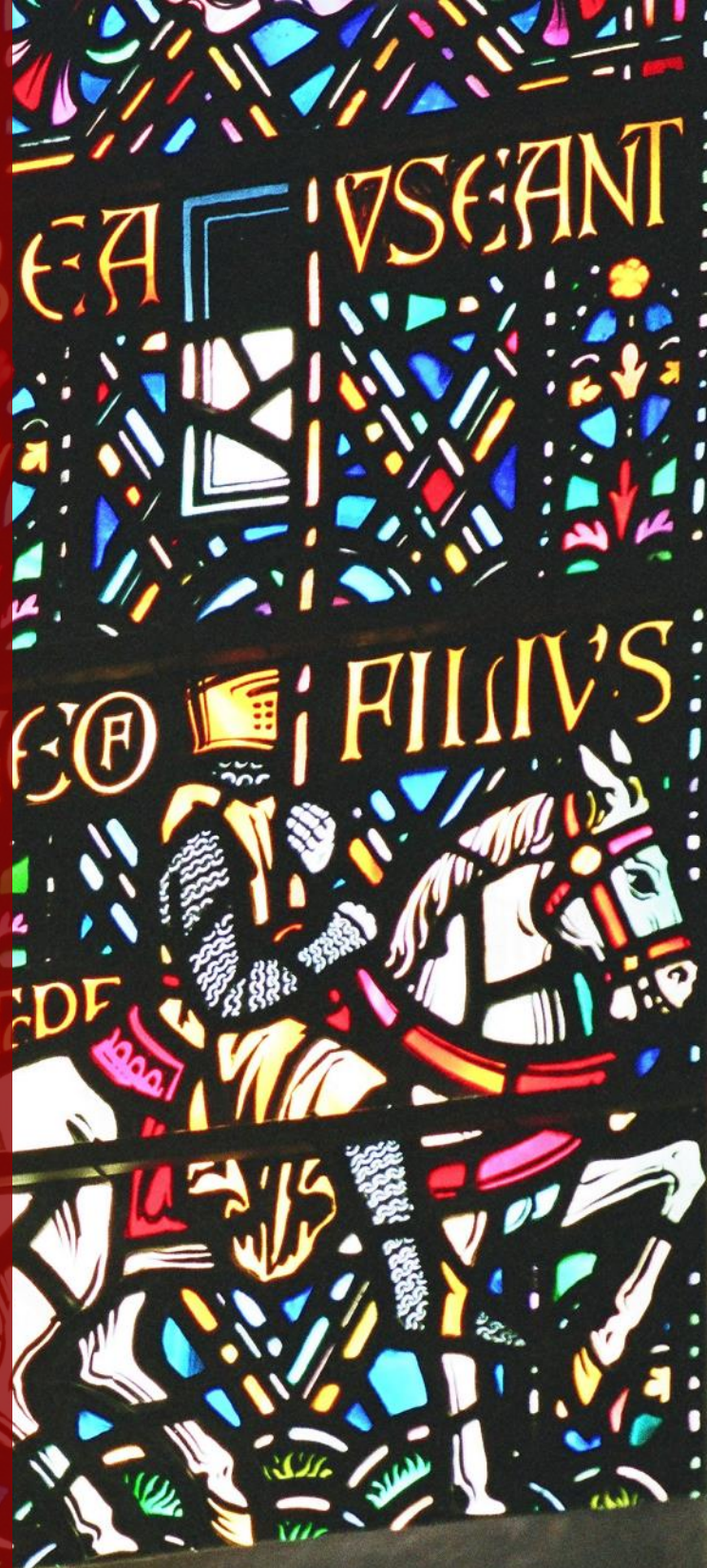
Duties

Typical weekly schedule:

- ◆ Singing lessons and mentoring sessions on Tuesday evenings in term time (timings flexible to fit around school finishing times)
- ◆ Evensong on most Wednesday evenings in term time – 4.45 pm for 6.00 pm service, finishing by 7.00 pm
- ◆ One or two Sunday services per month in term time – 9.45 am rehearsal for 11.15 am service
- ◆ Tues/Weds/Thurs evenings – occasional memorial services (4.30 pm rehearsal for 6.00 pm service, finishing by 7.15pm)
- ◆ Saturday weddings (times vary)

Participation in memorial services and weddings will be on a voluntary basis, according to each choral scholar's availability and their other commitments.

A termly timetable is submitted 5 weeks in advance. Flexibility is key as the church timetable is fluid.





Selection Process

Applications should be made via the application form at the end of this document, to include names and contact details of two referees, and sent with a cover letter explaining why you wish to be considered for the scholarship, to: susan@templechurch.com.

The closing date is 9am on Monday 23 May

We plan to hold the auditions in person at Temple Church on Saturday 18 June.

At the audition candidates will be asked to perform two contrasting pieces (totalling no more than ten minutes) that show off their voice to its best potential. We will provide an accompanist. At the audition there will be tests on aural, sight-reading and range, followed by a question and answer session with the panel. We will send out an ensemble piece in advance for the candidate to prepare for the audition, which is likely to be a duet to perform with another soprano (either a current choral scholar or one of the Temple Singers)

The audition panel will consist of the following:

Director of Music

Assistant Director of Music

Music Administrator

Offer of Scholarship

Following successful audition and interview the candidate will be offered a scholarship contract for one year, commencing September 2022 until August 2023. The scholarship may have the potential to be extended for a second year.

While it is not a requirement that an applicant for an award is a UK citizen, any non-UK citizen will be asked to demonstrate their right to participate fully in this scheme in the UK.

This opportunity is open to women only because of the particular need of the Temple Church to develop a group of female sopranos and contraltos to sing in the Church as a complement to the current voices, working to the same high standard, and with sufficient and similar knowledge of the range of music as used in the Church's worship.

For an informal conversation about the scholarship, or for details about dates when you can come, if you so wish, to hear the Temple Singers and current choral scholars in a service please contact:

Susan Keeling, Music Administrator
susan@templechurch.com
Tel: 020 7427 5650

More About Us

The **Temple Church Choir** consists of eighteen boy choristers and twelve professional choirmen and was founded after the Victorian restoration of the church in 1841 by Dr Edward John Hopkins. It is still considered to be one of the finest choirs in London, a reputation it quickly gained after its founding. Though its main duty is to enhance the worship in the services in the ancient Temple Church, the choir has also been involved with many exciting projects outside its liturgical commitments. The established musical tradition of the Temple Church has encompassed many distinguished and formidable musicians in church music, and some of the great figures in Anglican Church music have composed and played within its walls. Handel was a visitor to the church to hear the virtuoso blind organist and composer, John Stanley, who was appointed Organist to the Society of the Inner Temple in 1734.

In the nineteenth century, Hopkins' successor, Sir Henry Walford Davies, further developed the reputation of the church's music and its choir before becoming organist at St George's Chapel, Windsor and ultimately Master of the King's Musick. Sir George Thalben-Ball followed and under his direction the choir attracted such a following that queues for services often spilled out of The Temple into Fleet Street. Of the many recordings that the choir made during Thalben-Ball's tenure, the most famous featured the Temple chorister Ernest Lough singing Mendelssohn's *Hear my Prayer*. In the last twenty-five years, the music of the church has been under the direction of Dr John Birch, Stephen Layton, James Vivian and, the present Organist & Director of Music, Roger Sayer.

The **Temple Singers**, formed in 2006 to complement the work of the Temple Church Choir, comprise adult professional singers. They sing for frequent Wednesday Evensongs and Sunday services, as well as memorial services, weddings and occasional concerts.

The **Temple Church** was built by the Knights Templar, the soldier-monks who protected pilgrims to the Holy Land during the Crusades. The Round Church was consecrated in 1185; it is modelled on the circular church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, the site of Christ's death, burial and resurrection. The church forms part of the estate of the Inns of Court known as the Inner and Middle Temple. It was conveyed to the Inns by Royal Charter of King James I, made in 1608 and repeated by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 2008. Under the Royal Charter the Inns are responsible for maintaining the Temple Church as a place of worship.





Roger Sayer is Organist and Director of Music at Temple Church, London. His main responsibility is to direct the choir of boys and professional men.



Roger's work both as a choir director and organist has taken him to four continents. He is the organ soloist on the Oscar-nominated film score *Interstellar* and has many recordings to his credit. Most notably, he has released recordings of Rheinberger's Twenty Organ Sonatas, and a DVD of the six symphonies of Louis Vierne, recorded in 2020.

Future projects include recitals in Bavo Church Haarlem, Regensburg Cathedral and directing a week-long choral course in Brisbane.

Thomas Allery is the Assistant Director of Music at Temple Church. He is responsible for the teaching of musicianship to the choristers, and regularly conducts the Temple Singers in services and concert. Outside of Temple Church, he is in demand as an organist and director, as well as a harpsichordist and continuo player.



Thomas studied at Oxford University, the Royal College of Music and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. From 2014 – 19 he was Director of chapel music at Worcester College, Oxford and was also assistant organist of Magdalen College. In regular demand as a teacher, Thomas teaches the organ at City of London School, Radley College, and basso continuo at the Royal College of Music. As a continuo player, he regularly plays with the award-winning period music group, Ensemble Hesperii. He is currently undertaking research into historical continuo treatises from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and exploring how they can be used in keyboard education today.



Charles Andrews is Liturgical Organist of the Temple Church, London and Assistant professor of organ at the Royal College of Music. Charles studied at the RCM with David Graham, Sophie-Véronique Cauchefer-Choplin, John Barstow and John Blakeley with the aid of a Douglas & Kyra Downie

Award.

Before joining the Temple Church, Charles was Associate Director of Music at All Saints, Margaret Street in the West End of London from 2011-16. Recently four live performances with the Temple Church Choir have been broadcast on BBC Radio 3, including the first performance of *Carmina tempore viri* by Kenneth Hesketh last year. Plans for 2022 include recording works associated with Henry Walford Davies and George Thalben-Ball, former organists of the Temple Church.



www.templechurch.com



@TempleChurchLDN



@The-Temple-Church-London



The Temple Church, London



Temple Church Female Choral Scholarships
Academic Year 2022/23
Application Form

Applicant Personal Details

Name:

Date of birth: / / 200

Nationality/Citizenship:

Home address:

.....

Email address:

Parent / Guardian Details

1)

Name:

Email address:

Home telephone number:

Mobile / Emergency contact:

Relationship to applicant:

2)

Name:

Email address:

Home telephone number:

Mobile / Emergency contact:

Relationship to applicant:

Applicant further information

Current school:

School year:

Course of study:

Applicant musical experience

Voice type: Soprano / Contralto

Please tell us a little bit about your singing experience. For example, how long you have been studying singing, if you have taken any exams, what ensemble singing experience you have, etc:

Please tell us about your other musical experience. For example, other instruments studied, exams taken, ensemble experience, etc:

Please give below the details of TWO referees, one of which should be your current singing teacher.

1)

Name:

Position / How do they know you?:

Contact number:

Email address:

2)

Name:

Position / How do they know you?:

Contact number:

Email address:

Signatures

Applicant:

Date:

Parent / Guardian:

Date:

Please send this completed form, together with a covering letter explaining why you wish to be considered for the scholarship, by email or post to:

**Susan Keeling
Music Administrator
1 Inner Temple Lane
London EC4Y 1AF**

susan@templechurch.com

CLOSING DATE IS 9 AM ON MONDAY 23 MAY

Please email susan@templechurch.com if you would like to receive this application form as a Word document.