



Inverness Cathedral Organ Scholarship

Inverness Cathedral offers an Organ Scholarship, which offers an excellent opportunity for those looking to develop their skills as a church musician in the Anglican choral tradition, in a safe and supportive environment.

At Inverness Cathedral all are welcomed without expectation, and the Scholarship will be awarded irrespective of the religious convictions of the candidate. The award, which will be renewable annually (normally for the duration of the candidate's academic course) will be £1,500 per annum.

The position runs for one year but is renewable, subject to satisfactory progress and efficient performance of the duties listed below.

Organ Scholar Duties

The Organ Scholar will join the existing Director of Music (DoM) and the Cathedral Organist in the preparation and delivery of the highest standard of musical accomplishment possible.

- Attend the Weekly Cathedral Choir Practice (Fridays 7pm – 9pm).
- Attend and assist with the running of the Junior Choir (Fridays 3.45pm – 4.45pm).
- Attend the Weekly Sunday morning service (Sundays 11am, rehearsal 10am).
- Attend any additional Services where possible.
- Assist the DoM with organising the Music Library.

General

We intend this position to be primarily a 'learning' position, so we are looking for someone who shows potential but also a willingness to learn. Playing and conducting opportunities will be offered when the Scholar is clearly ready. Occasionally, for example, S/He will be encouraged to take parts of the choir practice under the supervision of the DoM, hopefully leading towards playing or conducting in a service.

Possible Performing & Educational Opportunities

Depending on the ability and development of the Organ Scholar, these could include:

- Rehearsal Accompanist for the Cathedral Junior Choir
- Occasionally accompanying the Cathedral Choir – psalms, hymns, anthems
- Occasional playing of the Organ Voluntary
- Recital - as part of the 'Let the Organ Thunder' recital series
- Preparation for ABRSM / Trinity Organ examinations; University Organ Scholarship applications; Royal College of Organist examinations; RCO/SCOTS examinations.



We hope the experience of working with us at Inverness Cathedral will be a pleasant and rewarding one for you. But it can also lead on to broader horizons. Two of our previous Choral scholars have furthered their music studies at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow. Our Director of Music has also previously guided students to both Choral and Organ Scholarships at St John's and Trinity College, Cambridge; Keble College, Oxford and the Royal College and Royal Academy of Music, London.

Details of tenure

We would be happy to consider all ages and with variable dates of tenure (ie. not necessarily framed by academic year).

The position runs for one year but is renewable, subject to satisfactory progress and efficient performance of the duties listed above.

Should the Organ Scholar at any time be unable to carry out the duties for any reason, the Provost or the Director of Music should be immediately informed.

The Organ and Choirs

The Organ in Inverness Cathedral is a breathtaking example of a digital organ at its best. Built in 2004 by Makin, the specification amply allows for all types and genres of music to be performed and is a superbly versatile instrument for accompaniment of choirs, as well as a solo recital instrument.

With 4 manuals and pedals, it also has a floating West End section, ideal for supporting large congregations.

The Cathedral Choir is a voluntary body made up of about twenty members. The Cathedral possesses an extensive library of Service music and anthems.

The Junior Choir is a group of around 20 children, drawn from local schools. We hope that some of them will become part of the Cathedral Choir and family in future.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Please send a CV illustrating your musical experience to the Provost: The Very Revd Sarah Murray at provost@invernesscathedral.org

All applications will be acknowledged, and you may be invited to attend an informal audition and interview by arrangement.

June 2023

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The Cathedral Music Trust