

MUSIC AT PETERHOUSE

2017-2018



Music at Peterhouse

Peterhouse has a rich and thriving musical life: from its Chapel Choir, through the activities of the student-run Peterhouse Music Society, to Camerata Musica (an outstanding series of chamber music recitals hosted by the College) there is the chance to perform and listen to some of the finest music in Cambridge.

The College participates Organ, Choral and Instrumental Awards Scholarships scheme. If you are interested in becoming a Choral or Instrumental Scholar, the deadline for applications is fast approaching:

Choral Scholarships: **Thursday 15 February 2018**

Instrumental Awards: **Friday 28 February 2018**

Organ Scholarships: **Saturday 1 September 2018**

Please see below for details of how to apply for these schemes.

Peterhouse Choir

Singing in the Choir of Peterhouse in the atmospheric, candlelit Chapel is a wonderful and uniquely moving experience.

Peterhouse Choir sings two services a week during term time in the College's historic seventeenth-century chapel. Drawing its membership from the student body of the College, Peterhouse Choir is distinctive amongst Oxbridge colleges for its intimate size, offering singers an unparalleled opportunity to play a vital role in a close-knit ensemble. Peterhouse is also home to a unique collection of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century choral music, the Peterhouse Partbooks – music that continues to play a significant role in the repertoire of the choir.

The Choir is directed by the College's new Director of Music, Dr Simon Jackson. He is delighted to hear from anybody interested in the Choir – please email him with any questions.

Joining the Choir

Peterhouse participates in the University-wide Choral Scholarship scheme. Auditions to join the Choir take place between 19 and 21 March this year. Anyone holding an offer to study at Peterhouse is welcome to apply.

**The deadline for applications is
Thursday 15th February, 2018**

During the audition you will be asked to sing a piece you have prepared in advance; there will also be a few simple aural tests and a short piece of short-reading. The Choral Awards website has information and examples of the sorts of things you will be asked, so it's well worth visiting the page below!

Please visit the Choral Awards website for details of how to apply, and to download an application form, which should be completed and returned by email to admissions@pet.cam.ac.uk

www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/fees-and-finance/music-awards/choral-awards

Perks

Food:

After every service and rehearsal, the Choir is offered a meal in Hall. The Choir also sings grace for a number of College occasions throughout the year, and is usually invited to dine afterwards.

Singing Lessons:

Members of the Choir receive singing lessons in exchange for their duties. The College employs two singing teachers, Ian Kennedy and Nigel Wickens.

Tours and recordings

The Choir tours each year in the Summer – including destinations as varied as Edinburgh, Tuscany, Provence, Andalucia and Iceland.

The Choir also often visits a Cathedral (most recently to Ely, Norwich and Peterborough Cathedrals) and sings a number of concerts over the course of the year; it also regularly undertakes recording projects.

Brief History of Peterhouse Chapel

The Choir sings most of the time in Peterhouse Chapel. Peterhouse has nurtured a rich musical tradition throughout its history. Until the seventeenth century, the college used the neighbouring church of Little St Mary's for worship. The Chapel was built during the Mastership of Matthew Wren (Christopher Wren's uncle), and was consecrated in 1632. Wren's successor as Master, John Cosin, founded a choir (including Choral Scholarships!) and instituted the following rules:

In the Inner chappell hang divers novel orders wch are rigorously imposed, as the noe wearing of gloves in the Chappell, noe sneezing, noe blowing of noses, noe scratching of the head, noe yawning, noe spitting upon the pavement and the like.

Until the 1640s, Peterhouse Chapel was renowned in Cambridge for its elaborate Latin choral services. The Peterhouse Part-books dating from that period still belong to the College and are an important source for many of the great works of the Golden Age of Gibbons, Tallis, and Byrd, music that plays an important part in the repertoire of the Choir today.

Organ Scholarships

Peterhouse has two undergraduate Organ Scholars at any one time. There is currently a vacancy for an Organ Scholar. The College participates in the University Organ scholarship scheme, and applications for Organ Scholarship places (for entry in 2019) will open in early July 2018; the deadline for entry is **Saturday 1 September 2018**.

If you are interested in the Organ Scholarship at Peterhouse, please contact the Director of Music. You should also visit the Organ Scholarship Awards website, which has full details of how to apply:

www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/fees-and-finance/music-awards/organ-scholarships

The Chapel Organ originates from the 1760s, though it has been expanded and restored over the years; it still has a great deal of historic pipework by one of the finest organ builders of the 18th century, John Snetzler. The College is in the process of commissioning a new organ, an exciting opportunity to develop the musical life of Peterhouse even further.

Peterhouse Music Society

Peterhouse is also home to a vibrant student-led Music Society which organises concerts and recitals each term.

Peterhouse hosts a variety of musical events. Our lunchtime concert series provides a friendly platform to showcase talent from in and out of college. We also put on end of term showcase concerts in the Peterhouse theatre, and popular Jazz evenings in the Plevy Bar.

Chamber Music is a particular strength of Peterhouse's musical scene, and the college is very fortunate to have a number of [music awards](#) open to members of the College. Thanks to support from Camerata Musica (see below), the **Peterhouse Music Society Awards** scheme offers generous financial support of up to £1,200 to student ensembles connected with the College.

Undergraduates of Peterhouse are also warmly encouraged to enter the **Lady Alexandra Dacre Music Prize** for excellence in performance, composition or academic studies in music.

Instrumental Awards Scheme

We also participate in the University-wide Instrumental Awards Scheme. These are open to anyone with an offer to study at the University, and the deadline for applications this year is **Friday 28th February**.

Please visit the Instrumental Awards Scheme website and fill in the online application form:

<https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/finance/music-awards/instrumental-awards>

Camerata Musica

Peterhouse is also home to one of the finest professional Chamber Music series in all of Cambridge—Camerata Musica, whose aim is to introduce students to the greatest chamber music of the classical tradition, performed by some of the world's leading musicians. Past performers include Natalie Clein, Christopher Maltman, John Mark Ainsley, Malcolm Martineau and a host of stellar names. The price of student tickets is kept extremely low, offering an exceptional opportunity to hear some of the finest musical performers of their generation at first hand.

Camerata Musica also provides generous financial support for the Peterhouse Music Society Awards Scheme, offering up to £1,200 each term to student chamber ensembles and the chance to perform in the college concert at the end of each term.

Contact Details:

Director of Music:

Dr Simon Jackson,

Peterhouse,

Cambridge,

CB2 1RD

directorofmusic@pet.cam.ac.uk

Useful Links:

Peterhouse Chapel Choir Website:

www.pet.cam.ac.uk/chapel-choir

Choral Awards Scheme (Deadline, 15th February):

www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/fees-and-finance/music-awards/choral-awards

Instrumental Awards Scheme

(Deadline, 28th February):

www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/finance/music-awards/instrumental-awards

Organ scholarship applications (for entry 2019)

(Deadline, 1st September 2018):

www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/finance/music-awards/organ-scholarships

Please follow Peterhouse Choir on Facebook and Twitter @PeterhouseChoir