

**President:**

*The Rt Hon Gisela Stuart MP*

**Patrons:**

*Dame Emma Kirkby DBE    Brian Kay    Neil Mackie CBE  
John Joubert                    Professor Georg Christoph Biller*



## Birmingham Bach Choir

### Young Singers' Bursary Scheme 2017 -2018

The Choir has been fortunate to secure funding from the Feeney Trust and its own resources for a limited number of bursaries to support both the development of the choir and the development of promising young singers, who will have the opportunity to work with Birmingham's leading large chamber choir and benefit from the training given by Paul Spicer, who brings great expertise and an international reputation as conductor, teacher, composer and writer. Depending on the concert programme, there may be opportunities for solo work with the choir from time to time.

The bursaries are open to singers aged 18 – 30, and although tenors would be particularly welcome, applications are welcomed from all voices; eventual selection will be at the discretion of the conductor. Bursaries run for periods of up to twelve months and are for up to £1,000 each (pro-rata to length of bursary tenure). Successful applicants will be required to participate in the choir's major concert programmes during their bursary tenure (normally three in the calendar year September – June), as determined by the length of the bursary period. The choir's major concert programme performances next season are:

2017: Thursday 30 November; 2018: Saturdays 24 March; 16 and 30 June.

Rehearsals for the respective programmes begin in 2017 on 6 September, and 2018 on 3 January and 11 April.

Bursary holders will be required to attend a minimum of 80% of regular Wednesday evening rehearsals (to include the final Wednesday rehearsal prior to a major concert) unless agreed with Mr Spicer, and additionally the pre-concert rehearsal on performance day. It is essential that applicants are able to commit to these requirements, and, if students, consider their academic obligations during the summer term in particular, and have approval from their Director of Music/ Studies etc.

Bursary holders will be expected to fund, from their bursary payments, purchase or hire of necessary music for each concert programme and any other incidental items such as concert dress (your own black trousers and shoes plus own black shirt for men or hired choir blouse for ladies), together with travel costs etc. Choir folders will be made available on loan.

Please forward details of your singing experience, your age and occupation or current studies, your particular interest in singing with the Birmingham Bach Choir and details of at least one relevant referee, either using the accompanying form or by providing the same information by email, to [info@birmingham.bachchoir.com](mailto:info@birmingham.bachchoir.com) as soon as possible, and no later than 5<sup>th</sup> May. You will be invited to attend one or two rehearsals starting 10<sup>rd</sup> May to confirm your interest, and an audition and interview will be held shortly afterwards. Bursary places will effectively commence at the beginning of terms, when work commences on each new programme.