Introduction

There are two ways in which University of St Andrews matriculated students can obtain help with vocal and instrumental tuition costs through the Music Centre: scholarships and the Hebdomadar’s Music Fund.

Scholarships

Students who wish to audition for scholarships should sign up for an audition time in the Music Centre office or online.

Auditions for the scholarships in this booklet will take place on the following days:

| Instrumental scholarships, ensemble scholarships (not piano) (*^±) | Friday 11 September and Saturday 12 September |
| Piano scholarships (*±) | Monday 14 September |
| Vocal scholarships (not for first-year students) (*), St Salvator’s and St Leonard’s Chapel Choir scholarships (*), St Andrews Renaissance Singers auditions | Friday 11 September and Saturday 12 September |
| St Andrews Chorus scholarship auditions | Date TBC |

* Music as part of your degree auditions will also take place on this day
^ Chamber Orchestra auditions will also take place on this day
± New Music Ensemble auditions will also take place on this day

Auditions take place in the Laidlaw Music Centre and online. You should book your audition by following the link on our website, by visiting the Music Centre office or by phoning us on 01334 462226 during Orientation Week.

No student will be awarded more than one scholarship in any one discipline (i.e. singing, or one particular instrument).

Returning candidates

Scholarships are awarded afresh each academic year (with the exception of St Salvator’s Chapel Choir scholarships). If you have already auditioned unsuccessfully in a previous year, you are welcome to audition again this year. Last year’s scholars are required to audition again, and are not automatically awarded another scholarship.

Hebdomadar’s Music Fund

Thanks to the generosity of various benefactors, we offer Hebdomadar’s Music Bursaries which pay half of the cost of weekly half-hour instrumental/vocal lessons throughout the academic year. Unlike scholarships, these bursaries are awarded on the basis of financial need, following a confidential assessment by the Director of Music and a representative of Student Services. Students who are successful in obtaining these awards are required to pay the remaining portion of the fees themselves. There is no audition for these awards: applicants should obtain an application form from the Music Centre office and return the completed form by 16:00 on Wednesday 18 September 2019.

Music Centre membership

All scholarship recipients are required to join the Music Centre and pay the student membership fee – please visit www.st-andrews.ac.uk/music/membership.
Scholarships for singers

Choral scholarships

St Salvator’s Chapel Choir (www.stsalvatorschapelchoir.co.uk) is made up of auditioned choral scholars. As the flagship ensemble of the University, the choir seeks highly committed students with a passion for singing. In selecting choral scholars, vocal ability, sight-reading and demonstrable commitment will all be assessed. All successful candidates receive weekly singing lessons as well as free participation in the choir’s national and international performing activities.

The choir’s schedule for the year will be available at the start of semester. It will include three weekly sung services, all graduation ceremonies, CD recordings for the University’s internationally-distributed CD label Sanctiandree, and concert performances throughout the UK and abroad. All of these activities are compulsory and scholars are expected to attend all rehearsals and public performances diligently and punctually.

The audition will consist of a short piece of the candidate’s own choice (please provide music for the accompanist) as well as vocal warm-ups, brief aural tests and a short sight-reading test.

St Leonard’s Chapel Choir is un-auditioned; students who wish to join should simply turn up on Thursdays during semester, at 20:30. The director of the choir, the Douglas Gifford Scholar, can be contacted at dgscholar@st-andrews.ac.uk. One or two scholarships in each voice category (SATB) may be awarded: these will be auditioned at the same time as the St Salvator’s Chapel Choir auditions. Please see the audition requirements above.

Douglas Gifford scholarship: The Douglas Gifford Scholar organises, rehearses and directs the St Leonard’s Chapel Choir. The scholarship carries an honorarium of £300 and also pays for one half-hour vocal/instrumental lesson per week for the academic year. Because the Gifford Scholar needs to undertake preparation for the year’s activity during the summer vacation, the award is made at the end of the academic year. The University Organist will circulate details of how to apply towards the end of the current academic year, and would also be happy to discuss the position informally with anyone interested in applying.

St Andrews Chorus scholarships

The St Andrews Chorus is a large choir of about 150 members, independent of the University but with close links to it. It is conducted by the Director of Music, Michael Downes and rehearsals are on Friday evenings, 19:00-21:15. For further information, see www.standrewschorus.weebly.com. Up to four St Andrews Chorus scholarships will be awarded to student members of the choir who have already demonstrated a commitment to the Chorus for at least one semester.

St Andrews Renaissance Singers

The St Andrews Renaissance Singers has around 30 members and performs Renaissance music from across Europe in concerts and evensongs. Scholarships may be awarded to members of the choir. Rehearsals take place on Tuesdays from 17:30 to 19:30 in St Salvator’s Chapel.

Vocal scholarships

Vocal scholarships are only open to students in second year or beyond. Though formal musical qualifications are not a condition for applying, we would normally expect candidates to be of a standard at least ABRSM Grade 8 in classical or music theatre repertoire. Successful applicants will be expected to attend lessons punctually and reliably and to devote time to private practice, as guided by their teacher. In addition, scholars will be expected to become fully involved in the musical life of the University, for example by performing in appropriate Music Centre ensembles. Each scholar will be expected to perform at least once during the academic year in a Music Centre performance; guidance on this will be given by the Head of Vocal Studies, Jonathan May.

For the audition, candidates should prepare a piece of their own choice of about five minutes’ duration; an accompanist will be provided (please provide them with sheet music).
Scholarships for instrumentalists

Instrumental scholarships pay the full cost of weekly half-hour instrumental lessons for the academic year. Though formal musical qualifications are not a condition for applying, we would normally expect candidates to be of a standard of at least ABRSM Grade 8. Scholars are expected to attend lessons punctually and reliably and to devote time to private practice, as guided by their teacher. In addition, scholars will be expected to become fully involved in the musical life of the University, for example by playing in Music Centre ensembles. Each scholar will be expected to perform at least once during the year in a Music Centre concert; guidance will be given by the Director of Music.

Auditions: If you would like to apply for a scholarship, please sign up for a time in the Music Centre. Candidates will be expected to play a piece of about five minutes’ duration. For non-pianists, an accompanist is not required, nor provided, although you may bring your own if you would like to.

Piano scholarships: Up to four scholarships are available. Piano scholars have solo performance opportunities in masterclasses and concerts. As well as working on solo repertoire, all piano scholars are expected to undertake regular accompanying duties. The extent of these duties may vary depending on experience, but is likely to include accompanying other students in lessons, rehearsals and performances. The maximum regular contact time per week is two hours and thirty minutes. Accompanying is overseen by the Head of Instrumental Studies, Bede Williams. Piano scholarship auditions comprise of a solo performance (own choice) and a short piece of sight-reading.

Saxophone quartet scholarships: Up to four saxophone scholarships will be awarded to students who will make up the Music Centre’s Saxophone Quartet. Each student will receive individual tuition and weekly coaching as part of the quartet from Cat Evison. The quartet will be expected to rehearse regularly between coaching sessions, to participate in the Saxophone Ensemble (Mondays, 18:00-19:00) and to be available to play at University events.

Brass ensemble scholarships: A number of brass scholarships will be awarded to students who will make up the Music Centre’s Brass Quartet/Quintet. Each student will receive individual tuition and weekly coaching as part of the ensemble from Bede Williams. The groups will be expected to rehearse regularly between coaching sessions, and to be available to play at University events.

String quartet scholarships: As a result of a generous bequest from the estate of Hetty Buchanan, a cellist who was deeply involved in music in St Andrews throughout her life, we are able to offer scholarships to string players who will make up the Hetty Buchanan String Quartet, as well as one or two other quartets if suitable candidates present themselves. Each student will receive individual tuition from an appropriate teacher, regular coaching as part of the quartet from Feargus Hetherington, and occasional coaching from Lucy Russell (Honorary Professor of Strings, and leader of the Fitzwilliam String Quartet). The quartets will be expected to rehearse regularly between coaching sessions, and to be available to play at University events.

Wind quintet scholarships: Up to five wind scholarships (flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, French horn) will be awarded to students who will make up the Music Centre’s Wind Quintet. Each student will receive individual tuition, and weekly coaching as part of the quintet from Alex South and from other visiting tutors including members of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. The quintet will be expected to rehearse regularly between coaching sessions, and to be available to play at University events.

Organ scholarships: Organ Scholars are selected following auditions and interviews with the University Organist, and the selection procedure is separate from that for the other instrumental scholarships. For further information on what is involved, or to register your interest in applying for an Organ Scholarship, please contact the University Organist, Tom Wilkinson (taw21@st-andrews.ac.uk).