

# CHOIR OF ST. PAUL'S Burlingame, CA

*I will sing with the spirit, and with the understanding also.*

~ 1 Corinthians 14:15

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## CHORAL SCHOLAR PROGRAM

**Music at St. Paul's.** Music is an integral part of the worship life at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Burlingame, California. In the St Paul's choir ministry, embracing over 40 singers from age 5 to 80 and grounded in the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) Chorister Training program, boys and girls join equally with teens and adults in offering music to the glory of God. The **Choir of St. Paul's** draws together the adults of the **Chancel Choir** with the Choristers and Teens of the Choir School. This intergenerational choir sings at the weekly 10am Sunday Eucharist, quarterly 5pm Saturday Evensong, Advent Lessons and Carols, the annual Christmas concert, Christmas Eve, and the services of Holy Week and Easter Day. They represented St. Paul's in a week-long residency at Gloucester Cathedral, England in July 2017, also singing concerts at Oxford University Church and Blenheim Palace. The choral repertoire at St. Paul's spans a wide gamut of art music from chant, Renaissance and Baroque motets to Anglican anthems and newly composed sacred works.

**Choral Scholars.** St. Paul's is delighted to offer **2 Choral Scholar positions** for college-age students, underwritten through the St. Paul's Choir School. For the 2017-2018 season, positions for a countertenor/alto and a tenor are available. These two Choral Scholars will be members of the Chancel Choir and receive bi-monthly stipends over the academic year totaling approximately \$3000. These one-season positions are designed to offer young singers practical experience in serving as professional musicians, with expectations of musical excellence and the highest standards of commitment. Choral Scholars will attend weekly rehearsals and help lead worship services throughout the academic year (mid-September through early June). They will also periodically lead sectional rehearsals and workshops for adult singers and for St. Paul's treble Choristers.

Auditions for the 2017-18 Choral Scholar positions will be held with the Director of Music beginning in September, and until the positions are filled.

## Responsibilities

- I. Regular Attendance at rehearsals, services and concerts
  - a. Rehearsals resume the week after Labor Day. The Chancel Choir rehearses 7-9pm on Thursday evenings. Rehearsals before the 10am Sunday Holy Eucharist begin at 9am. Rehearsals before the quarterly 5pm Saturday Evensongs begin at 3:30pm. See the *Chancel Choir Season Calendar* for additional details.
  - b. While occasional excused absences are understandable, the following days are mandatory for Choir Scholars:
    - i. Quarterly Evensongs, Choir School Sponsor Soirée, Home and Hope Benefit Concert, Advent Lessons and Carols, Christmas Concert, September and January Chancel Choir Saturday Retreat

- ii. Feast and Solemn Days: All Saints' Sunday, All Souls' Sunday, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, Easter Day, Pentecost
  - c. If unable to attend a scheduled rehearsal or service, Choral Scholars should notify the Director of Music in writing as far in advance as possible. In the event of an unavoidable absence through urgent necessity or sudden illness, the Director should be notified on 415.503.8016 (cell). If a pattern of unexcused absences develops, the scholarship will be terminated.
- II. General Expectations
  - a. Punctuality is expected.  
*If you are early you are on time. If you are on time, you are late and will be left behind.*
  - b. Scholars should prepare music outside of choir rehearsal time in order to be leaders for the group at rehearsals.
  - c. Scholars are expected to be team players who strive to "build up" other singers and help cultivate a joyful environment of respect, humility, gratitude, and kindness.
  - d. The *St. Paul's Choir Handbook* is published each season which includes both general information about the choir ministry at St. Paul's and further detailed information on expectations, including dress guidelines.
  - e. All Choral Scholars are required to complete a *Shield the Vulnerable* online course, which includes a background check.
- III. Review and Renewal
  - a. Choral Scholars will meet with the Director at the end of each academic year for an annual review. This is an opportunity to review the scholar's performance and to discuss any desired scholarship renewals.
  - b. Both positions are "at will" meaning that the positions can be terminated at any time with or without good cause and without advance notice.

## Compensation

Choral Scholars will receive an hourly rate of \$15/hour, payable bi-monthly. The annual stipend will be approximately \$3000. At the discretion of the Director, there may be additional opportunities for further compensation (*e.g.*, weddings or memorial services).

Choral Scholars will have the opportunity to sing the world's best sacred choral music in Christian liturgies with a very dedicated, supportive and enthusiastic choir of singers. They will experience the drama and beauty of Anglican worship. They will work closely with colleagues and employers whom might later become valued sources of recommendations for school and/or work. Borrowing from the poetry of William Wordsworth, the experience of being a Choral Scholar at St. Paul's will nourish a choral musician with "life and food for future years."

## Audition Requirements

- Sing a prepared vocal solo *bring accompaniment*
- Sight-read two contrasting choral works
- Present a written recommendation from a musician who can attest to your readiness in musicality and maturity to be a Choral Scholar at St. Paul's.

# ST. PAUL'S BURLINGAME CHORAL SCHOLAR APPLICATION

*In order to schedule an audition, please complete and submit the following to the Director, Dr. Susan Jane Matthews, at [smatthews@stpaulsburlingame.org](mailto:smatthews@stpaulsburlingame.org)*

Date

Full Name

Address

Phone

Email

Voice Part

Years of Choral Experience          Briefly describe.

Do you play an instrument?      If so, what?

College                                  Year in College  
Undergraduate or Graduate Student

Name of Voice Teacher or Choral Conductor (*someone who knows your voice well*)

Phone:

Email:

Relationship to Applicant:

Describe your musical background, including your inspirations as a musician and why you would like to be a Choral Scholar at St. Paul's. (*150-200 words*)