

Church Music Award for Choristers under the patronage of the Deans of Brentwood and Chelmsford



The Deans' Chorister Award for the two dioceses was launched in October 2006 and the first examinations held in 2007. Like the Bishops' Chorister awards, it is ecumenically based and under the joint patronage of the Dean's of Brentwood and Chelmsford.

DEANS' CHORISTER AWARD (validated at RSCM Bronze Standard)

This Award is open to candidates of all ages and voices who are choristers in church or school choirs within the area covered by the Roman Catholic diocese of Brentwood and the Anglican diocese of Chelmsford. The Award is also open to choristers of other denominations in this area and to individual church singers and cantors.

The purpose of the Award is to encourage musicianship, loyalty and a growing awareness of faith in choristers, and to give a tangible recognition of such a standard.

Examinations are held twice yearly, usually in April/May and October/November, with the Awards Ceremony – held jointly with that for the Bishops' Chorister Award - in early December, either in Chelmsford or Brentwood Cathedral. Training sessions are also held prior to each examination – usually in March and September.

There is no written section and the exam is in one part only. Candidates will be required to demonstrate their singing abilities through a series of tests involving both prepared and unprepared work, sight singing and general musicianship. Candidates will also be expected to show their understanding of their prepared pieces and how other music with which they are familiar fits into a seasonal, liturgical context. Via a written testimonial from their choirtrainer, candidates demonstrate a strong level of commitment to their choirs.

Examiners will be RSCM validated.

Successful candidates will be presented with a certificate and be entitled to wear the Award's medallion. The certificate will also reflect whether the candidate has met the required criteria for Merit or a Distinction, as defined in the syllabus.

Current entry fees are £15. The current cost of a medallion is £10.

For any further information please contact the Administrator: -

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