



# ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL SOUTHWARK

METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST GEORGE



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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Job Title:** Director of Music  
**Location:** St George's Cathedral  
**Reporting to:** Cathedral Dean

### **Introduction**

Music is an integral part of worship in the Cathedral and accordingly the role of Director of Music is very important. Choral and organ music are fundamental to the Cathedral's tradition, but a wide variety of approaches to church music is also essential. A key member of the Cathedral staff team, the Director of Music is responsible for producing the music as required by the Diocese, Parish/Dean and external Cathedral users by arrangement. Fees are payable for external events and for weddings, funerals etc.

There are two chorister groups, boys and girls, choral scholars (ex-choristers whose voices have changed) and nine professional Lay Clerks who sing at the Sunday morning Masses. Usually the Girls' Choir sings at 10.00 Family Mass, with mostly unison settings and motets, while the Boys' Choir sings with the Lay Clerks and Choral Scholars at 11.30 Solemn Mass, where polyphonic settings and Gregorian chant are sung. That said, the two chorister groups regularly alternate so boys and girls have opportunities to expand their musical style and repertoire. The chorister groups rehearse separately: girls on Wednesday evenings and boys on Friday evenings. The full cathedral choirs combine for services in Holy Week and Christmas, as well as other special occasions such as broadcasts and the annual Diocesan Mass in Celebration of Marriage.

There is a professional Assistant Director of Music in post who plays the organ for most services and trains the Choral Scholar group of ex-choristers.

The organ is a three manual Compton extension instrument of 19 ranks and 72 speaking stops, which is currently being overhauled.

From time to time the BBC broadcasts choral services live from St George's Cathedral, most recently on BBC1 TV at Christmas Midnight Mass 2015 and on BBC Radio 4 in January 2017. We also released a choral CD with Priory Records in December 2017.

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Cathedral House, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7HY

Tel: 020 7928 5256 • email: [info@stgeorges.org.uk](mailto:info@stgeorges.org.uk) • website: [www.stgeorgescathedral.org.uk](http://www.stgeorgescathedral.org.uk)

St George's Cathedral is part of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



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## **Main Responsibilities**

Please note that this list is not exhaustive

Choral and organ music is required at the following Masses and special services:

- Sundays at 10am and 11.30am with the cathedral choirs during school term time
- Sundays with voluntary choir, lay clerks, cantor or organ only during choir holidays
- Maundy Thursday
- Good Friday
- Easter Vigil
- St George's Day
- Feast of the Dedication of the Cathedral (7 November)
- Christmas Carol Service
- Midnight Mass at Christmas
- Christmas Day
- Weddings, funerals and baptisms as required
- Occasional weekday Choral Vespers
- Other special services and/or events on an ad hoc pre-agreed basis

The Director of Music will be responsible for the management and provision of music at St George's Cathedral including:

- the preparation and execution of music for all agreed services at the Cathedral
- the recruitment, training and rehearsal of choristers, cantors and lay-clerks as required
- suggesting music to be used at specific services and gaining the approval of the Dean and/or other specific users
- preparing and publishing a termly music-list and the weekly Newsletter music table \*
- ensuring the music pages of the Cathedral website are kept up to date \*
- directing the choirs at Sunday 10am & 11.30am Masses
- directing the choirs at Masses and other services during the Triduum and at Christmas
- arranging and directing weekly choir practices for the choristers
- arranging/attending meetings as required in relation to music services in particular to discuss, plan and review the Cathedral liturgies
- supervising choristers, organists and other musicians as required

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- arranging payment for lay-clerks, organists and other musicians as required, ensuring adherence to current statutory requirements and Diocesan policy in regard to employment status, invoicing, reimbursement of expenses, etc
- management/implementation of statutory requirements and Diocesan/Church policy on all safeguarding matters
- administration and supervision of visiting choirs, including accompaniment as required
- direction of the cathedral's voluntary choir, the St George's Singers (currently twice a year)

\*in conjunction with the Senior Lay Clerk

## **Person Specification**

The Director of Music needs to be:

- a highly qualified, versatile, professional musician
- a first-class choral director and keyboard-player, ideally an accomplished organist
- experienced in the teaching of groups of children
- an efficient and well organised administrator and manager
- a good communicator at all levels, both verbally and in writing
- competent in the use of current IT such as email and Microsoft Office
- committed to the Christian faith and to the life, liturgy, worship and witness of St George's both as a Cathedral and as a parish church
- a proven success in a similar role and open to a variety of approaches to church music
- proven in supervisory experience with an understanding of safeguarding issues in this capacity

## **Terms and Conditions**

Hours of work: 20 hours per week including essential administrative work

Salary: Around £15,000 per annum, depending on experience and qualifications.

Holidays: Pro rata of 28 days per annum including public holidays

Pension: We operate the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) scheme

**Applications to [sarah.wood@finance-rcdsouthwark.org](mailto:sarah.wood@finance-rcdsouthwark.org) including names and contact details of two referees, by Monday 7 May 2018.**

**Interviews from 21 May 2018 - Choir rehearsal auditions on Saturday 2 June 2018.**

March 2018

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