

The Bishop's Prize for Music 2018 – Norwich Diocese

The Competition Prospectus

Purpose:

The purpose of the Bishop's Prize for Music is to help young composers find an engagement with the relationship between the Christian Gospel and music in worship.

Requirement:

Competitors are asked to compose a short anthem, not lasting more than 5 minutes, setting a short text from a choice chosen by The Right Reverend Graham James, Bishop of Norwich.

Bishop Graham has chosen four texts under the heading of ***Christ the Teacher***.

They are: Isaiah 30.19-21, Proverbs 3.1-2; 5-8, 1 Corinthians 2.7-10, Matthew 5.43-48

Texts should not be mixed. However, whole texts need not be used.

Entrants are encouraged to choose extracts from the texts which they find to be most inspirational.

By way of explanation of his choices, Bishop Graham writes:

“There is an expectation in both the Old Testament passages of a new Teacher emerging to guide the people of God. In Proverbs we are warned not to trust in our own wisdom, something picked up by Paul in his letter to the Corinthians where he speaks about God's wisdom “secret and hidden” that is revealed in Christ. Finally, part of the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's gospel illustrates the radical nature of Christ's teaching, reversing the wisdom of the world and telling us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us.

The texts possess both drama and surprise and I hope they will be fertile ground for musical composition.”

Below are the texts from the New Revised Standard Version. Only this translation may be used.

Isaiah 30.19-21

19 Truly, O people in Zion, inhabitants of Jerusalem, you shall weep no more. God will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry; when he hears it, he will answer you.²⁰ Though the Lord may give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide himself any more, but your eyes shall see your Teacher.²¹ And when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left, your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.'²² Then you will defile your silver-covered idols and your gold-plated images. You will scatter them like filthy rags; you will say to them, 'Away with you!'

Proverbs 3.1-2; 5-8

¹ My child, do not forget my teaching,
but let your heart keep my commandments;
² for length of days and years of life
and abundant welfare they will give you.
⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.
⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.
⁸ It will be a healing for your flesh
and a refreshment for your body.

1 Corinthians 2.7-10

⁷ We speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.⁹ But, as it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him'—
¹⁰ these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

Matthew 5.43-48

43 Jesus taught them, saying: 'You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy."⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,⁴⁵ so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same?⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Eligibility:

The competition is open to students in any school or college in the geographical area covered by the Diocese of Norwich. Home educated students may also apply.

Age Categories (at the time of submission deadline):

Junior: Under 12 years of age

Intermediate: 13 -15 years of age

Senior: 16 – 18 years of age.

Prizes:

First Prize in each category: £250 Second Prize: £100 Third Prize: £50

Overall Competition Prizewinner: a further £100

Discretionary prizes may be awarded in certain circumstances for outstanding contribution and effort.

It is planned that Bishop Graham will present awards at a service of choral evensong in Norwich Cathedral on Wednesday, October 3rd at 5.30pm. The prizewinning composition may be performed at this service.

Bishop Graham is grateful to the three judges:

Sarah Macdonald MA, FRCO - Fellow & Director of Music of Selwyn College, Cambridge, Director of Ely Cathedral Girls' Choir; **Alan Bullard** - Composer whose church music is published by Oxford University Press and sung in cathedrals and churches throughout the UK and USA; **Ashley Grote**, the Master of the Music at Norwich Cathedral.

The Competition:

In the **Junior** section, candidates should compose a setting for one or more voices with a simple accompaniment.

In the **Intermediate and Senior** categories, candidates should compose for four parts (SATB) in either an unaccompanied setting or with a simple keyboard accompaniment. Occasional division of the parts is permitted.

The composition must be presented in music notation and sent in hard copy or electronically as a pdf file to the co-ordinator. The name of the composer should not be written on the music copy. One composition only is permitted from each entrant. Entrants should note the exact requirements of the competition.

The compositions will be shortlisted and presented to at least three eminent judges in the field of choral composition and performance for adjudication. The judges will not know the name of the composer of any entry in order to avoid any possible conflict of interest.

The overall prize will be awarded to an individual on only one occasion.

Entry:

The deadline for submissions is Monday, June 4th 2018.

The results will be published by the end of August 2018.

Entry is free and must be made on the official form accompanied by the composition, either by post or by email.

All enquiries should be directed to the Co-ordinator: Stephen Miles,

The Well House, 20 Barney Road, Fulmodestone, Fakenham, Norfolk, NR21 0AT.

Tel. 01328 878 364 Mobile: 07767688514

e-mail: bishopsprizeformusic@gmail.com

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM – The Bishop’s Prize for Music 2018 – Norwich Diocese

Name:

Address:

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email: (of Parent / Guardian or Music Teacher for under 16s)

Telephone Number:

(Correspondence will generally be conducted by email.)

Date of Birth:

Age on June 4th 2018

Place of Study:

Title of Anthem:

Please send to:

The Co-ordinator, The Bishop’s Prize for Music

Stephen Miles, The Well House, 20 Barney Road, Fulmodestone, Fakenham, Norfolk NR21 0AT

Or by email to: bishopsprizeformusic@gmail.com

Enclosures and attachments should include the application form and the composition. It would be appreciated if the composition could be presented as a single pdf document, if sent by email.