

## **The BDCS Prize and Bursary 2020**

### **1. Preamble**

**1.1** Bingham and District Choral Society will award the *BDCS Prize and Bursaries* every two years to a singer aged 23 years or under at the entry date to the competition.

**1.2** The first *bursary* shall be £1,000, to be spent on advancing the winner's musical career, in a way that shall be approved by the Prize Committee (see below). There will be a second bursary of at least £200 and a third bursary of at least £100. Anyone short-listed may receive up to £50 towards expenses.

**1.3** The winner of the first bursary may in addition receive the *prize*, which shall be the opportunity to contribute to one of the Choir's concerts, either as a soloist in a choral work, or as a soloist in another work or group of works.

### **2. Entry**

**2.1** The competition shall be open to singers seeking to develop a career in classical music and ordinarily resident in one of the counties of Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Rutland. Candidates with homes in these counties but studying elsewhere shall not be excluded.

**2.2** Entries will be sought by publicity in relevant newspapers, media and through the Choir's website.

**2.3** Entrants, who shall pay a non-refundable fee of £10, shall submit a full musical curriculum vitae together with references from two professional music teachers. [References should not exceed 500 words in length.] They shall also submit details of a programme lasting not less than twelve and not more than fifteen minutes that they will give if invited to perform in the competition final. The programme should include at least one piece to be sung in the English language. Entries should be submitted to [prize@binghamchoral.org.uk](mailto:prize@binghamchoral.org.uk) to arrive no later than 31st October 2019. Cheques payable to BDCS should be sent to Mrs Beryl Cottrill, Prize Administrator, at 5 Walnut Grove, East Bridgford, Nottingham NG13 8NS, to arrive not later than November 4th, 2019.

### **3. The Prize Committee and the Public Competition**

**3.1** The BDCS Committee will establish a *prize sub-committee* to deal with all administrative aspects of the prize and bursary scheme, which body shall include the BDCS Musical Director and the Chair of the Programme Committee.

**3.2** The prize sub-committee will select a short-list of not less than three and not more than six from those applying, to compete in a public competition for the bursary and prize. If necessary, they will organise a private preliminary round.

**3.3** Competitors selected for the public competition will be informed at least 28 days in advance of the competition.

**3.4** Those selected for the final will give a performance of suitable works lasting not less than twelve and not more than fifteen minutes. They must supply details of any changes to their originally proposed programme at least 14 days before the competition.

**3.5** Competitors must provide their own accompanist.

**3.6** The prize competition will be judged by four judges, which will include the Musical Director, and one external assessor, to be nominated by the Musical Director. The BDCS Committee shall nominate a non-voting Chair for the judging panel.

**3.7** The judging panel will set the standard for any award and will only make awards if candidates of sufficient merit present themselves. It will be open to the judging panel to award the bursaries but not the prize.

**3.8** The decision of the judging panel will be final.

**3.9** Within two weeks of the Final, the Musical Director of BDCS will provide brief, agreed written feedback to each finalist. The judging panel will otherwise keep their deliberations confidential and no correspondence on their decisions will be entered into.

BDCS 2019