



## INTERCOLLEGIATE VOCAL ASSESSMENT DAYS

### Notes for Candidates

These Vocal Assessments are optional and are intended for those with an interest in choral singing who plan to apply to Cambridge this autumn. This process is designed to help you decide which single College to apply to via UCAS before 15<sup>th</sup> October. The assessments will be held this year between 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> September at the Faculty of Music, West Road, Cambridge.

You should arrive at the Faculty of Music at least 20 minutes before the time of your audition. Signs will be posted to mark out all rooms, and the foyer will function as the waiting room. 12 minutes before the time of your audition you should proceed to the warm-up room. You should proceed to the audition room for your audition about two minutes before the allotted time. Please wait outside the audition room until you are called in. The audition will last 12 minutes.

Those who have indicated more than one preference College on their application form may be contacted by another College within one hour of the end of their audition, so should remain in Cambridge for this time. It is important that you keep your mobile phone on during this time, as you may be contacted on the phone number you provided on your application form. If you have listed a College with a children's choir, you may be asked to meet the Dean or Chaplain of that College.

*N.B.: If you are coming from a long way off and require overnight accommodation, please let the Director of Music at your first-choice College know this **as soon as possible**.*

In the audition, which will be taken by the Director Music (or their representative) of your first-choice College, you will be asked to sing a piece of your own choice, which shows the appropriateness of your voice to the traditional choral repertoire. The piece can be sacred or secular, and must not exceed four minutes in length including repeats and da capos; you may sing in any language, and/or in translation. Please bring two additional copies of your chosen piece, one for the accompanist and one for the examiners. These additional copies may be photocopies, marked as "temporary photocopies", for personal use only. The photocopies should be destroyed after the audition. The audition will also contain scales and/or arpeggios to examine your vocal range, and tests in sight-reading and aural skills. Samples of these test can be found on the Music Awards website: [www.cam.ac.uk/choral-awards](http://www.cam.ac.uk/choral-awards) (click on 'Aural tests for choral award auditions' in the menu).

There will be posters on display in the foyer with a list of frequently-asked questions and other useful information pertaining to applying to Cambridge.

Shortly after the assessment you will be contacted and informed of the highest College on your list that would welcome an application from you – on purely choral grounds. If this is not the College that you placed first choice, you may wish to bear this in mind when choosing which College to apply to on your UCAS form. When a College would welcome an application from a candidate, this means that the candidate is broadly speaking near the level required for that College's choir. However, for a number of reasons (including – but not limited to – the possibility of there being more applicants than spaces) **there is no guarantee of acceptance at the Choral Awards competition in March**, either by the College in question or by Colleges further down the candidate's list of preference.

All applicants who are successful on academic grounds will be invited to apply for a Choral Award in March.

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(Co-ordinators of the Choral Awards Scheme)

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