

## **Background of the MMCSA Scholarship**

The Metropolitan Male Choir of SA has a strong reputation for its work within the community. A major focus of the choir is our youth development program in the Instrumental and Vocal Scholarships.

The MMCSA scholarship programme was initiated in 2000 by Geoff Sieben (a member of the choir for 64 years) and the late Frank Vanehouse. They saw the choir as an organisation with a community spirit and purpose. Bill Scott took over a significant administration role from 2002 from Frank, working alongside Geoff Sieben until 2020. The intention was and continues to encourage music making and love for music in the younger generation of music students and encourage those with talent to continue to the point of making music their career choice.

The Scholarship is open to Instrumentalists and Vocalists aged 12 - 16 years. The idea is not just a monetary prize but also to provide opportunities for them to perform in quality live concerts and thus assist them in making a start on their musical career paths.

Subject to meeting '*an appropriate standard*' three prizes are available:

- First Prize - The MMCSA prize is for \$2000.
- Second Prize - The SIEBEN-SCOTT prize is for \$1,000 so named to acknowledge the contribution by Geoff Sieben and Bill Scott to the choir and the scholarship in particular
- Third Prize - The JUNE GENDERS ENCOURAGEMENT award of \$500 is provided by our Vice-Patron and former Accompanist June Genders OAM.