

METROPOLITAN MALE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Scholarships 2026



INSTRUMENTAL/VOCAL Music Scholarship-2026

Metropolitan Male Choir of South Australia Inc. (“the Choir”)

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 Frank Vanehouse. They saw the choir as an organisation with a community spirit and purpose. Bill Scott took over a significant administrative 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 to 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 - 18 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.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Eligibility:

The Metropolitan Male Choir, Y2026 music scholarship program for **solo Instrumental/Vocal performance**, is offered to young people with proven musical ability.

Applicants must be secondary students 12 to 18 years of age on January 1, 2026.

Applications are considered subject to certain provisions. (see ‘*Conditions of entry*’ below)

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2. Monetary award/s

Subject to meeting ‘*an appropriate standard*’ condition as determined by the adjudicating panel, the following awards will be made:

1. An amount of **Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00)** for the MMCSA award will be made to the first prize winner.
2. An amount of **One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)** for the Geoff Sieben/Bill Scott award will be made to the second prize winner in recognition of Messrs Sieben’s and Scott’s coordination of the choir scholarship since 2002.
3. In the unlikely event that two candidates are adjudged equal prize winners, prize money will be shared in a manner considered appropriate by the Choir Management Committee. Prize money will be paid to the successful applicant/s in two half instalments, in May and December 2026.

In addition, a privately sponsored Award, to a maximum value of **Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)**, may be offered at the discretion of the sponsor, Mrs June Genders OAM. This award is not a third-place award, but will place greater emphasis on entertainment value, perceived potential, presentation etc. First or Second place winners, as detailed above, will not be deemed eligible.

Acknowledgement – The MMCSA acknowledges the generous financial support given to the Scholarship program by Mrs. J Genders, OAM, former accompanist and Vice Patron of the Choir.

3. Guest artist appearances (*Please refer to paragraph 7 “Conditions of Entry”*)

Further to the above, the Choir will offer Scholarship award winners the opportunity to perform as unpaid supporting artists at one or more concerts during the tenure of the Scholarship or shortly thereafter. In particular, the first prize winner will normally be invited to perform at our annual ‘Variety’ concert (August-October) in the Norwood Concert Hall.

4. Tenure

The scholarship/s will be offered for a period of 1 year from January 1 to December 31, 2026.

5. Entry fee

An entry fee of \$20.00 applies to all applications and is payable online to the ‘Metropolitan Male Choir of SA Inc.’ – BSB 065-125, account number 1038 5982 using reference MS2026 (*Your name*).

6. Applications

Closing date for applications: 16 September 2025

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7. Conditions of entry

Applicants will be considered for an award subject to the following provisions:

- 7.1 Previous winners of the First Prize, the MMCSA Prize, are ineligible to apply.
- 7.2 Applicants must be resident in South Australia at the time of application. Prize winners are required to be prepared and available to support the MMCSA at public performances during the tenure of their scholarship award. (*see para 3 above, 'Guest artist appearances'*)

7.3 Important

Each applicant is required to complete and submit the "MMC Music Scholarship" application form (appended below) together with a personal history record, providing details as follows:

- 7.3.1 Name,
- 7.3.2 Date of birth, (applicants must be 12-18 years of age on January 1, 2026)
- 7.3.3 School attended,
- 7.3.4 Study year etc.
- 7.3.5 Vocal experience or type of instrument/s studied.
- 7.3.6 Years of musical study, examinations, level achieved etc. (recommended minimum level of achievement e.g., AMEB Gr 6 or equivalent)
- 7.3.7 Name/s of teacher/s (together with Telephone Nos. if possible)
- 7.3.8 Awards, prizes, public performances
- 7.3.9 Other relevant information.

8. In addition, it is required that applicants: -

- 8.1 submit at least one referee statement together with a supporting statement from parent/s, carer, or guardian.
- 8.2 demonstrate a strong desire to continue their musical development.
- 8.3 submit to such audition as may be considered appropriate by a panel of judges.
- 8.4 be available, if requested, to attend for interview before a final selection is made. (*see para 5 above re payment of entry fee*)

N.B. Please note that applicants may not be selected for audition subject to a review by the panel of the applicant's suitability and appropriate detail provided in the application and supporting material.

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9. Auditions:

Auditions for selected applicants will be held on 27 September 2025 at Trinity Uniting Church, 318 Goodwood Road, Cumberland Park, SA

Applicants should present at least 2 items of a contrasting nature, (Instrumental applicants may consider 2 contrasting excerpts of the same work). Details of the pieces intended to be played must be included in the application and 2 (two) copies of the music must be provided at the audition for scrutiny by the adjudicators. Please make allowance for such scrutiny to be conducted prior to your audition. Failure to do so may result in applicants being advised of their inability to perform. Note that applicants are solely responsible for securing the services of an accompanist, if required.

9.1 Performance time. It is a firm requirement that performance time at the audition be contained within the limits of 7 and 12 minutes. Applicants risk disqualification if these limits are exceeded.

9.2 It is suggested (but not essential) that applicants should consider audition in one discipline (instrument or voice) only. Audition in more than one discipline will not necessarily afford any advantage to the candidate.

Notices to applicants selected for audition will be sent by email by **24 September, 2025.**

9.3 Note: - It is expected that candidates will be accompanied by parent/s, carer or guardian at auditions and where necessary, at post audition interviews. (*See para 10 below*)

10. Scholarship Awards/Post Audition Interviews

A panel of judges will adjudicate at auditions and make recommendations as appropriate to the Choir Management Committee. Scholarship awards will normally be determined immediately after the completion of all auditions with successful candidates being notified within the following 48 hours. However, if no immediate decision is possible, applicants still under consideration for an award may be asked to attend a post audition interview with members of the Choir Scholarship Committee, in which event they will be notified accordingly, by telephone or E-mail, on or before **3 October, 2025.**

11. Administration

Authority for the day-to-day exercise of the Choir scholarship awards rests with the Choir Scholarship Committee. However, the Choir Management Committee will at all times be responsible for over-riding administration of the program and where necessary will act accordingly.

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It is emphasised that the Metropolitan Male Choir of South Australia Incorporated Scholarship awards are made at the absolute discretion of the Management Committee of 'the Choir' and that no correspondence with respect to award decisions will be entered into, nor will 'the Choir' be liable under any legal action arising therefrom.

12. Privacy / Protection

Applications will be treated as 'confidential'. Details of a personal nature will not be disclosed publicly without prior consent of the applicant and parent/carer/guardian. Conduct of the Scholarship and any matters relating thereto will always be consistent with provisions of the Choir's Child Protection Policy which is available on the choir's website <https://mmcsa.org/child-protection-policy/>

13. Default

The Scholarship Committee will report any failure by successful applicant/s to fulfil obligations to the Choir, consistent with the terms and conditions of the award/s. Subsequent action, which may involve cessation of payments, will be determined by the Choir Management Committee.

The Choir management may not be able to accommodate difficulties that applicants have with the Scholarship timetable. While every effort will be made to accommodate preferences regarding performance times on the day of auditions, please be aware that scheduled times (once published) may not be negotiable.

How to contact us



The Scholarship Co-Ordinator, PO Box 12, Highgate, SA 5063

Please allow sufficient time to ensure your application is received by the closing date.



0401 204 634. If unanswered please leave your name, number, and a brief message on the answering service. We will call you.



The MMCSA website provides an online contact form which will be emailed to the Scholarship Co-Ordinator.

[Contact the Scholarship co-ordinator](#)

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Application Form (please print this form)

All the details requested on this form are mandatory

I, [Name]....., wish to apply for the Metropolitan Male Choir 2026 Music Scholarship. If chosen, I agree to pursue musical studies to the best of my ability and to fulfil my obligations to the Choir as defined in the *General Information* relating to the Scholarship award.

Signed.....

Supporting signature – Parent, Carer or Guardian

Name.....Signed.....

Email Address of Parent, Carer or Guardian.....

Closing date for applications: 16 September 2025

Name: (block letters)

Address:

.....

Date of Birth:

Music discipline: Instrumental Vocal (please tick)

For instrumental disciplines, provide details of the instrument.

(1) (2)

Note: Please refer to ‘Auditions’ in General Information sheet

Contact Phone Nos. Business hours

After hours

Mobile.....

Email address.....

Note: Please attach personal history, referee and supporting parent, carer / guardian statements.

See General Information details attached.