

EDUCATION 2020

Royal School of Church Music national courses, national and regional choirs and organ programmes



-  Regional Choirs
-  National Choirs
-  Inspiring Music in Worship
-  Choral Courses



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Information about <i>Voice for Life</i> awards and requirements for Gold and Silver	www.rscm.org.uk/vfl

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Front Cover Photo

MYC and iMYC in Norwich Cathedral, August 2019. All rights reserved.

About the RSCM

The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) is an ecumenical

Christian charity with education as its core purpose. Its mission is to encourage and inspire the good use of music, especially in Christian worship; the highest standards achievable in each individual church or community; people of all ages, especially children and young people, to become involved in church music; a culture of learning through practice, experience and reflection, to develop both skills

and understanding. The RSCM is sustained by thousands of members, volunteers and donors worldwide. For information about membership benefits, email: membership@rscm.com

To make a charitable or legacy contribution, contact: development@rscm.com, phone 01722 424848, or visit: www.rscm.org.uk

Please note, this document is a living document and may be periodically updated to ensure that the information contained within is up-to-date.

Letter from RSCM Director, Hugh Morris

Education is at the very core of what the RSCM is about. We work with all sorts of church music and musicians with one consistent aim: to make the music of the Church sound God's praises as well as it can, and indeed should. 'Inspiring Music in Worship' is the title of an RSCM publication, but it also describes an aspiration – to which we should all feel connected.

As someone who has been a teacher for more than 20 years, in all sorts of capacities, I am still as excited now by helping others to learn and progress as I have ever been. I know that I am not alone in this, not least amongst the many RSCM staff who are involved with the different courses on offer.

We are proud of our work with young people, especially singers, but this is not the only Education activity: education is a life-long pursuit and a state of mind. We offer support and tuition for those in leading, ministry roles, and the smaller church communities which have less structured music resourcing; and we want to send all those who encounter RSCM courses, whether for advanced or less experienced musicians, back to their 'home' churches with new inspiration, new ideas and resources, and better-developed skills.

The central courses listed here are supplemented by hundreds of local events near you; do look on the Events pages of the website for more details of those.

This booklet will be updated as more details become available for some of the courses, so be sure to check back for more information, but in any case I hope you will feel that you want to come and participate in something on offer here: they are there for you, the collective membership of the RSCM, to make use of.

We look forward to welcoming you to one of these 2020 courses.



Hugh Morris, RSCM Director, October 2019



Inspiring Music in Worship

Inspiring Music in Worship is part of the RSCM's support for music in worship at the individual church or parish level. There are three strands for churches in different situations detailed over the next three pages: *IMiW* resources, *Music for Mission and Ministry* and *Lift up your Voice*.

Inspiring Music in Worship Resources

Who is this for?

All church members, not just musicians

Inspiring Music in Worship (IMiW), available from RSCM Music Direct www.rscm.org.uk/imiw-book, is a series of five guided conversations, designed to enable leaders of worship (both lay and ordained), musicians and congregations to talk to each other and reflect on worship together with honesty and respect. Grounded in real-life case studies, the resources provide an opportunity to discover new riches whilst acknowledging the tensions of traditional and contemporary forms of worship. On-line resources to expand and complement the materials found in the book can be found here: www.rscm.org.uk/imiw

Day courses are based on material from the book and give those attending the opportunity to experience the format and content of the sessions, and an introduction to the ideas explored.

INSPIRING MUSIC in WORSHIP

Music for Mission and Ministry

Who is this for?

Worship leaders, both lay and ordained



Music for Mission and Ministry is a 48-hour course which provides practical guidance on managing, maintaining and developing parish music. It includes group discussions, study sessions, worship in a wide variety of styles and individual time with the course leader to explore the opportunities and challenges in your church.

In Sarum College, February 2019

Three residential courses led by **The Reverend Helen Bent**, RSCM Head of Ministerial Training, are offered every year across the country.



Courses in 2020

High Leigh Centre, Hertfordshire, 4–6 February

Tŷ Croeso Centre, Torfaen, 28–30 April

Whalley Abbey, Lancashire, 29 September–1 October

The RSCM also offers a one-day version of the event. This practical day will look at ways in which to deepen your understanding of the place of music in worship.

For more information and course booking, please visit our website: www.rscm.org.uk/mmm

MUSIC
for **MISSION**
and **MINISTRY**

Lift up your Voice

Who is this for?

All members from churches with few or no musicians



Lift up your Voice offers what you need in the way of resources to worship creatively through the Christian year without the need for formal musical training. It also enhances the work of the very small or struggling group which is capable but just few in numbers, by finding materials which are inspirational and fit for purpose.

Lift up your Voice is led by **Miles Quick**, RSCM Head of Congregational and Instrumental Music. Please visit our website for upcoming events: www.rscm.org.uk/luyv

lift up your
VOICE

Sarum College Music in Worship Days, in partnership with the RSCM.

A newly launched series of day-courses focussed on the exploration of church music from the liturgical and theological perspective. Music in Worship Days are designed by Sarum College.



Learning to nourish the human spirit

19 November 2019 — Inspiring Music in Worship: Engaging with the Rural Church led by The Reverend Helen Bent.

2 April 2020 — The Legacy of African American Spirituals for Congregational Song led by The Right Reverend Brian Castle.

5 May 2020 — Hearing the Sacred in Music: Listening as Prayer led by The Reverend Professor June Boyce-Tillman.

10 July 2020 — Sing it Again: Taizé and Short Songs in Worship led by Anne Harrison.

For more details, please visit Sarum College's website www.sarum.ac.uk/events/category/liturgy-worship/music-in-worship-days/list



Choral Courses for Young People

Bath Summer Course for Young People

Who is this for?

All choristers aged between 8 and 23 of any voice part with specific training offered for changing voices

A summer residency for young singers with a strong ethos of community, sharing and, of course, great sacred music. It's a wonderful place to learn the skills needed for moving on to iMYC, MYC or one of the Voices Choirs.

Hosted at the beautiful Kingswood School in Bath, this popular, long-running and un auditioned course is led by an experienced team of tutors. Services are sung throughout the week and include a wide range of music and liturgy.



Outside the chapel, August 2019

Spring Course for Young People

Who is this for?

All upper voice choristers aged between 8 and 15



This half-term course is ideal for those working towards their next *Voice for Life* level, with opportunities to sing and learn new skills and repertoire with singers from around the country. Daily services will be sung on-site or in church with plenty of opportunities, also, for recreation.

Course singers in Sneaton Castle, May 2018

Spring Course 2020

Tuesday 26–Thursday 28 May

Save the date! Full course details to follow.

Bath Course 2020

Monday 17–Sunday 23 August

Singers undertake a full programme including care and development of the voice, music tuition, *Voice for Life* training, recitals and choral services. Older singers will have opportunities to develop their musical leadership skills in support of their choirs at home. Boys and young men undergoing voice change receive specialist vocal coaching to guide them at this critical time.

Save the date! Full course details to follow.

For extra, specialised training for boys' changing voices, see: [Intermediate Millennium Youth Choir](#) (page 12)



RSCM Choirs National

Their repertoire includes psalms, anthems and service settings spanning renaissance polyphony to contemporary commissions, most recently Matthew Kelley's introit *Morning Thoughts*. A selection of recordings from the choir's most recent concert can be found on the choir's SoundCloud page: soundcloud.com/rscmmyc



Rehearsing with visiting specialist, August 2019

Millennium Youth Choir

Who is this for?

Auditioned singers between the ages of 16 and 23 years old working at Gold Award / Grade 7+

The *Millennium Youth Choir* is the RSCM's flagship choir for young people which encourages ongoing development of musical and leadership skills, both continuing our choral tradition and preparing for our future.

The choir's programme is centred around liturgical singing, learning a variety of advanced sacred repertoire and leading services as a choir. MYC sing both Evensong and Eucharist services on their cathedral residential courses as well as occasional concerts.



MYC concert in Norwich, August 2019

Services and Residentials

MYC 20th Anniversary Service at Westminster Abbey
Saturday 18 April 2020

MYC summer course at Lincoln Cathedral
Monday 10–Sunday 16 August 2020

MYC workshop and audition days
Saturday 9 November 2019 in Westminster
Saturday 8 February 2020 in Crewe



Auditions are held during MYC workshop days and places can be booked on our website. We recommend that young singers with, or working towards, RSCM Gold Award or ABRSM Grade 7+ are at the right level to apply for membership.

Auditionees are asked to sing a short, prepared, solo piece of their choosing and to sing and read short pieces at sight. For further audition guidance, please visit our website or contact RSCM Education.

By the helter-skelter in Norwich Cathedral, August 2019

The *Millennium Youth Choir* is directed by **Adrian Lucas**, RSCM Head of Choral Studies.



For further details and online booking for workshop days, please visit our website: www.rscm.org.uk/myc

Intermediate Millennium Youth Choir

Who is this for?

Singers aged 12–16 of any voice part, including those with changing voices, with entry via audio/video application



iMYC courses cover a wide variety of choral repertoire and vocal training, but also aim to develop young people as skilful musicians and future leaders. Composition, service planning, and opportunities to use instruments are included in the programme.

Rhythm game, August 2019

In 2019, iMYC joined with the *Millennium Youth Choir* to sing Evensong at Norwich Cathedral, and will do the same in Lincoln Cathedral as part of their course in August 2020.

Rehearsing in Norwich Cathedral, August 2019



Boys experiencing voice change are encouraged to apply, and individual vocal coaching is included to help support developing vocal technique in all singers of this age. iMYC members are likely to be experienced choristers in parish or school choirs, or have been part of a cathedral choir; those working at or above Silver Award level / Grade 5+ may be at the right standard to apply.

iMYC Workshops and Residentials 2020

iMYC Workshop
4 April

iMYC Summer Course in Lincoln
12–16 August



iMYC is directed by Hugh Morris, RSCM Director. For further details about iMYC and the audition process, please visit our website: www.rscm.org.uk/imyc

For extra, specialised training for boys' changing voices, see: [Bath Summer Course for Young People](#) (page 9).

Residentiary Choir

Who is this for?

Auditioned adults working at Gold Award level / Grade 7+

A summer residency for adult singers, gathering to sing the services throughout the week at one of our cathedrals. It offers an immersive experience into a full range of cathedral repertoire, developing and improving the skills of the singers.



Following the choir's successful 2019 week in Coventry Cathedral, the choir is heading to St Edmundsbury Cathedral in the summer of 2020. Varied repertoire and vocal coaching is offered as well as time for local exploration.

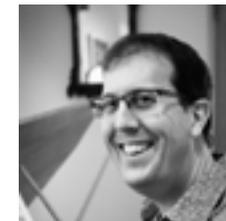
Coventry stalls rehearsal, July 2019

Residentiary Choir 2020

St Edmundsbury Cathedral 3–9 August

The *Residentiary Choir* is directed by [Dr Silas Wollston](#), choral conductor and specialist in early music.

Entry to the choir is by audition. Please visit our website for details about choir vacancies: www.rscm.org.uk/resi-choir





RSCM Choirs Regional

Who are these for?

Auditioned adult singers, both parish choir singers/leaders and individual members of the RSCM, working at or above Silver Award level / Grade 5+

Regional choirs are for singers who want to expand their repertoire, learn new skills and be inspired by singing with others in spectacular spaces. Singers are drawn from across the country, bringing a wealth of experience to share, and events provide the opportunity to sing repertoire which may be outside the scope of the singers' normal routines.

RSCM choirs work with high-quality choral directors, organists and occasionally vocal coaches who teach, challenge and motivate the singers to give their best in worship, both as part of the choir itself and back in their home churches.



Northern Cathedral Singers

RSCM Northern Cathedral Singers is directed by **Martyn Rawles**, Organist and Assistant Director of Music at Lichfield Cathedral.

For its programme of services and details of how to apply for an audition, please visit our website www.rscm.org.uk/ncs

Scottish Voices

RSCM Scottish Voices is directed by **Frikki Walker**, Director of Music at St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral in Glasgow.



For its programme of services and details of how to apply for an audition, please visit the Scottish Voices website rscmscottishvoices.org.uk

Voices South

RSCM Voices South is directed by **Rosemary Field**, RSCM Deputy Director (Education and Voluntary Networks, Safeguarding).



For its programme of services and details of how to apply for an audition, please visit our website www.rscm.org.uk/vs

Voices West

RSCM Voices West is directed by **George Castle**, Assistant Director of Music at Winchester Cathedral.



For its programme of services and details of how to apply for an audition, please visit our website www.rscm.org.uk/vw

Organ Courses and Programmes



Pipeline Organ Scholarships

Who are these for?

Teenagers wanting to learn the organ in a liturgical context

Pipeline is a shared project; church, family and the RSCM combine to offer significant financial assistance in training new organists. Scholars receive organ tuition in the instrument's liturgical context, helping them to contribute towards church life as soon as they are able.



Two Pipeline scholars, 2017

The programme aims to benefit both the student and their church, especially in circumstances where finances could otherwise constrain musical development.

RSCM Pipeline Scholarships are supported by Hymns Ancient and Modern, and other grantors.



Please visit our website for more details: www.rscm.org.uk/pipeline

Survival Kit! Organ Scholars' Course

Who is this for?

Cathedral organ scholars elect just about to start their first year

A practical and discussion-based course preparing new cathedral organ scholars for the year ahead, covering topics including issues of employment and working with choristers.

This three day course provides tools, tips and training to help cathedral organ scholars through their first weeks in post. Catering for scholars in both Anglican and Roman Catholic cathedrals, scholars are taught through practical playing, group-work and seminars as well as registration at the organ.

The 2019 course was based in Salisbury and included excursions to Wimborne Minster, Christchurch Priory and Portsmouth Cathedral. Details of the 2020 course will be published here and on our website.

Bath Summer Course Organ Scholarships

Who are these for?

Young organists wanting to experience liturgical playing, choir directorship and a wide variety of music

During the Bath Course (page 9) the two organ scholars observe and assist the musical staff through accompanying and conducting; with opportunities to play on the organs used during the course. The scholarships also include tuition from the Bath Summer Course organist.



Bath organ scholar and house tutor, August 2019

Details and application information for the organ scholarships will be available on our website soon.



Index of Courses

A complete list of local RSCM events can be found on the following page: www.rscm.org.uk/search-events

A complete list of *Lift up your Voice* events can be found on the following page: www.rscm.org.uk/luyv

A complete list of *Inspiring Music in Worship* events can be found on the following page: www.rscm.org.uk/imiw

A complete list of RSCM Regional Choirs' events can be found on their respective pages:

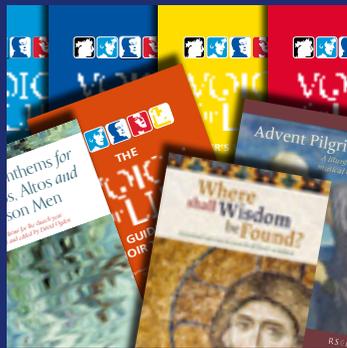
Voices South: www.rscm.org.uk/vs

Voices West: www.rscm.org.uk/vw

Northern Cathedral Singers: www.rscm.org.uk/ncs

Scottish Voices: rscmscottishvoices.org.uk

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