



## Formby Choral Society (Charity No 500354)

### Information for Heads of Music 'Young Members' Membership and Bursary Applications

Formby Choral Society (FCS) is offering students (aged 16+) the opportunity to join one of the North West leading amateur choirs to gain experience of singing in a large choir and performing some of the greatest choral music, not only in local churches, but every two years at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall.

We realise that 'young members' (YM) may only be able to be a choir member for one or two years before they move on to higher education, but believe that an opportunity such as this could be an important part of their musical education, development and experience, and useful for their CV. If a student has no experience of singing in a choir this should not stop them from applying, we are looking for a genuine interest and desire to sing in a choir such as ours.

As well as providing choral singing experience FCS is introducing this year (2014-2015) a '**Young Members Bursary Scheme**' for 8 students. On joining the choir and being successful in their application, they will receive a Bursary of £250 towards their musical tuition fees, equipment purchase etc. Bursaries will be awarded in 2 payments, £125 at the end of the Autumn Term once the YM has demonstrated regular attendance, commitment during rehearsal, attendance at concerts, and friendliness, attitude and teamwork within the choir, and £125 at the beginning of the Summer Term. Bursaries will be paid directly to the parent of the YM.

The Bursary Scheme will be reviewed annually by the Committee who will agree, dependent on choir finances, funding for future bursaries.

***All 16-21 year olds in full time education who join the choir are exempt from the annual subscription fee.***

#### **Application Procedure**

Students should complete the **FCS Young Member application form** (attached) during the summer term. Applications should be received by **4<sup>th</sup> July 2014**.

Applications will be considered by the Chairman and Committee and successful applicants will be informed before the end of the summer term ready to join the choir in September for the start of the Autumn Term. All new members will have an informal chat with the Chairman at the first rehearsal and will be expected to perform a short audition for the Conductor in order that they can be allocated to the correct voice part. New YM's will be allocated a mentor from the choir who will act as a support and help during the settling in period. Most rehearsal material is provided and the new starters are issued with a choir information handbook.

***Note: A Bursary may be terminated at any time by FCS Committee after discussion with the YM if they feel that the terms are not being fulfilled.***

**Rehearsals take place at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Formby on Wednesdays 7.30-9.30pm.** FCS is a very friendly choir who welcome new members. We look forward to receiving application letters from interested students to join our choir and enjoy singing some of the greatest choral music.

**If you have any queries please contact the Chairman: Kevin Howard at [berylkev@howardmail.me.uk](mailto:berylkev@howardmail.me.uk).**