

Sunday 15 May 2022

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the post of Musical Director with Cadenza. We hope that this pack provides you with enough information on the role and the choir, and that it encourages you to submit your application to us.

Our current Musical Director, Jenny Sumerling, is stepping down after 22 years at the helm. We are therefore looking for the right candidate to help us maintain our musical standards into the future.

In this pack you will find an information sheet on the choir, a job specification that gives you an overview of what the role entails, and an application form. The application form needs to be completed and returned to us, alongside an optional covering letter, by **Friday 24 June 2022**. Full details for submission are provided on the application form.

We aim to hold interviews during July and August 2022. We would then invite a shortlist of candidates to work with the full choir for 30-45 minutes each during our first rehearsal back after our summer break on Wednesday 21 September 2022. Ideally, we would hope to have the successful candidate in place as soon as possible after that – but timings can be flexible to suit the right candidate.

If you have any questions, please contact us at our website or using the email address above.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Yours faithfully,

All at Cadenza

Cadenza is a charity registered in Scotland, No: SC026537



Musical Director Choir Information Sheet

Cadenza was founded in 1992, originally as a small chamber choir. Under Musical Directors Graham Lovett (1992-2000) and Jenny Sumerling (2000-2022), the choir has come to be regarded as one of Scotland's finest and most exciting amateur mixed voice choirs, attracting members from a wide area of central Scotland.

Now about 55-strong, and with a repertoire ranging from the Renaissance to the present day covering all styles – from sacred to secular, traditional to jazz, a selection of which can be found on its three CDs and our recently-released videos on YouTube – the choir has performed to critical acclaim throughout Scotland and beyond. Cadenza has commissioned several pieces and regularly highlights Scottish composers and a capella performance in its programmes.

Our calendar centres on two annual fixtures. The Edinburgh Festival Fringe Concert, performed in the atmospheric surroundings of the historic Greyfriars Kirk, is our largest concert of the year and includes major choral works accompanied by a small orchestra, usually with professional soloists. In recent years, the Fringe concerts have attracted capacity audiences or been sold out, with the 2012 and 2018 concerts gaining a 4-star review. The Christmas concert is generally a varied programme, with carols old and new, a guest artist, and an opportunity for some audience participation.

In addition, usually in the spring or early summer each year, Cadenza gives concerts in support of charities, providing an excellent opportunity for the choir to explore its lighter repertoire, while raising funds for a wide variety of good causes.

We also hold an annual one-day workshop, when the choir can concentrate in more depth on specific aspects of our repertoire and choral singing. These are mostly led by Cadenza's Musical Director, but we have also been privileged to welcome some well known and highly respected conductors and tutors, including the National Youth Choir of GB Director, Ben Parry (our Patron since 2003), the composer Ken Johnston, Joan Busby (founder of the Oxenfoord International Summer School), Edward Caswell (choral director and member of Dunedin Consort), and renowned choral director and Britten expert, Paul Spicer.

Rehearsals take place in Central Edinburgh on Wednesday evenings, typically following the Edinburgh School year. Rehearsals begin at 7.30pm and end at 9.45pm. During one of these Wednesdays in Autumn we hold an Open Rehearsal in order to attract new members. Concerts normally take place on Saturday evenings, with compulsory pre-concert rehearsals taking place at the concert venue during the morning of the concert (if the concert is in Edinburgh) or in the afternoon (if not).

Our members have a range of abilities, but all are auditioned to ensure an overall high standard. We have a mix from confident sight-singers to those who diligently rehearse with rehearsal audio files sourced by our Committee and available on the member section of our website. We have an active social life too, from after rehearsal drinks in a local pub, to regular walking groups and social events throughout the year.

A Committee is elected from the membership to oversee the business of the choir and consists of a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian and four Ordinary Members. Other roles are assigned to Committee members or from the ranks of the choir to cover the functions of Membership Secretary, Charity Concert Manager, Fringe Concert Manager, Making Music Representative, Website Manager and more. Everybody pitches in and lends a hand!

If you would like to find out more about Cadenza, including listening to us, please see the links below.

On Our Website

- Main page: <https://cadenza.org.uk/>
- MD Vacancy: <https://cadenza.org.uk/new-md>
- Our Library: <https://cadenza.org.uk/music-hire/>
- Reviews: <https://cadenza.org.uk/about/reviews/>
- Past Concert Lists
 - Recent: <https://cadenza.org.uk/concerts/previous-concerts/>
 - 2019 and earlier: <https://legacy.cadenza.org.uk/concerts/previous-concerts>
- Contact Us: <https://cadenza.org.uk/contact/>

YouTube

- Our channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQJ20JdFM5SG1x25U-GRcng>
- Autumn Leaves video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E3I2llpbnm4&ab_channel=Cadenza
- Ding! Dong! Merrily on High video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pY-cE1MVNeA&ab_channel=Cadenza

Audio Recordings

- Bright Star – Cadenza at Christmas album
 - YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=06adnVSlpNc&list=OLAK5uy_IMUd-A9jtuwRrTqLyXqsgGUkuwbfWGkuE
 - Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/album/1titXEmrA2DX0EbIPfMpjK>
 - Apple Music: <https://music.apple.com/gb/album/bright-star/687287295>

Social Media

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CadenzaChoir>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/cadenzachoir>

Your Commitment to Us

1. You will have full responsibility for the musical programme and all other artistic matters for all concerts Cadenza perform, which are typically as follows:
 - a. At Christmas
 - i. Cadenza at Christmas – a full concert in aid of Cadenza, with a special guest. You will be responsible for identifying a suitable special guest.
 - ii. Occasional additional events – we have previously performed at the Royal Scottish Academy, at Erskine’s Annual Carol Service, and as part of Edinburgh’s Christmas
 - b. In Spring
 - i. Up to three full Cadenza concerts in aid of local charities.
 - c. In Summer
 - i. Cadenza at the Fringe – a full concert in aid of Cadenza, usually with orchestra, in Greyfriars Kirk as part of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. You will be responsible for identifying suitable professional soloists and to assist with orchestra selection for this, our biggest concert of the year.
2. You will be responsible for providing programme information for each concert to the Committee by mutually-agreed dates to ensure music can be ordered and distributed in good time.
3. You will be responsible for providing programme notes for the Christmas and Fringe concerts.
4. You will conduct all standard Wednesday evening rehearsals. Should you be unable to do so on occasion, you will help the Committee engage an appropriate replacement.
5. You will plan and conduct an Open Rehearsal on a Wednesday evening in September/October.
6. You will conduct an all-day Workshop with the choir during a weekend in spring/early summer.
7. You will conduct auditions for new members of the choir throughout the year.
8. You will be an *ex-officio* member of the choir Committee and undertake to attend Committee meetings regularly. There are between four and six of these per year, although you would not need to attend them all. You will also be consulted during budget-making decisions for concerts and repertoire and will be expected to adhere as closely as possible to these budgets.

Our Commitment to You

1. Cadenza elects a Committee from its membership to manage the business aspects of the choir and to provide the following support to the Musical Director:
 - a. Our Concert Managers will organise the logistics of each of the concerts Cadenza is involved in, leaving you to concentrate on the music
 - b. Our Library team will source and sort music for the choir
 - c. Our Membership Secretary will be responsible for arranging auditions with potential new members
2. Cadenza will provide competitive fees for rehearsals, concerts, special events as agreed in advance (such as the Workshop) and reasonable expenses.



Musical Director Application Form

This application form can be filled out electronically within Adobe Acrobat Reader. Simply click into the various boxes and type your response. Alternatively, you can print out a blank copy and fill it in by hand. Submission details can be found at the end of the form.

It is also possible to fill in and submit the form online by [clicking here](#) and following the instructions.

Please note that, regardless of method, the closing date for applications is **Friday 24 June 2022**.

1. Personal Details

All personal details will be stored securely and used only for the purposes of your application.

Name:	
Address:	
Contact Telephone:	
Email:	
Occupation:	

2. Professional/Musical Qualifications

Starting with the most recent, please list your professional and musical qualifications below.

Qualification & Grade	Date	Awarding Body

3. Choral Experience

Starting with the most recent, please provide details of your relevant experience in choral direction and choral training. We won't contact any groups or organisations without your prior approval.

Name of Choir/Group & Position Held	Dates

4. Professional Development

If you've undertaken any professional development or training, provide details below.

5. Other Musical Experience

List any other musical experience you feel is relevant to your application. Include details of instruments you play, along with grade/level and dates obtained.

6. Personal Statement

Use the space below to provide any other relevant information in support of your application.

7. References

Provide the name and contact details of two referees, which will be stored securely and will only be used for the purposes of your application.

Completed applications should be emailed to Cadenza at the following email address:

new-md@cadenza.org.uk

Should you wish to send your application form through the post, please first contact the email address above and we will let you know where to send it.