



Come to King's as a choral or organ scholar

King's offers the opportunity to pursue an academic degree in the arts, sciences, journalism, or music while simultaneously gaining excellent choral or organ experience with the King's College Chapel Choir (for experienced singers and a significant time commitment) or The King's Chorus (for singers of all levels and a smaller time commitment).

King's offers choral and organ awards for Chapel Choir choristers and organists.

CHORAL PROGRAM

The University of King's College Chapel Choir, directed by five-time Grammy winner Paul Halley, comprises 24 choristers from across Canada who study at King's College and Dalhousie University, and a handful of non-student lay clerks who act as mentors for the student choristers. The choir's primary function is to sing at the weekly Evensongs and Eucharists in the King's College Chapel, as well as other major services throughout the academic year. The choir is well-known for its annual concert series, *King's at the Cathedral*, which is based at the Cathedral Church of All Saints in Halifax and includes performances of a Requiem or major Mass setting for All Saints in November (*For All The Saints*), a December tour of Christmas concerts (*A King's Christmas*), and performances of a Baroque masterwork each spring with period instruments and vocal soloists from across North America and even Europe. The choir's performances have been broadcast nationally on CBC Radio, and featured in CBC Music's top picks of choral events to attend across Canada. The choir's CD, *Let Us Keep the Feast: Music for the Church Year* (2013) received the Outstanding Choral Recording Award from Choral Canada.

The King's Chorus was started in the fall of 2009 by conductor and percussionist Nick Halley and a group of students out of a desire for a choral society at the College. It has approximately 60 members each year including students, faculty, and staff as well as members of the local community. Auditions are held at the beginning of term and the Chorus performs two major concerts in the year. The Chorus offers a high-level choral training and performance experience for singers of all abilities, from the beginner to the professional.

ORGAN PROGRAM

As an organ scholar at King's, you will have the opportunity to study organ and choral direction under Paul Halley and play at many services, concerts, tours, recordings, and other events throughout the academic year. Depending on level of ability, opportunities for organ scholars include playing preludes/postludes and accompanying the Chapel Choir for the weekly Evensong and Eucharist services, accompanying rehearsals of The King's Chorus, directing the music for the Chapel's Sunday morning services, providing organ or continuo accompaniment for Chapel Choir and King's Chorus performances, and even assisting with other choirs in the community, such as Capella Regalis Men & Boys Choir, and the Choir of the Cathedral Church of All Saints.



AWARDS, AUDITIONS, AND ACADEMIC CREDIT

The University of King's College offers Choral Awards and Organ Awards for students at King's who sing with the Chapel Choir. Awards are made each year based on merit, as demonstrated during the student's audition (for entering musicians) or by the student's performance in the program (for returning musicians). Awards range in amounts from approximately \$400 to \$4,000 per academic year. Not all participants in the program are offered awards. Some first-year choristers enter without an award but become eligible in returning years as they gain experience and begin to make a significant contribution to the choir.

Auditioning for a choral or organ placement is a two-step process: submission of a recording (first step), which may be followed by an invitation to an in-person audition (second step).

Please visit ukings.ca/chapel-choir and follow the link to Undergraduate Scholarships for instructions. Applicants should submit their materials as soon as possible in the academic year prior to their entry at King's. All offers of a choral or organ placement are contingent on the applicant meeting the academic entrance requirements of the College.

Students studying Music may receive academic credit for participation in the King's Chapel Choir. There are no awards nor academic credit for participation in The King's Chorus.

“The Chapel Choir is by far the most intense thing I did this year, but also the most fun and I think the most beneficial in terms of my musical progression.”

— Kip Johnson, King's choral scholar,
2018-present (Music)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do you have to be a music student to sing in the Chapel Choir?

No. Our choristers and organists represent a broad range of majors, from Architecture to Biology to Classics.

What is the time commitment for each choir?

The Chapel Choir requires a significant time commitment, but it is manageable for the organized student. The basic schedule consists of seven hours of choir each week, Tuesday – Thursday. On top of the basic schedule there are special services, concerts, tours, recordings, and extra rehearsals. In the busiest weeks of the year (for example, Holy Week), you can expect up to 25 hours of singing in the week. The King's Chorus rehearses just once each week for two hours, and performs two concerts each year (fall and spring).

Is it difficult to balance school work and Chapel Choir?

Most choristers and organ scholars find that they are able to manage their studies and their Chapel Choir commitment. Many pursue honours-level degrees and graduate in the top ranks of their class. Foundation Year Program students often remark on how well the Chapel Choir complements their studies in FYP.

In addition to the two choirs and the organ program, are there other music opportunities at King's?

Yes. There is music for everyone at King's. The Chapel community offers the Monday (women) and Tuesday (men) Complines choirs, student-run music for Sunday morning services, a student-run Shapenote Choir, open mics, and rehearsal space. In the wider university and the city, there is a plethora of vocal and instrumental ensembles ranging from experimental student groups to world-class professional ensembles.

What is the King's Chapel like?

The King's College Chapel is an Anglican chapel open to students and community members of all faiths and none. The Chapel is both a hive of activity, with services three to four times each day and many community events, as well as a quiet sanctuary with silent hours for those who desire solitude and rest. In addition to the worship services, the Chapel is rich with outreach programs, wilderness trips, discussion groups, and parties (such as the famous all-night Resurrection Party after the Easter Vigil), and offers myriad opportunities to be with other people in community. Visit kingschapel.ca for photos and more information.



REPertoire: KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL CHOIR

As a chorister in the King's Chapel Choir, you will sing 26 weeks of choral Evensongs and Eucharists each year, featuring works of all the major composers in the Anglican and Roman Catholic traditions spanning ten centuries, as well as liturgical settings from the Eastern Orthodox tradition.

You will also perform major works through our concert series, including a Requiem or major Mass setting each November (past performances include some of the earliest available Requiems such as those by De la Rue (c 1500), Morales (c 1550) and Victoria (1603), 20th-century Requiems by Duruflé, Fauré, and Schnittke, the three canonic 20th-century mass settings for unaccompanied choir by Martin, Vaughan Williams, and Poulenc, and Rachmaninov's *All Night Vigil*), and a Baroque masterwork each spring (you will sing four of the following during four years in the choir: Bach's *St John Passion*, *St Matthew Passion*, and *B Minor Mass*, and Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610* and *Selve Morale e Spirituale*). Our annual series of Christmas performances feature music for the season from the medieval to the modern alongside readings by a guest narrator (past narrators have included Canadian authors, journalists, CBC radio hosts, actors from Canada and the U.S., academics, and musicians).

REPertoire: THE KING'S CHORUS

The King's Chorus presents two major concerts each year, often with orchestra or other instrumental ensemble. Past performances include Benjamin Britten's *Saint Nicolas*, Handel's *Dettingen Te Deum*, *Utrecht Te Deum*, and *Chandos Anthems*, Haydn's *Mass in Time of War*, *Salve Regina* and *Te Deum*, the Paul Winter Consort's *Missa Gaia/Earth Mass*, Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Paul Halley's *Love Songs for Springtime*, *Letter from Giocondo*, and *Requiem for Dmitri*, Vivaldi's *Magnificat*, Lauridsen's *Lux Aeterna*, C.P.E. Bach's *Magnificat*, Mozart's *Solemn Vespers*, Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, Kodály's *Missa Brevis*, a concert of works from the Eastern Orthodox tradition, a concert of opera favourites, and more.

REPertoire: ORGAN SCHOLARS

In addition to the choral works listed above, our repertoire for organists includes the complete organ works of J.S. Bach as well as pieces by all the major composers of organ music from the early Baroque to the present day.

“There's really nothing quite like the training a fine collegiate chapel choir can offer. The choir gets through so much first-rate music, just in one week—all the anthems, motets, mass settings, canticles, psalms, and hymns—that the choristers' musical literacy increases at a phenomenal rate.”

— Paul Halley, Music Director

“The King's Chorus provides an informal environment where serious music is given serious attention, but in the most joyful spirit.”

— Nick Halley, Assistant Music Director



ABOUT PAUL HALLEY (M.A. CANTAB., FRCO, ARCT)

Paul Halley is a Grammy Award-winning composer, choral conductor, and organist. He is Director of Music at The University of King's College and at The Cathedral Church of All Saints, Halifax. Paul was born in England and received his early musical training in Ottawa, Canada. At the age of 16, he was made an Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Toronto. Awarded the organ scholarship

at Trinity College, Cambridge, he received his M.A. with prizes in composition and performance, and was made a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists, winning first prize in the College examinations. Following four years post-graduate work as a church musician and teacher in Montreal, QC, Jamaica, W.I., and Victoria, BC, Paul was appointed Organist and Choirmaster at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City where he served for 12 years from 1977–1989. During his tenure at the Cathedral, Paul collaborated with The Paul Winter Consort, contributing as principal writer and keyboardist on multiple Grammy Award-winning albums released in the 1980s and 1990s.

Paul later settled in Connecticut and founded the children's choir, Chorus Angelicus, and adult ensemble, Gaudeamus. Paul also served as Director of Music at Trinity Episcopal Church, Torrington, CT where he inaugurated a Choral and Organ Scholars program in conjunction with Yale University's Institute of Sacred Music. In 2007, Paul relocated to Nova Scotia to become Director of Music at both the University of King's College, and St. George's Anglican Church (to 2011), as well as University Musician at Atlantic School of Theology (to 2015). In 2015, Paul became Director of Music at The Cathedral Church of All Saints, Halifax, a position which he holds in conjunction with his work at King's, providing many opportunities for collaboration between the two institutions.

Paul's choral and instrumental compositions are distributed internationally by Pelagos Incorporated (www.pelagosmusic.com), the recording, music publishing, and arts management company which he established with his wife, Meg Race in 1998. Paul's compositions have been commissioned or licensed by such organizations as Sony Entertainment, John Williams and the Boston Pops Orchestra, CBC, The Toronto Symphony, and Canadian Brass. In addition to a regular output of liturgical music, Paul composes three to four new, commissioned works per year.



ABOUT NICK HALLEY

Nick Halley is a drummer/percussionist, keyboardist, composer, and conductor. He is the founder and Director of The King's Chorus, the Assistant Director of the University of King's College Chapel Choir, and Cantor and Director for the King's College Chapel male Complaine choir. Nick is also the founder and Artistic Director of Capella Regalis Men and Boys Choir, and the Assistant Director of Music at the Cathedral

Church of All Saints, Halifax. In 2012, Nick was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of his contribution to Canada and Nova Scotia through the arts. For the 2013-14 season, Nick was the Host of CBC's national radio program, Choral Concert.

As a drummer and world percussionist, Nick performs and records internationally with a wide range of musicians including American musical icon James Taylor, the late Oscar Castro-Neves, Dinuk Wijeratne, Chris Norman, Old Man Luedecke, Suzie LeBlanc, Paul Halley, and Viradouro Escola de Samba. He has taught at Boxwood Festival, Aldeburgh Festival, Interlochen Summer Festival, and in workshop venues around the world. For more information, visit nickhalley.com.





“I made my best friends in university in the choir”

— Sophia Nickel, King's choral scholar, BAH'14 (French and Political Science)



“I love the fact that we sing new music each week, because it has exposed me to a huge variety of music that I probably never would have run into otherwise. The quality of the music itself is also fantastic.”

— Jen Hall, King's choral scholar, BAH'18 (Contemporary Studies and History)

“Singing with the Chapel Choir has completely changed the way I think about and direct myself towards music.”

— Simon Blake, King's choral scholar, BAH'17 (Contemporary Studies & Music)



“I was never planning to become a professional musician until I heard Paul Halley play the organ. There is such a wonderful, unique experience waiting here for talented young organists. This is a program for musicians who want a well-rounded and experienced-based education, something more like all the great organists had.”

— Nick Veltmeyer, King's organ scholar, BA'17 (Classics)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Hear the Chapel Choir on YouTube:
youtube.com/kingschapelchoir

See King's Chorus events and photos:
kingschorus.com

Check out our list of music for
choral services:
ukings.ca/chapel-choir (“Music Card”)