



Release

Guernsey

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Classical Music Bursary Returns to Support Aspiring Guernsey Students

Entries are now being accepted for a special bursary aimed at supporting young musicians in Guernsey wishing to study classical music at university or college.

It is the fourth consecutive year that the 'Keith Dawber Memorial Bursary' has been offered to prospective Guernsey students, having attracted significant interest for the past three years. Aimed at supporting Guernsey residents who intend to pursue further studies relating specifically to instrumental or vocal classical music with the cost of study materials, books and tuition fees, the Bursary is sponsored by Deutsche Bank and is worth a total of £1,500 annually.

Applications are now open for the academic year commencing September 2014 and are invited from local students from within the Bailiwick who already attend or have been offered a confirmed place at a college, university or other accredited specialist musical establishment that offers 'classical' training, rather than musical theatre or performing arts.

The deadline for applications is 23rd May, after which a panel will review all applications and draw up a shortlist prior to a selection interview.

Former recipients of the Keith Dawber Memorial Bursary are Casey-Joe Rumens, who has now completed his studies in Performance and Voice at Trinity Laban Conservatoire, pianist Tom Hicks, who studies at the University of Manchester and the Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM), and oboist Laura Campbell, who is currently entering her final year of a four year course in Music Performance at the RNCM. The three recently performed individual programmes at the Guernsey Youth Promotions Trust concert at St James.

The Bursary was established in memory of Keith Dawber, who joined the Guernsey Schools' Music Service after arriving in Guernsey in 1979 and soon became Head of Strings. He supported thousands of young musicians over a period of thirty years, and worked tirelessly on behalf of the Guernsey Symphony Orchestra to give pupils an opportunity to perform alongside adults and visiting professional players.

Glenda Dawber, Keith's widow and trustee of the Guernsey Choral Workshop, said:

“This Bursary has assisted three very special local musicians with their studies in the UK over the past three years, and seeing the three of them performing in the same concert recently was a real reflection of the impact of this Bursary. Having this kind of financial support is undoubtedly a huge benefit to young local musicians and Keith, who dedicated his professional career to helping young musicians achieve their full potential, would be proud of it. Studying classical music in the UK can be extremely demanding, and I am delighted that we are able to continue to offer this Bursary to support Guernsey’s young musicians.”

Deutsche Bank also has a long standing association with the Guernsey Choral Workshop, of which Keith was a founding member. Andreas Tautscher, Chief Country Officer, Deutsche Bank Channel Islands, added:

“Since it was launched in 2010, the response we have had to the Bursary has been consistently overwhelming, which goes to show that there is genuine musical talent here in Guernsey and that there is a real need to support our young people in nurturing that talent. I’m delighted that Deutsche Bank is continuing to support this initiative that can both foster musical excellence locally and recognise the contribution Keith made to Guernsey’s musical community.”

Further information about the Bursary and application forms can be obtained by e-mailing the Guernsey Music Service at musicservice@gov.gg or Deutsche Bank at sari.cuming@db.com.

Ends.

For further information, please contact Adam Riddell at Crystal Public Relations on tel. +44 (0) 1534 639505 or e-mail adam@crystalpr.co.uk