



**Patrons: Dame Emma Kirkby
Harry Christophers CBE**

Director: Alan Vincent

Kath Topping Award for Vocal Studies 2021

Information Sheet and Application Form

The Kath Topping Vocal Award 2021

The Kath Topping Vocal Award 2021 will be the fifteenth award to be made by Kent Chamber Choir in memory of Kath, a much-loved member of the Choir who died suddenly in 2002. She joined Kent County Council as an archivist finally becoming Specialist Services Manager in Kent Libraries. She lived in Maidstone and was a governor of St Simon Stock RC Secondary School.

Singing was a real joy to Kath and her musical and social contribution to Kent Chamber Choir was outstanding through her enthusiasm, loyalty and lovely alto voice. She had told close friends that if she could have her time again, singing would have been the career she would have chosen. Her tragic premature death prompted choir members to seek to remember her and celebrate her life through a bursary fund created to encourage and support young singers from Kent or Medway.

The Kath Topping Memorial Fund was set up in October 2003 with the proceeds of a concert in Rochester Cathedral at which Kent Chamber Choir was joined by its patron, the internationally acclaimed soprano Emma Kirkby, and three of Kent Music School's Youth Choirs in the first performance of "Sing Joyfully", a fitting tribute to Kath.

One or more awards of up to £500 each may be made to provide support for vocal studies such as singing lessons or the purchase of music or scores in the 2021 - 22 academic year.

Successful applicants will be required to submit a receipted invoice(s) by 30th June 2022 in order to claim their Award.

WHO CAN APPLY?

To be eligible to apply, you must be aged between 16 and 23 on 31st August 2021 and your '**family home**' must be in the Kent or Medway Authority Area, even if you personally are currently living outside the county because of college/university study.

The closing date for applications is **28nd May 2021**.

WILL AUDITIONS BE HELD?

A shortlist will be produced by 11th June and successful applicants will be invited to an audition during July. Two short contrasting songs (or extracts) should be prepared. They can be either accompanied or unaccompanied and an accompanist will be provided if requested.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Please complete the attached application form and return it as soon as possible, but not later than, **28th May 2021** to:

Mrs Elizabeth Jenkins
Kent Chamber Choir
9 Preston Park
Faversham
Kent, ME13 8LH
Tel: 01795 536778
E-mail: e.jenkins3@btinternet.com

PLEASE DETACH AND RETAIN THIS SHEET FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

The Kath Topping Vocal Award 2021 Application Form

Applicant please complete and return this form no later than 28th May 2021 to:
Mrs Elizabeth Jenkins
9 Preston Park, Faversham, Kent ME13 8LH, e-mail: e.jenkins3@btinternet.com

Surname D.o.B

Forename(s)

Address

Post code Tel. no

e-mail address

If you are currently studying away from home, please give the address of your family home:

Address

Postcode Tel No

Name of School, College or University attended (if applicable).....

Voice: Soprano / Mezzo Soprano / Contralto / Counter-tenor / Tenor / Baritone / Bass (please circle)

Most recent examination passed (if any). If none, state equivalent Associated Board grade achieved.

Grade.....Mark.....Date taken.....Examining Board.....

Or equivalent Associated Board grade.....

List any singing groups of which you are or have been a member and for how long

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Please explain why you are applying for a Kath Topping Vocal Award. For example, what are your longer term singing aspirations; how will you use the money if you are successful; how will that help you achieve your longer term ambitions; what level of award are you seeking?

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Please continue overleaf

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I understand that my singing teacher may be contacted.

Signed.....(applicant) Date.....

To be completed for applicants under 18:

**I support my son's/daughter's/ward's(*) application for a Kath Topping Vocal Award
(* Please delete as appropriate**

Signed..... (parent/guardian) Date.....

Singing Teacher's Recommendation

Please comment in support of your pupil's application under the following headings:

Achievements to date

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Experience

.....

Potential

.....

Commitment

.....

Name, address and contact details

Name

Address

PostcodeTel. no e-mail

Signed..... Date.....