

Martin Read Foundation
supporting young composers

We are excited to announce our **Award Scheme for young composers 2025.**

INTERESTED? Find out here:

If you are a composer aged between 14 and 17 read on...

Every Year MRF selects up to 4 young composers to receive an award, along with a composition commission and composition support.

THE COMMISSION

We are very excited to have partnered with [Commotio](#): *Oxford-based choir and leading performer of contemporary choral music*. Commotio will be our ensemble-in-residence 2025.

Each successful applicant to the scheme will be commissioned to write a short piece (maximum three minutes performance time), for SATB choir, to be premiered by Commotio in our Annual Festival, April 27th 2025, Alton, Hampshire. There will be a choice of short poems as texts to set, the focus of which will be Climate Change.

COMPOSITION SUPPORT

Composition-mentors:

Each award-holder will be introduced to a MRF mentor-composer. Their award will fund around 3 individual lessons in composition with that mentor through the Spring Term.

Workshops:

Award-holders will attend 2 workshops:

In late January there will be an *Introduction to SATB choir, on writing for choir*, with Commotio and their visiting conductor. This will be in Oxford on a weekday evening. Part-way into the composing stage, in February half-term, the Starting Points of the pieces will be workshopped with Commotio at a venue in Oxford, on a weekday evening.

Annual Festival:

Premiere performance Alton, Hampshire, April 27th a premiere performance will be given and a recording will be provided to the award-holder.

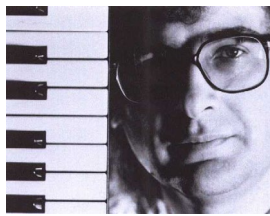
Included in the Annual Festival will be opportunities to sing with Commotio and / or to play new works by MRF alumni and / or other contemporary composers. The Festival will also host a reception as the public launch of the release of: ***Martin Read – a celebration***, featuring Commotio, Joseph Spooner – cello, David Owen-Norris – piano, and other performers.

TO APPLY for an MRF AWARD, you need to be between ages 14 & 17 during this academic year...

Go to: www.martinreadfoundation.org

On the opening page: *News and Events*, click **REGISTRATION**.

You will be asked to consent to MRF holding your contact details. If you do, please continue with the form and write a short description telling us a bit about you, your aspirations and how you would hope to use any funds, your compositional experience so far and how you heard about MRF.



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You will then need to submit the following items:

- **2 contrasting compositions**, each up to 3 minutes in length.
- **A reference from your music teacher** who is aware of your interest in composition.

Please send us your 2 best recent pieces, either complete pieces or substantial works in progress so we can get to know you as a composer. These do not necessarily need to be vocal or choral pieces, although if you've written any such pieces, you might like to submit one.

Application DEADLINE: 5pm Friday 27th December 2024.

Awards will be confirmed by MRF panel in early January '25. Selected young composers will be put in touch with a suitable mentor-composer and will receive a bursary to fund lessons in composition and certain travel costs to MRF events. The bursary is not to be used for accommodation.

Awarded young composers must commit to attending the following events:

Thurs 9 th January	<u><i>How to write for voices</i></u> - workshop led by MRF mentors. VENUE: On-line TIMES: 5 – 6pm
Thurs. 23 rd January	<u>Introduction to SATB Choir</u> with Commotio, founder conductor, MRF Founder-trustee, MRF mentors VENUE: St John the Evangelist , Iffley Road, Oxford. TIMES: 19.30 – 20.30
Weds. 19 th February	<u>Starting-Points Workshop</u> with Commotio, visiting conductor, MRF Founder-trustee & MRF mentors, on the award-holders commissions. VENUE: St John the Evangelist , Iffley Road, Oxford. TIMES: 7.30 – 9pm
Sun. March 23 rd	Final submissions of choral pieces, for Commotio to rehearse.
Sun. April 27 th	<u>MRF Annual Festival</u> VENUE: St Lawrence Church , Alton, Hampshire TIMES: Mid-morning to mid-evening, details TBA.

We look forward to receiving your application.

For further information about MRF and its scheme supporting young composers,
please see www.martinreadfoundation.org
Any queries please email beccy@martinreadfoundation.org