

PHOENIX CONSORT

EMERGING COMPOSERS 2026/27



Phoenix Consort and director Adam Whitmore are pleased to launch their inaugural 'Emerging Composers', a new composition competition specifically aimed at emerging composers embarking on their career in music. Listed by Gramophone Magazine as a 'leading group focusing on recording new music', the group aims to showcase the work of a new group of composers every year, announcing winners at the live final in London.

The Phoenix Consort welcomes and encourages applications from composers of all working and social backgrounds, including those still in full-time education with the aim of approaching music as a career in future.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRY: November 29th 2026
FINALISTS ANNOUNCED: January 5th 2027
LIVE FINAL: 13th February 2027, St. Gabriel's Pimlico
London SW1V 2AD



WORKSHOP

Valuable advice and coaching in relation to specific scores or general career aims provided by an industry professional/judge. 1-to-1 session provided to finalists ahead of the final performance of their piece.

RECORDING

All finalists' work will be recorded in high quality, and publicised on the Phoenix Consort social media channels, with the aim of increasing opportunity for future performance of compositions.

AWARDS

We are pleased to offer financial awards to three finalists every year, which we hope can be used to fund future composition work, such as funding recording sessions, purchase of digital composition software, or any other means to forward their career.

1ST PRIZE

£500

2ND PRIZE

£300

CHOIR PRIZE

£200

EMAIL

adam@phoenixconsort.com

WEB

www.phoenixconsort.com

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Accessibility is very important to us - if you require any alternative means to enter the competition please get in touch with adam@phoenixconsort.com.

SCORING: Unaccompanied SATB, divisi up to SSAATTBB (divisi is not a requirement).

REQUIREMENTS: UK Resident. The competition is aimed at emerging composers: those who are in the process of establishing a professional career and developing their artistic profile.

Our brief for this year surrounds the texts of **Emily Dickinson**. Please submit an unaccompanied work between **2.5-4 minutes** long, suitable for performance by up to 20 members of the Phoenix Consort. You are free to include solos, semi-chorus sections, or use the full choir throughout. The piece can contain contemporary elements and complex harmonic features if desired, but should still remain approachable in difficulty for a confident amateur choir. Applicants are limited to one entry.

Examples of **texts** include: 'Hope is a thing with feathers', 'My river runs to thee', 'Heart! We will forget him!', 'I died for Beauty', 'I can wade Grief', 'Unable are the Loved to die', and any other text by Emily Dickinson listed on the Poetry Foundation Website.

It is not necessary to incorporate the entire text in the composition.

ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

Send/attach via Email to adam@phoenixconsort.com no later than 11:59pm on **December 1st 2026**:

- Your Full Name, Contact Email Address, Phone Number, Date of Birth, City of Residence.
- A Music CV/Short detail of musical experience.
- A PDF of your score.
- An MP3 file/MIDI Audio of the piece., if possible.
- A brief description (250 words approx.) of the piece, your intentions for its performance and the writing process.
- A short sentence/two sentences explaining how you would use the possible prize money.



If you would like to discuss your ideas for a piece/any other details of the competition before entering your composition, feel free to contact our artistic director via the same email, adam@phoenixconsort.com.

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS OF THE 2027 SCHEME
THE DOGETT FAMILY FOUNDATION | THE MARCHUS TRUST

EMAIL
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WEB
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