



News from the Royal School of Church Music

HALLELUJAH! 1200 SCHOOL PUPILS EXPECTED FOR RSCM'S SHINY YOUNG VOICES FESTIVAL.

More than 1200 school pupils are expected to take part in this year's Young Voices Festival organised by the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM). Events will take place throughout the year in cathedrals and similar venues throughout the UK.

The music includes a catchy warm up song based on the popular *Hallelujah* chorus from Handel's *Messiah*, Graham Kendrick's *Shine Jesus Shine*, as well as songs from the Iona community and the South African *We are marching*. Each Young Voices Festival event culminates in an act of worship, which this year takes the spiritual *Let it shine* as its main theme. Booking has opened for eight venues ranging from Dunblane Cathedral in Scotland to Chichester Cathedral in Sussex.

"These are always very popular and inspiring occasions," says Sue Snell, the RSCM's Head of Education. "Last year's festival entitled *Search for Peace* was very well received by the fifty-one choirs of young people who took part. We know there will be much for them to enjoy in this year's *Let it shine!* service."

With an eye to budgets, everything that a participating school or choir will need is supplied on a CD-ROM priced £25 (£18.75 for RSCM affiliates). This contains all the music for singers and choir director, training notes, demonstration and backing tracks for rehearsals, as well as the texts of all readings and prayers and a congregational service sheet. As with the service books published in previous years, music and readings from *Let it shine!* can also be used for school assemblies and other services, and the RSCM is offering guidance to anyone interested in running a similar event.

The 2009 Young Voices Festival is taking place in the following venues:

Eton College	Tuesday 9 th June
Ely Cathedral	Wednesday 10 th June
Portsmouth Cathedral	Wednesday 10 th June
Birmingham Cathedral	date to be confirmed
Dunblane Cathedral	Saturday 19 th September
Ripon Cathedral	Wednesday 7 th October
King's College School, Wimbledon	Wednesday 14 th October
Chichester Cathedral	Wednesday 14 th October

More information about the festival including the *Let it shine!* CD-ROM and details of how to book for each event, are available on the RSCM website www.rscm.com/youngvoices

Ends

6 April 2009

Notes for Editors

The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) is an educational charity which promotes the best use of music in worship, church life, and the wider community. The RSCM also publishes music and training resources, and organises courses, short workshops and activities. With over 8,500 affiliates, members and friends in over 40 countries it is an international network, supported by over 750 volunteers and a small team of staff based throughout the UK. More at www.rscm.com

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