



## ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION

discovering voices

### ESU MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS: NOTES FOR APPLICANTS

*“The English-Speaking Union’s music scholarships provide invaluable opportunities for young musicians. As a past scholar, I am very grateful for the opportunity I had to travel to America, where I came into contact with professors and fellow students whom I should never have met otherwise. I believe that the scholarships have proved very important to the lives of many young musicians and I hope that they will continue to do so for many years to come.”*



Steven Isserlis, Cellist  
ESU Music Scholar, 1981

### ABOUT

The English-Speaking Union is an international membership organisation and educational charity that promotes mutual understanding, and fosters friendship and exchange throughout the world. Founded in 1975, the ESU Music Scholarships allow exceptional young musicians to develop their talents and further their training at one of several internationally renowned programmes. The scholarships were the brainchild of Belinda Norman-Butler, a long-serving member of the ESU and a former Governor, who organised a concert to raise money to establish the first scholarship to Tanglewood. The ESU now supports three annual programmes in the UK and Europe. The scholarships would not be possible without the endowments of Charlotte Bonham-Carter and Belinda Norman-Butler, and continuous ESU fundraising.

### PROGRAMME ALUMNI

Over 200 musicians have been supported by the ESU’s Music Scholarships. The scholars who have benefited from this valuable experience are now making a significant contribution to the musical profession, both as performers and as teachers. Notable alumni include: violinists, Nigel Kennedy, Stephanie Gonley, Tasmin Little, Janice Graham and Rebecca Hirsch; cellists, Robert Cohen and Steven Isserlis; flautist, Gary Arbuthnot; pianists, Warren Mailley-Smith and Vanessa Lata arche; clarinettist, Robert Plane; and pianist and musical director, Ian Townsend.

### ELIGIBILITY

Candidates must apply to their preferred summer programme via its normal application channels. In conjunction with the programmes’ admission staff, the ESU will offer scholarships to successful candidates who meet the following criteria:

- Aged 18-30
- Current student, or recent graduate (two years maximum since graduation) of a conservatory or university music department in the UK
- Willingness to commit to at least one performance for an ESU audience within a year of the scholarship being granted
- Financial need

## WHAT DOES A SCHOLARSHIP COVER?

Each scholarship covers the cost of tuition, board and lodging at one of the supported programmes (see below), and scholars can also request to be reimbursed for any administration fees, where applicable.

## SUPPORTED PROGRAMMES

INSTITUTION	LOCATION AND DURATION	SUPPORTED PROGRAMMES
Académie Internationale de Musique Maurice Ravel	St Jean de Luz, France September (2 weeks)	The September Session
Georg Solti Accademia*	Castiglione della Pescaia, Italy June-July (3 weeks)	The Georg Solti Accademia di Bel Canto
International Musicians Seminar	Prussia Cove, Cornwall, UK March-April (3 weeks)	Master Classes

Scholars are selected by the programmes' admission staff and the ESU following the institutions' usual application procedures. Candidates will be contacted by the ESU and are expected to complete a conditions of scholarship form, confirming their acceptance and agreeing to the ESU's expectations of its music alumni. This will include an agreement to commit to at least one performance for an ESU audience within a year of the scholarship being granted. Where possible, the ESU will liaise directly with the institutions to ensure the relevant fees are paid. In certain cases, the ESU will liaise directly with the scholar to arrange the reimbursement of travel and visa costs.

For further information, please visit our website or drop us an email.

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