



Christ
Church
Cathedral
Dublin

ORGAN OUTREACH PROGRAM

Learn the Organ!
Information Pack

LEARN THE ORGAN AT CHRIST CHURCH

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

Christ Church Cathedral is delighted to offer 3 promising young musicians the opportunity to undertake organ studies with the cathedral organists Mr Tom Little and Mr James Short, and the Music Outreach Coordinator. This is an unparalleled opportunity and will provide participants with an introduction to the organ and its repertoire. Thanks to the generosity of the cathedral, these lessons are **free** for up to 2 years.

What is included:

- A weekly 45-minute lesson, either on the 3-manual Kenneth Jones cathedral organ or 3-manual practice organ located in the Song School
- Direction in technique and musicianship, carefully tailored to the needs of the student
- Instruction in aspects of music theory, with a focus on basic skills required of organists
- An introduction to the role of the organ within Christian liturgy (**candidates are not expected nor required to be of any faith, but will be expected to attend a choral service once a week to watch the organists**)

Candidates should:

- Have a good foundation in a keyboard instrument (minimum RIAM Grade 6/ABRSM Grade 4 level)
- Demonstrate good ability in sight-reading
- Have a passion for their instrument and show a willingness to develop their musicianship
- Be able to attend scheduled lessons during term time



LEARN THE
ORGAN!



CATHEDRAL ORGAN

An overview of the

CATHEDRAL ORGAN

The cathedral's Grand Organ was designed and built in 1984 by Kenneth Jones and Associates of Bray, county Wicklow, Ireland. The instrument has been described as the most significant new Irish cathedral organ in history, and it has gained an impressive international reputation particularly through its central role in the Dublin International Choral and Organ Festival.

Its flexibility and comprehensive specification enable the performance of a wide range of repertoire as well as the fulfilment of an active role within the cathedral liturgy. The key action is exclusively tracker, and there are 40 speaking stops over 3 manuals. The stop action is mechanical throughout but there is also an electric combination system in parallel with and driving the mechanical stop-action.

The instrument was voiced entirely in the cathedral, and was refurbished in 2004. Some of the pipe work was re-voiced at the same time in order to give a greater tonal spectrum and presence of sound throughout the cathedral.

A full specification of the instrument can be found on the [cathedral website](#).

Details of

APPLICATION

In making your application, please provide a covering letter outlining the following:

- A brief overview of your progress with your current instrument (including details of any examinations, performances, etc.)
- Why you would like to participate in this scheme and what you hope to achieve
- What music means to you!

Applications should be sent to **james.short@christchurch.ie**. The deadline for receiving applications is **12pm on Friday 9th June**. All applications will be acknowledged via email.

Promising applicants will be invited for a short, informal meeting with the Director of Music and Assistant Director of Music. Candidates will be asked to play **two** contrasting pieces of the candidate's choosing. **These pieces can be played either on the organ or the piano.**

Candidates may also be asked to complete a short sight-reading exercise at a corresponding level.

The Cathedral can assist successful applicants in finding suitable practice venues in the local area.



HOW TO APPLY