



NOVA SCOTIA YOUTH CHOIR – LOUISE SIMONS SCHOLARSHIP

Who Was Louise Simons?

Louise Simons, the Choral Federation's "mother hen", was instrumental in the formation of the Nova Scotia Youth Choir, originally the Rotary Youth Choir, 25 years ago. As a choral singer (with Nova Scotia Symphony Chorus, Halifax Camerata Singers, Middleton Choral Society and King's Chorale), an educator (West Kings High School) and a constant presence at the Nova Scotia Choral Federation summer camps for junior, youth and adult singers, Louise wanted singers finishing high school and beginning university to have access to an auditioned provincial choir to keep up their choral education, to provide further challenge, and to keep them singing. She knew our youth should be given a chance to work with Canada's best conductors. With her steady vision and her creative mind, the choir gradually took flight and was fine-tuned into the exceptional choir it is today. Her enthusiasm, her belief in the importance of singing, her loyalty to the choral community in Nova Scotia, her mentorship and her unflinching energy continues to inspire singers and audiences alike, and we feel her presence so strongly every year when we gather together.

We are very pleased to honour her now with the newly created Louise Simons Memorial Scholarship which supports four singers in the choir each year. The scholarship covers their tuition and offers them important leadership opportunities within the choir.

Requirements:

The applicant must:

- Have a strong vocal background with choral experience
- Have a desire to improve their leadership skills in a musical setting
- Have a desire to improve their conducting, teaching, and pedagogy skills
- Be available to attend all rehearsal weekends in their entirety

The applicants will be judged on the merit of their **application** as well as their **experience**.

The recipients of this scholarship will be given a **leadership position** within their section and the choir. They will be mentored by the resident conductors and choir manager. Other learning opportunities include:

- Working with resident conductors by identifying music issues in their sections/choir and discussing these in artistic planning meetings
- Leading and assisting in some sectional rehearsals
- Maintaining connection with their sections between rehearsal weekends to ensure preparation, attendance, answering musical questions. Perhaps organizing a sectional get together between June and August weekends etc.
- Organizing get to know you activities the first weekend and camp recreational activities
- Hosting the visiting guest artist during the day
- Helping to build and foster a sense of community within the choir

Applications can be found on the website: www.nscf.ns.ca

Please submit applications via email to programs@nscf.ns.ca by April 30, 2025



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Choral
Federation

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Louise Simons Memorial Scholarship - Application Form

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: (h) _____ (c) _____

Voice Part: _____

Education:

Vocal Experience:

Choral Experience:

Reference Name: _____

Reference Contact: _____

Why do you feel you are a strong candidate for this scholarship and leadership opportunity? (750 words maximum length):

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the applicant to write their response to the question above. The box occupies most of the page below the question.