

The Cinema Organ Society

GRANT POLICY: THE PICKSTOCK FUND

The Cinema Organ Society (“COS”, the “Society”) has established the Pickstock Fund (the “Fund”), named after its late member George Pickstock, who made a bequest to the Society, part of which was used to set up the Fund.

From time to time, the Society arranges conventions, workshops, seminars, master classes and other events which have educational value to young people who are learning:

- how to play the theatre organ;
- how to rebuild and maintain theatre organs; and/or
- about the history of the theatre organ and its roles in light music, cinema and social history.

COS events may be attended by members or non-members. The Society typically makes a charge for attending such events, the primary purpose of which is to cover the costs of putting them on.

The Pickstock Fund is used to make financial grants to young people (defined as being 25 years old or younger, in line with the Society’s membership policy) who wish to:

- attend a COS Convention, workshop, seminar, master class or other educational event; or
- receive private tuition in theatre organ playing by a suitable teacher,

but would otherwise be unable to afford the cost of doing so, in whole or in part – for example, because they are in full-time education.

The purpose of these grants is to maximise the educational opportunities made available to young people by the Society.

For the avoidance of doubt, grants made from the Pickstock Fund are gifts; there is no expectation of repayment.

Support via grants is focused on:

- players whose musical development will be fostered by attending the event, or receiving the private tuition;
- technicians whose skills and knowledge will be fostered by attending the event; and
- people who undertake voluntary work for the Society, or have expressed an interest in doing so, and whom the Society wishes to encourage.

Applications

Details of the Pickstock Fund, eligibility, and how to apply for grants are published on the Society’s website.

Applicants must live in the UK.

Applications may be made at any time. They must be made in writing and set out:

- the applicant’s name, address and age;
- in the case of applicants under 16 years of age, the name and (if different to that of the applicant) the address of at least one parent or guardian, who must co-sign the application to confirm his/her/their support. Parents or guardians may apply on behalf of children under the age of 16;
- the event or activity in respect of which grant assistance is being requested;

Applications (continued)

- in the case of an activity comprising multiple events – for example, a series of music lessons – the number and frequency of events and the period (not to exceed one year) over which they will take place;
- the reason why grant funding is requested;
- the amount of grant funding requested, and the basis of this;
- details of any grant funding already obtained, or being requested, from other organisations in respect of the same event or activity; and
- any other information the applicant considers pertinent to the request.

Applications are made to, and sponsored by, the COS District Secretary responsible for the part of the UK in which the applicant lives.

- The District Secretary may request additional information or clarification to assist him/her in reviewing eligibility.
- If the District Secretary considers the application eligible, he/she will confirm this to the applicant in writing and then forward the application to the Society's General Secretary for consideration by the COS General Committee, no later than at its next scheduled meeting.

Applications are reviewed and approved by the COS General Committee, or by a sub-committee appointed by the General Committee which must include:

- in the case of applications made by players, the Society's Musical Adviser;
- in the case of applications by technicians, the Society's Technical Adviser; and
- the Society's Chairman or General Secretary.

The General Committee or sub-committee may request additional information or clarification to assist them in their review of the application.

Decisions

- Decisions will be communicated to the applicant within two weeks of the date of decision.
- The decision of the General Committee or sub-committee is final.