

BELSIZE BAROQUE SCHOLARSHIP

The purpose of the Belsize Baroque Scholarship is to provide an exceptional young musician with opportunities to fulfil a principal position in a period instrument orchestra and gain experience of working with leading baroque specialist directors. The scholarship also provides financial support. We aim to assist musicians at the start of their careers and create a supportive environment in which our scholar can develop their skills. Please look at the “Scholarship” page at www.belsizebaroque.org.uk for information about previous scholars, and their own experience of the year.

We are an exciting London-based amateur period instrument ensemble, performing around six concerts a year with a variety of leading Baroque professional directors. Details about the orchestra including our present and past directors are on our website. While we enjoy a rigorous and energetic learning environment the orchestra prides itself on its friendly, approachable atmosphere.

The Belsize Baroque Scholar is a key part of the orchestra. The scholar participates in a principal role in the performance of up to five concerts, and collaborates with the director, for example, ensuring that string parts are marked with bowing prior to the first rehearsal. We look for players who, in addition to their musical abilities, are organised, enthusiastic and positive. Scholars who have wished to explore particular repertoire have had an opportunity have input into programming.

Many of our concerts are on a Sunday in Belsize Park with rehearsals on the previous Monday evening, during the day on Saturday, and on the day itself. We may also run a workshop, in which the participation of the scholar is encouraged. Where the orchestra is performing more than five concerts, we often invite the scholar to participate in these on a paid basis.

The amount of the scholarship is £1000 and will be paid in two instalments.

Eligibility

To apply, you must be a student at an internationally recognised conservatoire or music college who is undertaking postgraduate study as 1st October 2026 or have completed a postgraduate degree at a conservatoire or music college in the 3 years prior to 1st October. In exceptional cases we may consider an application from a final year BMus student where supported by a sufficient reference from the applicant’s principal teacher.

Application Instructions

Stage One

Candidates should submit a cover letter and CV, along with a reference. Please send your application to [<veronese68@hotmail.co.uk>](mailto:veronese68@hotmail.co.uk), no later than Sunday, 14th June 2026. All applications will be acknowledged. Candidates selected for audition will be notified by 21st June.

Stage Two

Selected candidates will be invited to an interview and audition (performance of the candidate's choice of solo on Baroque violin), currently scheduled to take place in the evening of 1st July in London. (In exceptional circumstances the auditioning committee may agree to a live audition via Zoom.)

Final results will be notified to candidates by no later than 20th July.

Important Information: Belsize Baroque Orchestra is already engaged to perform on 13th September with Kati Debretzeni (with usual rehearsals). There will be a subsequent concert before the end of 2026. There will be a concert in January or February 2027. The successful candidate will be required to participate in these and concerts, and all rehearsals for each.