Opie & Bridge Vocal Scholarship

Description

The Scholarship was established in 2020 and is funded by a bequest from Corrine Bridge-Opie. Ramon Opie and Corrine Bridge were successful New Zealand opera singers.

The intention of the Scholarship is to encourage and support students to undertake a Bachelor of Music (Honours) or a Master of Music in vocal studies at the University of Auckland.

Selection process

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications
- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Selection Committee

Regulations

1. The Scholarship will be known as the Ramon Opie & Corrine Bridge Vocal Scholarship.
2. Scholarships will be awarded annually, for a period of up to one year up to a total annual value of $25,000. Payments and tenure will be pro-rated for part-time students.
3. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, applicants must be enrolled or enrolling in a Bachelor of Music (Honours) (BMus(Hons)) degree or a Master of Music (MMus) degree that includes courses in vocal studies (see Note I). A grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) of 7.00 (6.50 for Māori and Pacific candidates) in their most recent qualifying programme for study is required for Scholarship consideration (see Note II).
4. The Scholarship is tenable by domestic and international students.
5. The basis of selection will be academic merit as assessed by the grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) calculated over the most recent qualifying programme and potential to succeed in a vocal studies field as assessed by a personal statement.
6. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Head of the School of Music (or nominee), and two members of Academic Staff from the School of Music who specialise in vocal studies, nominated by the Head of the School of Music.
7. To be paid the Scholarship, awardees must be enrolled in a BMus(Hons) or MMus including courses in vocal studies.
8. The Scholarship will be paid in two equal instalments in Semester One and Two, as soon as is practical after confirmation of the awardee’s enrolment (that is, after the final date on which a student may add or delete courses without incurring a late enrolment fee). Payments and tenure will be pro-rated for part-time students.
9. The Ramon Opie & Corrine Bridge Vocal Scholarship may only be held concurrently with a University of Auckland Research Masters Scholarship, a University of Auckland Postgraduate Honours/PG Diploma Scholarship, a University of Auckland Pacific Postgraduate Scholarship, or a University of Auckland Māori Postgraduate Scholarship where the value awarded is within 75% of the value of the stipend value of the University of Auckland funded scholarship. However, it may be held with any other scholarship, award or grant where the Regulations for that award or grant permit and where the University of Auckland Council is informed and approves. It is the responsibility of the awardee to declare to the Scholarships Office all other scholarships, awards or grant funding received and for which the awardee receives payment while also in payment for this Scholarship.
10. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if it is determined there is no candidate that meets the criteria and/or no candidate of sufficient merit.
11. The University of Auckland Council has the power to terminate or suspend a Scholarship if it receives a report of unsatisfactory progress of a Scholar from the Head of the School of Music.
12. The University of Auckland Council can amend or vary these Regulations, in consultation with the donor, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.
13. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 2 August in the year of the award.

Notes

I. Vocal studies include vocal pedagogy, community singing, choral education, opera and musical theatre directing, music education and community music education in the classical, musical theatre and choral genres.

II. The most recent qualifying programme is defined as the most recently completed programme of study that qualifies the applicant for entry to the postgraduate programme for which they are applying. Where the most recently completed programme is a conjoint programme, the GPA/GPE will be calculated over the relevant component of the conjoint programme. The maximum approved exchange or transfer credit that can be excluded from the GPA/GPE calculation for the qualifying programme is 60 points. Where a bridging programme, including a Transitional Certificate, Graduate Diploma or Certificate of Proficiency, is required to qualify the applicant for entry to the postgraduate programme in which they are applying, the qualifying programme is the bridging programme and the most recently completed prior programme.

III. Payments under the terms of this Scholarship remain tax-free as long as they are used for the payment of costs associated with an awardee’s programme of study and/or to assist the awardee with living costs while studying. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Scholarship.

IV. Awardees will be required to comply with the regulations for the Scholarship and must notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment, employment or funding status. The University of Auckland may, in the event that it can be established that an awardee is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.