What is the John Perrin Keyboard Scholarship?

This Scholarship has been established as part of the Wesley Music Scholarships Program to commemorate the life, loves and interests of John Perrin.

John’s long association with Wesley began in 1982. Throughout the years he was involved in many activities at Wesley. He was Senior Steward, Treasurer, member of the Parish Council, Board member of Mirinjani Retirement Village and a strong supporter of the Wesley Music Ministry. John and his wife, Debbie were married at Wesley in 1987 and their son, Richard, was baptised there in 1990. A competent pianist and musician, John had a deep love of sacred music, especially organ and choral music. He felt privileged to have heard many of the organs and choirs of the great English cathedrals.

John died of cancer on 21 May 2006 at the age of 53. He lived his life serving God and the community through his involvement in the Uniting Church, school boards and parent groups and in his career as the Prime Minister’s Senior Social Policy Adviser.

In accordance with the wishes of Debbie and Richard Perrin, the Scholarship has three main objectives:

• to perpetuate John’s love of piano, harpsichord and organ music, his strong Christian faith and his deep interest in music
• to recognise John’s support for music education through the encouragement and development of talented young musicians
• to support the Wesley Uniting Church’s music ministry using the outstanding Wesley organ, the 18th century model harpsichord and Wesley Music Centre and Church pianos.

The Board of the Wesley Music Foundation is seeking donations totalling at least $50,000 to secure the financing of the Scholarship in perpetuity. An aim of the Board is to seek endowments for a range of Scholarships to ensure their long-term future.

What are the Wesley Music Scholarships?

The Wesley Music Scholarship Program began in 1994 and so far has helped 63 outstanding young musicians, all of whom have been assisted to further their careers. Many have gone on to national and international success.

Scholars are assisted with their tuition fees and other expenses and are given extensive opportunities for solo and group performance, and scope to develop and widen their repertoire.

Scholars participate in regular worship services of the church and in special musical presentations marking the great religious festivals, as well as in public concerts and other public performances. Scholars have an opportunity to perform with the Wesley Choir, especially in a chamber orchestra to accompany major works such as Handel’s Messiah, Vivaldi’s Gloria and Credo and Fauré’s Requiem. The Choir is a close knit body of enthusiastic and experienced singers who give scholars great encouragement and support.

Who qualify for Wesley Scholarships?

Scholarships have been granted to talented and dedicated young musicians, generally in the age frame 17-25 who are deemed to have potential, are studying music at tertiary level and are looking for opportunities to

• develop their skills by performing regularly
• develop a new and wider repertoire
• participate in ensemble work on a flexible basis
• participate in public performances as soloist or members of a group
• have the strong support of several hundred individuals and families for their growth and development
• perform in a sympathetic and non-threatening environment

Who have received Scholarships?

To May 2007 63 Scholarships have been awarded to students of voice (sopranos, mezzo-sopranos, tenors, baritones), violin, viola, cello, trumpet, clarinet, oboe, piano, organ and recording. There have been 9 keyboard scholars (5 organ and 4 piano). All but 3 of the 63 scholars have been students of the ANU School of Music or its predecessor the Canberra School of Music.

What is the value of Scholarships?

The value of Wesley Scholarships varies depending on the training, experience, potential, availability and degree of commitment of the scholar to the objectives of the Program.

In the case of the John Perrin keyboard scholarship, it is expected that the annual value of the Scholarship will on average be not less than $2,000. The amount of the Scholarship will be reviewed regularly by the Board of the Wesley Music Foundation. If sufficient donations are received, it may be possible to fund more than one John Perrin Scholarship each year.

What is the Scholarship Selection Process?

Scholarships are awarded on a flexible basis having regard to the availability of suitable candidates and also the voices and instruments required at any time to provide balance to the group.
Applications are invited from time to time by public advertisement and
circulation of application forms at the ANU School of Music, the Wesley Music
Centre, Wesley Uniting Church and elsewhere. Interested students may apply at
any time.

A Scholarship Selection Committee considers applications, interviews suitable
candidates and makes recommendations to the Board of the Wesley Music
Foundation which awards the Scholarships.

Applications and Enquiries

Application forms may be obtained at the Wesley Music Centre at 20 National
Circuit, Forrest, ACT (phone 02 6232 7248) or by email from
wesleymc@bigpond.net.au or mansg@bigpond.net.au. Completed forms may
be sent to these emails or by post to Wesley Music Foundation
PO Box 3217, Manuka, ACT 2603 Attention: Director of Music.

Information on Wesley Scholarships, the Wesley Music Centre and Wesley
Music Ministry and other music topics can be found on the website

Tax Deductible Donations

The Wesley Music Foundation is on the Register of Cultural Organisations and is
authorised to receive donations of $2 or more which are tax deductable. These
donations are paid into the Foundation’s Public Fund.

Donations may be sent in confidence to the Secretary, Wesley Music Foundation,
PO Box 3217 Manuka, ACT. Cheques should be made out to Wesley Music
Foundation. A form for donations is enclosed.

Bequests

The Board of the Wesley Music Foundation also welcomes bequests to ensure the
Foundation is adequately funded to pursue its objectives of music promotion and
music education in perpetuity.

May 2007

John Perrin
Keyboard Scholarship

Wesley Music Scholarships
Form for Donations to the
John Perrin Keyboard Scholarship

Donations of $2 or more are tax deductible

I/We wish to make a donation to the John Perrin Keyboard Scholarship to honour the life and service of John Perrin (1952-2006).

(Please fill in the following if you wish to receive an official receipt for tax purposes.)

Title(s)........Surname(s).................................................................
First name(s)...................................................................................
Address: ..........................................................................................
........................................................................................................ Post Code...........
Contact Phone Number.................................................................

Amount of donation: $......................
(Cheques payable to Wesley Music Foundation)

Your donation is greatly appreciated.

Wesley Music Foundation (ACT)
PO Box 3217 Manuka, ACT 2603