



Regional Choir Accompanist
East Lothian
Job Pack

WELCOME



We're looking for enthusiastic and skilled Accompanist to help us launch a brand new choir from the ground up in East Lothian! This is a rare chance to help our new Choir Director to shape something special from the very beginning — a new team, a fresh vision, and a vibrant community.

With over 20 years of singing activity in the area through our well-established children's singing groups, there's already a strong foundation and a group of enthusiastic young singers ready to take the next step. You'll be building on this legacy, supported by a passionate local team and strong backing from the local authority. Initially our choir will focus on Primary 4 to Primary 7 aged children and young people allowing for steady growth to a senior choir over time.

If you're excited by the idea of making a real impact, nurturing young voices, and being part of something new and full of potential, we'd love to hear from you.

About NYCOS

NYCOS (The National Youth Choir of Scotland) helps young people discover their love for singing. Founded in 1996, NYCOS supports children and young people to reach their vocal potential and promotes choral singing across Scotland. In the past decade NYCOS National Choirs have toured the UK, US and Europe. They've sung for heads of state, international festivals, streaming giants, appeared on world famous stages and scored five star reviews. And many of them started out at one of our Regional Choirs.

NYCOS runs thirteen Regional Choirs for ages 7–18, where experienced music leaders help young singers learn, grow, and sing together. Regional Choir members attend weekly rehearsals during term time for 26 weeks during the academic year.

As well as being fun, singing together in a choir has many benefits for children's development and well-being. These include gaining music education, making friends and boosting confidence through performing, and helping to develop literacy, concentration and memory.

ABOUT THE ROLE



About the Role

As Regional Choir Accompanist you will provide essential musical support to the East Lothian Regional Choir during weekly rehearsals and performances. The accompanist supports all sections of the choir in an eclectic mix of music from contemporary Scottish composers and from around the world, helping to create an inspiring and supportive musical environment for young singers aged 7-18.

The East Lothian Regional Choir performs regularly at concerts throughout the year, giving children and young people the opportunity to showcase their musical development and celebrate their achievements with family and friends. Qualified Music Staff are employed to assist in the running of the choir, working alongside the Regional Choir Director.

The role offers the opportunity to contribute to the musical development of young people while being part of NYCOS's mission to promote and enhance choral singing across Scotland.

REGIONAL CHOIR MEMBER:

"I love the variety of repertoire that we get to perform. Through the years my confidence has grown a lot and being on the stage with your friends is the best thing in the world."

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:

Regional Choir Accompanist

Reporting to:

Regional Choirs Producer

Supervises:

N/A

Location:

East Lothian

Hours:

Thursday evenings, up to 90 mins for 26 weeks during school term time.
Winter and Summer concerts and other performances as required.

Salary:

£37 per hour

Starting date:

September 2025

Role Purpose:

To provide piano accompaniment for the East Lothian Regional Choir during rehearsals and performances, supporting the musical development of young singers aged 7-18



RESPONSIBILITIES

Core Responsibilities:

- To accompany all rehearsals during weekly sessions
- To play for concerts in June and December and possible additional events
- To support the musical development of choir members through high-quality accompaniment
- To work collaboratively with the Regional Choir Director and Music Staff team

Additional Responsibilities:

- To assist at additional events and recruitment workshops throughout the year where required
- To contribute to the positive and supportive atmosphere of choir rehearsals
- To adapt accompaniment style to suit different musical genres and age groups within the choir

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

Experience

- Highly skilled pianist with good sight-reading skills
- Experience in accompanying
- Experience working with young people
- Enthusiasm for, and commitment to, the aims of NYCOS in promoting and enhancing choral singing in Scotland

Knowledge

- Understanding of accompanying techniques for different musical styles
- Ability to adapt accompaniment to support young voices
- Basic understanding of safeguarding principles when working with children

Competencies

- Excellent musical sensitivity and responsiveness to conductor's direction
- Ability to work collaboratively as part of a musical team
- Reliability and punctuality for rehearsals and performances
- Flexibility in adapting to different musical requirements
- Enthusiasm for working with children and young people

Desirable

Experience

- Experience accompanying children's choirs or youth music groups
- Previous work in educational music settings

Knowledge

- Knowledge of the Kodály approach to music education
- Familiarity with contemporary Scottish choral repertoire
- Understanding of different learning styles and musical development in young people

Competencies

- Additional musical skills (vocal, other instruments, composition)
- Understanding of inclusive teaching practices
- Knowledge of the Scottish music and education sectors

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Notice

1 month.

Employment requirements

The post-holder must have the right to work in the UK and will be required to provide the necessary paperwork to verify this.

NYCOS is committed to equality of opportunity for all staff and applications from individuals are encouraged regardless of age, disability, sex, gender, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and marriage and civil partnerships.

By applying for this vacancy, you consent to the safe storage and handling of any personal data you've provided us with. We will never share your data with a third-party without your consent. You can request the removal of your data at any time, by emailing info@nycos.co.uk

Unfortunately, we will only be able to give feedback to those candidates who are shortlisted.

HOW TO APPLY

You will be required to complete and submit the following:

Curriculum Vitae (CV), 2 pages maximum, 11pt minimum font size

Covering letter, letting us know why you would like to work with us in this role and the skills and experience you would bring to the position, 2 pages maximum, 11pt minimum font size

Equal Opportunities monitoring form.

In order to ensure the shortlisting process is anonymous and fair, please do not include your name or photograph on your CV or covering letter. Instead, please include personal details in the Equal Opportunities monitoring form. You should have proof of your Right to Work in the UK, and be prepared to provide evidence if required. The successful candidate will be required to complete a full Right to Work check before commencing employment.

Deadline for applications: please send your completed documents to jobs@nycos.co.uk by **noon on Friday 15 August**. We will not be able to consider applications received after this deadline.

Interviews dates are to be confirmed. We will provide a BSL interpreter or live captioning if required. Please get in touch if you require any adjustments or assistance to participate, should you be invited to interview.

If you would like to discuss this role further or discuss access requirements before you make an application, please contact Louise Major, NYCOS Regional Choirs Producer via louise.major@nycos.co.uk

We welcome and encourage applications all communities and especially those from minority ethnic communities. Our board and staff believe by improving the diversity within our organisation and our leadership, we will improve the quality of our work.

Good luck with your application and thank you for your interest in NYCOS.

nycos.co.uk

f i t @nycocotland



All photographs by Sally Jubb Photography

National Youth Choir of Scotland (known as NYCOS) is a registered Scottish charity, SC024899.