**MPA RICHARD TOEMAN SCHOLARSHIP 2025**

**GUIDELINES & APPLICATION**

**BACKGROUND**

The MPA Richard Toeman Scholarship is designed to:

* Support the progress of outstanding individuals working within the music publishing industry.
* Encourage potential or new recruits to the industry to develop their skills via work placement or study.
* Offer tailored support to recipients towards a successful career in the music publishing industry.

The scholarship is in memory of the late Richard Toeman, who passed away suddenly in March 2005 following a successful 40-year career at Josef Weinberger Ltd. Throughout his career, Richard generously gave his time and expertise to the MPA and to the music publishing business. He was admired and respected by colleagues working across all sectors of the industry. The MPA is proud to pay tribute to his considerable contribution to our work via the Richard Toeman Scholarship.

**ELIGIBILITY**

The scholarship operates on a rolling annual basis and will be awarded to 1 candidate in each of the following 2 categories:

**AWARD 1**

One candidate who has been working within the music publishing business for **FIVE** years or less.

**AWARD 2**

One candidate who is in their **FINAL** year of a music or music business degree course, who has ideally (but not compulsory) studied music publishing as part of that degree and who is intending to pursue a career in music publishing.

**OR**

One candidate who has **newly graduated** from a music or music business degree course in 2025 and who is intending to pursue a career in music publishing.

**THE AWARD**

The two awards given each year take the form of packages of support designed to meet the needs of both awardees.

The packages awarded are as follows:

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| **AWARD 1** | **AWARD 2** |
| A place on the following courses during the period 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026: * MPA Induction Course
* MPA Intermediate Course – all modules
* MPA Specialist Seminars
 | A place on the following courses during the period 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026:* MPA Induction Course
* MPA Intermediate Course – all modules

Assistance in securing a relevant and paid work placement, plus contribution of £450 towards employer’s cost of hosting the placement - to take place during the period 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026. |
| **Both Receive (to be used during the period of the scholarship)** |
| * Invite to either the MPA Classical or Pop Quiz - a great networking opportunity to meet MPA Members.
* Invite to the MPA Summer Party – a chance to meet MPA Members and wider network.
* £500 towards relevant further training and professional development of the applicant’s choosing\*.
* One free copy of the 2026 Music Week Directory.
* Each year both winners will also be invited to meet the MPA Education & Training Group and other invited guests at a small networking event.
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*\*subject to the advance approval of the MPA Education and Training Committee and to be spent within the period 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026.*

**PLEASE NOTE**

* Individual applications must be supported by a reference either from the applicant’s line manager or, in the case of students or recent graduates, the applicant’s Head of Department or equivalent.
* Applicants must intend to pursue a career in music publishing.
* There is no limit on the number of applications that will be accepted from any one publisher or educational institution.
* Previous winners may not apply again; however, previous applicants may apply again.
* Each of the year’s award winners will be required to provide a written report on how the monetary part of the award has been spent, together with evidence of expenditure, and to be prepared to speak at future MPA events, if required.
* The professional development allowance must be spent between the period 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026.
* The MPA reserves the right to ask each year’s recipient to provide evidence of course enrolment or acceptance before all or part/s of the award funds are released.
* The scholarship is only open to candidates who are permanently resident in the UK.
* The MPA is not responsible for lost or misdirected mail.
* The MPA is committed to championing a diverse music business that allows anyone to succeed regardless of gender, background or nationality.

**NOMINATION & SELECTION PROCESS**

Applicants should complete and submit the RTS Application Form below to the MPA before **17.00 on Monday 3 November 2025**. It can be typewritten or printed clearly using black ink. The form must be signed by the applicant and referee. If you require this form in a different format, please let us know.

Members of the MPA Education & Training Committee will review the applications submitted and create a shortlist of potential winners in each category, based on the following criteria:

* An assessment of the personal and professional/academic experience, achievements and qualities of the applicant, and their potential for development within music publishing.
* The referee’s recommendation and his/her enthusiasm for the applicant and their future ambitions.
* The panel’s assessment of whether the applicant’s stated ambitions are achievable and the relevance of the proposed course/s of study to music publishing.
* The panel’s assessment of whether the applicant’s proposal would help them become successful employees within the music publishing industry. Criteria might include evidence of existing aptitude (or recognition of the need for aptitude) in specialist areas such as music copyright, editing, A&R, sync, production and design etc.
* Where relevant, the panel will take account of and provide recognition for evidence that the applicant is intending to research and report on issues of importance to the future of music publishing.

In the event of a draw candidates will be invited to attend a brief interview with members of the MPA Education & Training Committee and all applicants will be informed of the Committee’s decision once it has been ratified by the MPA Board.

The interview panel will comprise of individuals drawn from all sectors of the music publishing business and interviewees will be expected to demonstrate a general awareness of the music publishing business as a whole and their role within it.

The award will be presented to the winners at the MPA’s Christmas Lunch in London on 11 December 2025.

**MPA RICHARD TOEMAN SCHOLARSHIP 2025**

**APPLICATION FORM**

Once you have read the guidelines above, please complete this application and return it to the MPA (see details on page 8) before the deadline of **3 November 2025, 17.00**

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| **AWARD APPLYING FOR:** |
| **AWARD 1**  *or* **AWARD 2** (please circle as appropriate one) |

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| **PERSONAL DETAILS** |
| **First name** |  | **Surname** |  |
| **Home address** |  |
| **Home telephone** |  | **Work telephone** |  |
| **Mobile** |  | **Email** |  |
| **Date of birth** |  |  |

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| --- |
| **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY** (most recent first) |
| **Dates** | **Employer** | **Post title/main duties** |
| From | To |  |  |
|  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **EDUCATION, TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS** (most recent first) |  |
| **Dates** | **Institution/Organisation** | **Qualification obtained** | **Grade** |
|  |  |  |  |  |

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| **APPLICANT’S STATEMENT** The statement should set out the applicant’s music publishing ambitions and, if applicable, experience to date. **Max 500 words** |
|  |
| **APPLICANT’S PROPOSALS FOR TRAINING**Each Award includes £500 towards relevant training of the applicant’s choosing (subject to the advance approval of the MPA Education & Training Group and to be spent within the period 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026). If the applicant already has one or more courses in mind, these should be detailed here, including: * Title, brief description, proposed start date, time commitment, and cost of each course.
* An explanation of how the applicant feels they would benefit from the proposed course/s including a description of the new skills they will acquire through such study.
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|  |
| **REFERENCE**The reference should be completed by the applicant’s line manager or in the case of students or recent graduates, the applicant’s Head of Department or equivalent. It should set out:* the applicant’s personal and professional/academic qualities and achievements
* professional potential
* explain why the applicant would be deserving of the award.

**Max 500 words**  |
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| **SIGNATURES** |
| **APPLICANT** | **REFEREE** |
| *I hereby confirm my application for the MPA Richard Toeman Scholarship 2025. If presented with the Award, I undertake to provide a written report on how the money has been spent together with evidence of expenditure, and to speak at future MPA events if required.* (Applicant’s signature) | Name |  |
| Title |  |
| Company/Institution |  |
| Address |  |
| Tel |  |
| Email |  |
| Signature |  (Referee’s signature) |

Please complete and return this form before **17.00 on 3 November 2025** to:

**Nicky Ojomo**

**Sponsorship & Events Manager**

**Nicky.Ojomo@mpagroup.com**

**GET IN TOUCH**

**T:** 020 3848 7410

**E:** mpainfo@mpagroup.com

**W:** [mpaonline.org.uk/what-we-do/education/the-richard-toeman-scholarship/](https://mpaonline.org.uk/what-we-do/education/the-richard-toeman-scholarship/)