Introduction

The John Collins Society is the result of a generous bequest by the late Michael Graham-Jones (Oriel 1939) in honour of the Revd Canon John Collins (1905-82), who served as Chaplain of the College from 1937-48. Upon returning to Oriel after wartime service, Collins in 1946 founded the organisation Christian Action to work for reconciliation with Germany. With his encouragement, Christian Action would later also become instrumental in drawing British attention to the evils of the apartheid system in South Africa. In 1948, Collins left Oriel to become a Canon at St Paul’s Cathedral in London, where he remained for the next 33 years. During this tenure, he became renowned as a passionate campaigner for peace and social justice, co-founding organisations such as the charity War on Want in 1951 and the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in 1958. Alongside his wife Diana, he is remembered by many in the Oriel community as a model of creative social engagement with the world.

John Collins Social Action Bursaries

In keeping with Canon Collins’ example, the purpose of this bursary scheme is to encourage Oriel students to engage in some form of project or activity promoting social betterment and public service. The bursaries are open to all current students, undergraduate and postgraduate, without reference to religious background.

The Society proposes to offer two bursaries annually for the sum of no more than £500 each. Priority will be given to those applications that display an innovative or creative approach to questions of social change. While applicants are free to combine a Collins Bursary with other forms of funding (e.g. a College travel grant), priority will also be given to those whose proposal is unlikely to secure funding elsewhere. Only applications for future projects will be considered (i.e., no retrospective bursaries will be awarded for completed projects). If the screening committee does not consider any applications submitted to be suitable, then no funds will be dispersed.

All applicants must complete the attached form and provide a statement of purpose of no more than 500 words. Two references are required. The first should be from someone who knows the applicant well and is qualified to assess the applicant’s suitability for and commitment to the work proposed. The second should be from the applicant’s organising tutor or academic supervisor and must verify the proposed project will not interfere with academic progress.

Finally, all Collins Bursary recipients will be required to provide a brief written report to the organising committee once their project or activity is completed. Recipients will also be expected to make a public presentation about their work to the larger College community.

Applications must be emailed or submitted by Friday, 24 February 2017. Notifications will be made by Friday, 10 March 2017. It is required that Collins Bursary funds are used within one calendar year from the time of award. Conditions for the disbursement of funds will be outlined in the award letter.
Please complete the following application form and submit with it a 500-word, typed statement of purpose, outlining the nature and value of the proposed project or activity. Applicants should explain why support for their proposal cannot be secured from other sources.

References should arrive under separate cover and state clearly to which application they belong. All materials must be submitted electronically to chaplain@oriel.ox.ac.uk or posted to: The Chaplain, Oriel College, Oxford OX1 4EW by Friday, 24 February 2017. Notifications will be made by Friday, 10 March 2017.

It is required that bursary funds will be used within one calendar year from the time of award.

1. Full name: __________________________________________________________

2. Term-time address (if not Oriel College): __________________________________________________________

3. Tel and Email:_______________________________________________________

4. Student status (degree/year): ____________________________________________

5. Short title or explanation of proposed project/activity:

   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

6. Use to which you propose to put these funds (costs associated with project, personal living expenses, travel, etc.). Please supply details overleaf as necessary:

   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

(continues)
8. Referees: names and contact details (address, email, phone). The first reference should be from someone who knows you well and is qualified to assess your suitability for and commitment to the work proposed. The second should be from the applicant’s organising tutor or academic supervisor and must verify the proposed project will not interfere with academic progress.

(a) ________________________________________________________________

(b) ________________________________________________________________

9. Certification. By signing this form, the applicant certifies:

(a) that the information supplied in this application is truthful and accurate.

(b) that he/she will supply a written report assessing the project or activities undertaken (500 words) to be submitted to the Chaplain of Oriel College within a calendar year from the time of award.

(c) that he/she will make a public presentation before the College community explaining the project within a calendar year from the time of award.

______________________________________________  ________________
(Signature)                                      (Date)

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:
1. Completed application form
2. 500-word, typed statement of purpose
3. Two references, one of which is from organising tutor or supervisor.