



Academic Achievements:

He studied at the George Heriot's School in Edinburgh.

He received his organ lesson at St Mary's Metropolitan Cathedral, Edinburgh and later an Organ Scholarship at Downing College, Cambridge, where he studied with Peter Hurford.

In 2002, Saunders was appointed Director of Music for the Diocese of Leeds, leading the Department in the Cathedral. Under his direction, the Cathedral has become the center of England's largest choral program with over 4,000 children meeting weekly.

AWARDS:

He has been a specialist in many Cathedrals in England and Ireland.

He has given many lectures at various universities at home, in Ireland and in the USA and as a judge for the BBC Young Chorister of the Year Competition. He was appointed Director of Leeds College of Music in 2013, and Visiting Professor of Music at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana in 2015 and added to the Board of Notre Dame in 2019. He received awards from the Guild of Church Musicians and the Royal School of Church Music.

Saunders has played for HM the Queen, Princess Anne and US President Carter and has collaborated with Director Carl Davis and virtuoso jazz Dick Hyman. Organ concerts as a soloist in Russia, France, Italy, Holland, Germany, Austria, Slovenia and the USA. He has played also as a drummer in two rock bands and keyboardist at the Edinburgh International Jazz Festival.

<https://benjaminsaunders.org/wordpress/>

