

Scholarship Program Summary



Purpose: to award scholarships to students worthy of consideration as a reward for their consistent effort and commitment to developing their musical skills. These awards are intended to help provide opportunities for those students to further their music instruction and experience. In the case of a collegiate level scholarship, a monetary award is given to support that student in their pursuit of a degree in music. Spring applicants are either camp-bound or college students; Fall has various types of award categories. See the application form.

Camp is defined as any summer, organized music camp for youth through grade 12, the purpose of which is to provide musical education, whether in or out of Helena or Montana.

Scholarship applicants must be students of current HMTA members, or in the case of a collegiate level student, that student must be a former student of an HMTA member.

Scholarship categories: The scholarships are divided into grade level categories, each having three scholarships with the award amounts reflecting an increasing commitment and experience of the auditioning students. Generally, monies that go unused in a category will carry over to the next scholarship "season: but the Committee reserves the right to award according to supply and demand principles.

The categories and awards are:

- **Elementary school students** - \$35; \$50; \$75 (includes students finishing the 5th grade)
- **Middle school students** - \$125; \$175; \$250 (includes students finishing the 8th grade)
- **High school students** - \$300; \$400; \$500 (includes students finishing the 12th grade, who then may attend camp the summer immediately following their high school graduation)

The HMTA Teacher Memorial Scholarship: Any future memorial funds donated to HMTA for the purpose of scholarships will be added to this fund, unless specifically designated otherwise by the donor. This scholarship fund can be used for any Fall or Spring scholarship deemed appropriate by the scholarship committee. It may also be used for scholarships to collegiate students pursuing a major or minor in disciplines other than those specified in the Margie Fowler Fund below.

Examples of those fields would include, but not be limited to, music therapy, music technology, and church music. In such cases, however, the committee resolves to put the matter before the vote of either the Board or the membership, whichever is most expedient.

In the case of Camp Scholarships, awards will not and must not exceed the cost of the camp's tuition to which the student will be attending.

Margie Fowler Scholarship: The Margie Fowler scholarship will be awarded to students at the collegiate level who are pursuing a major or a minor in music in the specific fields of Music Education, Piano or Vocal Performance, or Pedagogy. **One scholarship** of \$600 will be awarded per year **in the Spring** when there is an eligible student. That student needs to submit **TWO** letters of recommendation: one by the former HMTA teacher, and one by a college music professor. Furthermore, the former teacher must be a member of HMTA as of the date of application. These are to be submitted along with the completed application form and the video audition recording as instructed on the form, and the packet will be included in the adjudication process described below.

Award Criteria: The adjudicators will be asked to judge, first and foremost, the quality of excellence of the performance on the submitted recordings. A point system (similar to the high school district music festival's) will be used to assess each student's strengths and weaknesses. Secondary to that, the adjudicator may also consider any additional information submitted on each student's application form, such as age or length of study. Finally, the Committee will consider all submitted essays, comments, and recommendation letters.

Objective Award Process: Toward the goal of making the scholarship award process an objective one, the Spring video recordings will be sent to out-of-town adjudicators who will be compensated at the same rate as the Master Teachers secured for the spring festival; compensation monies will come from the scholarship funds. Adjudicators will be secured for each discipline, i.e., a pianist adjudicates piano students, a string person adjudicates a violinist, etc. Fall applicants' video recordings will be handled by the current scholarship committee.

Instructions

Applicants should complete Sections 1 and 2. Submit the completed application, along with any attachments, to your HMTA-member teacher. Section 3 will be completed by the teacher.

Blocks 1-7	These blocks identify the applicant and provide contact information.
Blocks 8-13	These blocks provide information about the applicant's past and present involvement in music. To be the recipient of an HMTA scholarship award, a student must be studying with an HMTA-member teacher.
Blocks 14-17	Blocks in Section 2.1 provide an outline of goals sought by the applicant. More detail is requested in Section 2.2 . Those who accept any scholarship award pledge, if invited, to perform at an up-coming HMTA recital.
Block 18-24	Section 2.2 defines the six categories of expenditure that are known to be acceptable to HMTA. Minimum requirements for each category are listed. The applicant is requested to provide information regarding anticipated sources of services or materials to be acquired with any HMTA scholarship award, as well as its intended use. Additionally, the amount of money needed is requested. Any category not needed should be left blank.
Block 25	The HMTA teacher will complete Section 3 and submit the application package to the HMTA Scholarship Committee.
	<i>Neglecting to submit a printed copy of recorded music</i> causes expense and delay for HMTA, and will result in a deduction from your adjudicated score.
	<i>Cover letters and attachments</i> must indicate to which numbered blocks they pertain.
	<i>Letters of recommendation</i> must be attached separately, and preferably written by someone other than the HMTA teacher noted in Block 8. Teachers may comment in Section 3.
	<i>Recordings, where required</i> , may be presented using any video format currently in popular use, such as a DVD or online video. You must provide website address with access information. Each recording should begin with the performer stating name, composition title and composer.

Additional note. The current HMTA Scholarship Committee reserves the right to award as they see fit, depending on monies available and the number of applicants during each scholarship "season". The committee strives to use the categories of awards as stated in the Summary (helenamta.org/schprg.php). **Note:** For the same reasons stated above, a student who recently won a large award and applies again within a6 months may or may not be deemed eligible. Such a student is welcome to complete and submit an application but should keep this in mind.

Do not return these instructions with the application

PURPOSE/INTENT	REQUIREMENTS	SPECIFY SOURCES AND USE	MONEY NEEDED
19. LESSONS	Video recording w/music; Cover letter specifying why this is important, and what you hope to gain; Letter of recommendation; Performance in HMTA recital at a later date	<i>(Include access information for online recording here.)</i>	
20. MUSIC MAJOR/MINOR	Video recording w/music; <u>TWO</u> letters of recommendation. Refer to the <i>Summary</i> page. (helenamta.org/schprg.php)	<i>(Include access information for online recording here.)</i>	
21. INSTRUMENT <i>(acquire, repair, upgrade)</i>	Video recording w/music; Letter of recommendation; Performance in HMTA recital at a later date	<i>(Include access information for online recording here.)</i>	
22. PRINT MUSIC, BOOKS, DVD	Descriptions of materials to be purchased; Letter of recommendation		
23. WORKSHOP	Letter of recommendation; Report to be shared on concepts learned		
24. CONVENTION, SPECIAL EVENT	Report to be shared on topics covered, concepts learned, new ideas, results; Letter of recommendation		

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NEEDED

SECTION 3 – TEACHER COMMENTS

25. HMTA TEACHER: ADDRESS THIS APPLICANT'S ABILITY, EXPERIENCE, COMMITMENT AND ANY ADDITIONAL PERTINENT INFORMATION. DELIVER OR MAIL PACKET TO THE CURRENT SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR.

PRINT TEACHER'S NAME

PHONE NUMBER

SIGNATURE

EMAIL ADDRESS

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NEEDED