

Merit Scholarship Guidelines 2019-2020

Date, Location and Times

- Auditions will occur on Sunday, April 28, 2019 and take place at the Winnetka Campus (300 Green Bay Road) between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.
- Auditions will last up to 10 minutes in length.
- Audition times will be assigned shortly after April 15, 2019.

Eligibility

- Participants must be enrolled in private instruction at the Music Institute of Chicago.
- Participants must not be older than 19 years old on April 1, 2019.
- Merit Scholarship auditions are most appropriate for students at a high level of accomplishment.

Application

- Applications must be received by April 15, 2019.
- Applications must include a brief biography and a letter of recommendation from the student's private instructor.

Requirements for Merit Scholarship Recipients

- Merit scholarship recipients are required to register for and participate in an MIC ensemble (e.g., chamber music, orchestra, jazz combo, musical theater, early music ensemble, etc.) throughout both fall and spring semesters. Tuition for one ensemble will be waived as part of the benefits of the merit scholarship. Merit scholarship recipients who enroll in chamber music are required to fulfill the requirements of the chamber music program. Merit scholarship recipients who do not complete the full academic year of chamber music will forfeit their scholarship.
- Continuance of the merit scholarship award for second semester is dependent upon review of regular lesson attendance, lesson preparation, fulfillment of ensemble requirements, and participation in performance opportunities.
- Recipients may be required to send thank you letters to donors who have made scholarship monies available.
- Recipients are also expected to perform at donor events and other opportunities that showcase our students in the community.

Accompanists

- The use of an accompanist is required for all instrumentalists (except pianists, unless playing concerti) and vocalists.
- Students must make arrangements with the pianist of their choice; the payment for the pianist will be at the student's expense.

Adjudication

- Merit scholarships will be awarded solely on the basis of performance level at live auditions to be adjudicated by a panel of professional musicians.
- Awards will be based on the average of adjudicators' scores.

Repertoire

- Students should be prepared to perform two contrasting selections.
- Students should bring one original and two copies of their music to the audition.

Divisions

- There are two divisions: a Junior Division for students ages 12 and under and a Senior Division for students ages 13-19.
- Please determine the appropriate division according to the student's age on April 1, 2019.

Results

- Letters will be mailed to inform students of the results of the auditions by May 15, 2019.

Awards

- Awards will range from \$500 to \$1500, in \$250 increments.
- The number of awards is finite and is based on the yet to be determined projected endowment payout.
- A limited number of discretionary scholarships may be awarded to students in the areas of winds, brass, voice, string bass, and percussion.