



Application Guidelines for Funding For Instrumental Music Instruction

Thelma Gross Music Scholarship

Scholarship monies are available for students ages 5 to 17, who are pursuing instrumental instruction in a group or individualized setting. The scholarship offered and the respective criteria are as follows:

Applications are being sought from Frederick County Public School students attending kindergarten through 11th grade, who are in need of financial assistance to pursue training in instrumental music instruction only.

- Applications will be considered from elementary, middle and high school students who have demonstrated talent and commitment to pursuing private instrumental music instruction.
- Applications must request funding for private instruction **only**.

How to Apply

Application packets should consist of two letters, one from the applicant or the applicant's legal guardians and one from the applicant's instructor. Each letter should be hand-written or typed on one 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper, as follows:

- A. The first letter should be from the applicant or the applicant's legal guardians stating the reasons that the applicant deserves the scholarship, the applicant's commitment to pursuing private music instruction or musical activities requiring participation fees, costume fees, or other related expenses, any obstacles that

the applicant has had to overcome to pursue this instruction or musical activity, the financial resources available to pay for instruction, the fees associated with instruction, and the applicant's personal goals. The applicant's name, age, school, grade, the legal guardian's name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and signatures from both the applicant and the legal guardian must be included.

- B. The second letter should be from the applicant's instructor that will use the scholarship monies stating the applicant's level of talent, progress in achieving higher levels of skill development, the fees associated with instruction, and track record of approaching instruction with diligence and commitment. The instructor's name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address and signature must be included.

Do not include videotapes, audiotapes, or any other supplemental materials. The application should be TWO PAGES total.

1. Completed applications ***must be delivered via post or email*** (not post-marked) February 20th, 2026 to info@frederickartscouncil.org (with the subject line "Music Scholarship") or to **YAAC: 115 E Church St, Frederick, MD 21701 – please note this is a new address.** You will receive confirmation that your submission has been received.
2. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their applications by March 3rd, 2026.
3. Scholarship checks will be written directly to the instructor or musical organization/business.
4. Scholarship monies should be used by April 1, 2027 or they will be forfeited.
5. Scholarship recipients must permit their names and photos to be used in publicity and press releases pertaining to The Thelma Gross Music Scholarship Fund.
6. Scholarships are not automatically renewable. Scholars may re-apply.
7. Please address all questions to Info@FrederickArtsCouncil.org with "Music Scholarship" in the subject line.