



# North Jersey School Music Association

Region I of the New Jersey Music Educators Association

www.NJSMA.org

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## **NJSMA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS Information and Application**

Each year, the North Jersey School Music Association, Region I of the New Jersey Music Educators Association, awards up to four scholarship grants to graduating seniors from participating schools. Promising young musicians from the band, chorus, or orchestra who plan to ***major in music, meet the established criteria, and observe all procedures and time constraints as stated herein***, may apply. Further, applicants must observe all procedures and time constraints stated herein to be considered for the award.

### **Eligibility - 2025**

To be eligible for consideration of a 2025 North Jersey School Music Association Scholarship, the applicant must:

- A. Be a high school senior.
- B. Be a Region I Ensemble member during their senior year and follow through with all membership criteria.
- C. By VIDEO RECORDED audition, demonstrate musical achievement, e.g., chorus members provide a vocal audition, band and orchestra members audition on the instrument they played in the Region Ensemble.
- D. Declare the intention to enter a baccalaureate degree program as a music major.
- E. Complete the application and audition process as stated herein.
- F. If selected to receive the NJSMA scholarship, perform one of the two audition selections at our daytime June 3rd NJSMA General Membership meeting at the Mansion in Mountain Lakes, NJ.

### **Payment of Scholarship**

Payment of the NJSMA Scholarship will be made directly to the college/university after the recipient has provided the region treasurer with official verification of enrollment as a music/music education major. A letter to that effect from a music department chairperson or other appropriate college official, or a first semester invoice marked paid by the school, will be sufficient. Should the recipient not fulfill all requirements necessary for payment within eight months or by January 30 of the following year after the award is presented, the scholarship will be revoked.

### **Administration of the Scholarship Policies and Procedures**

The Executive Board of the North Jersey School Music Association (NJSMA) is responsible for all decisions concerning the scholarship awards and all questions of policy and procedure that might arise. The decisions of the Executive Board are final and binding. The Scholarship Review Committee is comprised of the NJSMA Executive Board.

## NJSMA Scholarship Awards Procedures

1. This year's Scholarship materials, including the solo performance will be ELECTRONIC. Students will be required to submit their solo audition via video file. Audio only recordings will ***NOT*** be accepted. The video MUST be in one complete sequence. No edits, cuts etc. will be allowed. See section below for detailed performance requirements.
2. The applicant must write a comprehensive, descriptive letter detailing their qualifications, background, musical accomplishments, musical interests, ultimate career goals and any other pertinent musical information. It is also appropriate to indicate non-musical awards, honors, and activities, as well as a statement about financial situations as it applies to educational plans, including the attached scholarship application.
3. Applicants are to request from their school music teacher – the Region ensemble sponsoring director - a written statement nominating the applicant for the scholarship. This letter is to include detailed information about the applicant as a musician, an ensemble member, a student, and a citizen. It is appropriate to include information about the student's future musical plans, scholarship ratings, financial circumstances, etc. A copy of the student's transcript must be included as part of the music teacher's packet to the scholarship committee.
4. All pertinent and required materials including the video recording, letters and forms of application from the applicant and the packet from the teacher should be scanned and emailed together by the teacher, by no later than, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 to:

***Mr. Christopher DeWilde, NJSMA Past President • [pastpresident@njsma.org](mailto:pastpresident@njsma.org)***

5. Applications will be reviewed by the NJSMA Scholarship Committee.

### NJSMA Scholarship Awards Solo Recording Details/Guidelines

1. The scholarship review and decision will take place at the April, 2025 monthly NJSMA Executive Meeting. Scholarship applicants will be informed of their status by April 30, 2025.
2. The music to be performed for the audition recording should be comparable to the literature being prepared for a college audition. As mentioned above, the recording MUST BE a video. Audio only files will NOT be accepted.
3. All applicants must perform with an accompaniment unless the solo was written as an unaccompanied work. Applicants must provide their own accompanist. **Accompanists will not be provided by the region board.** Students who submit recordings without proper accompaniment as called for in their selected piece(s) will be disqualified.
4. The length of the audition is limited to no more than ten (10) minutes. ***Vocal*** applicants are to perform from memory, and their repertoire must consist of an **art song** and a **folk song** of a contrasting nature. ***All other*** applicants are to prepare and record **TWO PIECES** of contrasting style.
5. The applicant will receive an email stating that all materials have been received and that the applicant has been granted permission to be reviewed by the executive board.

# NJSMA Scholarship Awards Scholarship Application Form

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PERSONAL (NOT School) EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF SPONSORING SCHOOL MUSIC DIRECTOR \_\_\_\_\_

AUDITION INSTRUMENT \_\_\_\_\_ VOICE PART \_\_\_\_\_

Audition Composition/Composer #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Audition Composition/Composer #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate your intended major (e.g., performance, music education, recording technology, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of college/university you plan to attend:

\_\_\_\_\_

Which Region I performing group(s) were you a member of in 2025?

**Band**

**Chorus**

**Orchestra**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Application

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Cell Phone Number

**E-MAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM WITH REQUESTED LETTERS AND DOCUMENTATION TO:**

***Mr. Christopher DeWilde, NJSMA Past President • [pastpresident@njsma.org](mailto:pastpresident@njsma.org)***