

BLACKWOOD MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

Enclosed are the guidelines for Blackwood Music Scholarships to be awarded for the year 2025.

Blackwood scholarships are available to high school seniors intending to pursue a career in instrumental music performance or education.

Please note Section 4 of the guidelines, which requires selected applicants to participate in a personal interview and audition before a panel of professional musicians.

Applications may be obtained online at BlackwoodArts.org.

Applications must be postmarked no later than **March 1, 2025**.

Questions may be directed to either:

Dr. Dan Bauer at 724-738-4262 or 515-771-8210 or

Dr. Ben Robertson at 724-735-2813

All components of the application form should be sent in one envelope to the address below:

**BLACKWOOD MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP
C/O DR. BENJAMIN ROBERTSON
118 BLACKWOOD LANE
HARRISVILLE, PA 16038**

GUIDELINES FOR BLACKWOOD MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

1. Blackwood Music Scholarships are designated to be awarded to high school seniors intending to pursue a career in music education or performance, chosen on the basis of:

- Musical talent
- Recommendation of private music instructor (highly recommended)
- Reference of high school music teacher
- Academic proficiency
- Motivation
- Essay

2. Scholarships and grants totaling \$20,000 in varying amounts will be available for the year **2025**.

3. Applications must be postmarked no later than **March 1, 2025**.

4. After a review of applications, invited participants will be required to appear at Heinz Hall on **Sunday March 23, 2025** for an audition and personal interview before a panel of professional musicians. Each audition will last approximately 15 minutes. Participants will be responsible for bringing their own instruments. No electronic equipment will be permitted for accompaniment. Organ applicants should submit a tape or CD for review by the Committee.

- AUDITION REPERTOIRE

- 1 movement of a recital piece; such a Sonata or Concerto
- 1 movement or short piece of contrasting character

5. There will be no restrictions in the selection procedure based upon sex, race, creed, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, or the employment status of any prospective recipient or relative thereof.

6. Anyone directly or indirectly related to any officer, director, or member of the Selection Committee will not be eligible for a scholarship.

7. Scholarships will be awarded only to non-profit institutions that are classified as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

8. Awards will be issued to the educational institution of your choice. Validation of acceptance to a certified educational program is necessary.
9. The scholarship or grant will become void if the recipient does not enter a certified educational institution within one year of the date of the award.
10. If within one year of the date of the scholarship or grant the recipient changes his/her college major to the effect that a career in music will not be pursued, the amount of the scholarship or grant must be returned to the Blackwood Music Scholarship Fund.
11. Following the live auditions, the Committee may choose not to award scholarships in any given year if it determines that no candidate has met the established criteria. Such a decision is fully within the Committee's discretion.
12. All parts of the application must be sent in one envelope by the deadline date. This should include the application, essay, official copy of your high school transcript and reference forms. Photographs will be taken at the audition and will be used for publicity purposes - as part of the annual Blackwood Arts newsletter, scholarship recital program, and if appropriate, Blackwood Arts' Facebook and Instagram page.

Please do not have any forms sent separately.

APPLICATION FOR BLACKWOOD MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

NAME _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

HIGH SCHOOL _____ GRADUATION DATE _____

COLLEGE OR MUSIC SCHOOL/S TO WHICH YOU HAVE APPLIED

PROFESSIONAL GOALS

INSTRUMENT ON WHICH YOU WILL AUDITION _____

NAME OF PRIVATE TEACHER _____

PREVIOUS MUSICAL TRAINING, INCLUDING SPECIAL PROGRAMS, WORKSHOPS,
HONORS, AWARDS, ETC.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

_____ DATE _____

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO RETURN TO BLACKWOOD AT ANY TIME IN THE
FUTURE FOR A PERFORMANCE?

YES _____ NO _____ MAYBE _____

PLEASE ATTACH:

- ESSAY (250 WORDS OR LESS) ON WHY YOU WANT TO PURSUE A CAREER IN INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PERFORMANCE OR EDUCATION.
- OFFICIAL COPY OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT.
- ANY OTHER INFORMATION YOU FEEL WOULD BE OF VALUE TO THE COMMITTEE IN MAKING A SELECTION FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP.
- REFERENCE FORMS COMPLETED BY YOUR HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC TEACHER AND PRIVATE MUSIC INSTRUCTOR.

MAIL TO:

**BLACKWOOD MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP
C/O DR. BENJAMIN ROBERTSON
118 BLACKWOOD LANE
HARRISVILLE, PA 16038**

APPLICATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY March 1, 2025

REFERENCE FORM

APPLICANT'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

REFERENCE FORM FOR BLACKWOOD MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

Each applicant is required to submit a reference from an individual who has knowledge of the applicant's musical ability. Please attach a separate sheet, or, indicate below any information you feel would be of value to the committee in making a selection for the scholarship.

REFERENCE OF PRIVATE MUSIC INSTRUCTOR AND HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC TEACHER.

PLEASE RETURN THIS TO THE STUDENT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE.

Name (Printed) _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Phone _____

**BLACKWOOD SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
c/o Dr. Benjamin Robertson
118 Blackwood Lane
Harrisville, PA 16038**

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