



YEAR 1 PRIVATE LESSON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICATIONS DUE: MARCH 15, 2026 | AUDITION DAY: SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

Each year CIVIC MUSIC awards up to 60 young musicians the opportunity for private music instruction through our unique Private Lesson Program. The students selected receive 25 half-hour lessons in the following school year with some of our area's finest music teachers in locations determined together by families and their assigned teacher. We try our best to match your child with transportation and proximity in mind.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Student is already playing an instrument and entering grades 4 -11 in the following school year (band or orchestra instruments, piano and guitar)
- OR, Student is already singing and entering grades 8 -12 the following school year
- Family can demonstrate financial need (CIVIC MUSIC will determine this from the application)
- Family lives in Milwaukee, Waukesha, Washington, Ozaukee or Racine County
- Student has had some instruction, but is new to regular private music lessons on this instrument/voice (i.e. less than 25 hours of private lessons taken previously)
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Scholarship Selection Criteria To Be Used:

- Demonstration of financial need (PART I)
- Parent statement of commitment and support for the lessons and home practice (PART I)
- Student essay about their musical experiences and participation in school activities (PART II)
- Teacher recommendation (PART III)
- Success of the audition (as it relates to the length and depth of the student's musical experience so far)

Audition and Interview:

Saturday, April 18, 2026, First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa, 1511 Church Street, Wauwatosa

Students will be assigned to either a morning (9:00am-12:00pm) or afternoon (1:00-4:00pm) session and must attend with their parent/guardian. We have several valuable musical experiences planned:

- **Orientation** session to review the program requirements and the responsibilities of private study
- **Audition and Recital Preparation Workshop** facilitated by a professional musician
- **Recital Performance** by some of our High School Competition winners
- **Audition/Interview** (5 min.) before a panel of two music educators

If awarded a scholarship, the student and parent must meet the following requirements and expectations:

- Secure an instrument in good working order (if instrumentalist) and necessary accessories.
- Attend all scheduled lessons.
- Practice a minimum of 20 minutes per day, five days per week.
- Arrange for transportation to/from lessons.
- Pay a co-pay fee of \$75 (\$3 per lesson). (*Installment payments are available.*)
- Purchase any required music books/materials (average cost of \$10-20 for the year).
- Perform at the CIVIC MUSIC Private Lesson Program Recital in Spring 2027. (*Traditionally set in April or early May*)

Students interested in applying for this scholarship should make sure to request their teacher's written recommendation (Page 4) right away to ensure that you make your **March 15, 2026 deadline. Please allow enough time to complete all parts of the application.**

Please direct any questions to:

CIVIC MUSIC MKE

(414) 375-4875 | info@civictimusicmilwaukee.org

1345 N Jefferson Street, #170 | Milwaukee, WI 53202

(No in-person delivery to this address, please, as the CIVIC MUSIC office is remote.)

IMPORTANT: This application requires a \$20 non-refundable application fee. Please make checks payable to CIVIC MUSIC MKE.

You may also pay online by using the pink button [PLP Application Fee Payment](#) on the "Elementary and Middle School Programs" page at www.civictimusicmilwaukee.org.

PART I: TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT AND PARENT/GUARDIAN

Student First Name: _____ **Last:** _____ **Birthdate:** ____/____/____

Grade: _____ **School Attending:** _____ **City:** _____

Is this an MPS school? (circle) Y N **Is this a private school?** (circle) Y N

School Attending in Fall of 2026 (if different than above) _____

This application is for: (please check one or the other and answer all questions)

Instrumental Scholarship

Instrument: _____

How many years have you been playing your instrument? _____

Vocal Scholarship

Voice Range: _____

How many years have you been singing in an ensemble? _____

Ethnicity: _____

(Optional, but appreciated: Collected for grant & reporting purposes only)

- 1-Native American/Alaska Native
- 2-Asian (Chinese/Filipino/Hmong/Indian/Thai)
- 3-Black/African American
- 4-Hispanic/Latino
- 5-Multi-Racial
- 6-Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
- 7-White/Caucasian
- 8-Other: _____

Gender and/or Preferred Pronouns:

- Male Female
 He/Him/His She/Her/Hers They/Them/Their

Student lives with:

- Both parents
 Mother Only
 Father Only
 Guardian
 Other (specify) _____

Does this student participate in any of the following:

SCHOOL activities

- Band
 Orchestra
 Choir
 Other school musical group: _____
 Sports (specify): _____
 Other (specify): _____

NON-SCHOOL activities

- MYSO _____ (ensemble name)
 String Academy of Wisconsin
 Latino Arts
 Milwaukee Children's Choir
 Other Arts Organization: _____
 Sports (specify): _____
 Other (specify): _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip Code:** _____ **County:** _____

Primary Phone: _____ Home Work Mobile

Secondary Phone: _____ Home Work Mobile

Email Address: _____ (Please print legibly!)

Please add us to your eNewsletter list so we can stay current on CIVIC MUSIC MKE programs and events.

PART 1: (continued) TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN

Student Name: _____

I have had less than 25 hours of, or no private lessons previously on my instrument/voice. Yes No

NOTE: "Private" lessons are one-on-one lessons with a teacher whom you pay per lesson with your child. This does not include group lessons in a school or youth music program. Remember this program is designed for students new to private lessons on the instrument/voice as noted on Pg 1.

If you answered "Yes," please provide your teacher's name here. _____

I would like to continue with this teacher. I would like to study with a new teacher.

I have already had private lessons on another instrument. Yes No

If yes, tell us more: _____

I have auditioned for CIVIC MUSIC previously. Yes No

For the April 18 Audition Day, please indicate any scheduling needs.

We need the morning session. (9:00 AM-12:00 PM) We need the afternoon session. (1:00-4:00 PM) We can do either session.

We learned about CIVIC MUSIC from: School teacher Private teacher Social media Other: _____

I have a friend or know a fellow student who is receiving lessons through CIVIC MUSIC. Yes No

I am applying because of them.

If so, tell us more about that. _____

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

This scholarship is designed for students from families in need of a financial helping hand. Decisions are based on information submitted on applications as well as Federal Free and Reduced Lunch guidelines which factor in family income and household size. All responses confidential.

Total number of people living in the household:

- a. _____ Number of wage earners
- b. _____ Number of children
- c. _____ Number of other dependents (*i. e. grandparents, etc.*)
- Total: d. _____ (*a. + b. + c.*)

Household Income Range (check one):

- \$0 to \$14,999
- \$25,000 to \$39,999
- \$55,000 to \$69,999
- \$100,000 +
- \$15,000 to \$24,999
- \$40,000 to \$54,999
- \$70,000 to \$99,999

*Use this area to explain circumstances that will help CIVIC MUSIC fairly assess your current financial need for this scholarship. Families earning \$100,000 and above are **required** to provide information here. This page is not shared with the audition judges. Use this area to speak only about your family's financial need, not your child's talents. Applications indicating an income of 100,000+ and this area left blank will not be considered.*

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PART I: (continued) TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PARENT/GUARDIAN

Student Name: _____

Please answer the questions below by writing a few sentences for each question (**use dark ink, no pencil please**). *If you need more space or want to type your paragraph, feel free to attach a separate page. Make sure to put your child's name on the top of that page.*

Tell us why your child should be awarded a scholarship.

I agree to support my child in the following requirements of this scholarship:

- Secure good working instrument (if applicable)
- Provide transportation to/from the lesson
- Make the Co-payment by the deadline
- Consider volunteering for CIVIC MUSIC
- Help my child establish a practice routine
- Provide a quiet, separate space
- Provide encouragement even through the rough patches
- Attend my child's performances

Parent/Guardian Signature

Relationship to Student

Date

PART II: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE STUDENT APPLICANT

Please tell us about yourself. We would like to know about your musical experiences and participation in school activities. Include any information about your interest, attitude and dedication to music that might help us get to know you better. (**Please use dark ink or pencil**) *If you need more space or want to type your paragraph, feel free to use a separate page. Make sure to put your name on the top of that page.*

Submit the completed Application and \$20 application fee (payable to CIVIC MUSIC MKE), postmarked no later than **March 15, 2026**.
AUDITION DAY is **April 18, 2026**.

