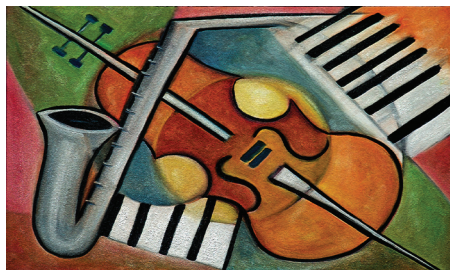


Reading Musical Foundation

2025 Scholarship Directory



Audition-Based Awards

Grades 1-6: Piano, Organ & Strings | Grades 5-6: Brass & Woodwind

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Auditions: Saturday, March 15, 2025 at Albright College

Grades 7-9: Piano, Organ, Strings, Woodwind, Brass, & Voice

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Auditions: Saturday, March 15, 2025 at Albright College

Grades 4-12: Classical & Jazz Guitar | Grades 7-12: Percussion

Grades 10-12: Piano, Organ, Strings, Woodwind, Brass, & Voice

excluding College Tuition Scholarships

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Auditions: Sunday, March 16, 2025 at Albright College

Grade 12: College Tuition Scholarships (Music Majors/Minors)

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Auditions: Sunday, April 6, 2025 at Immanuel UCC, Shillington

Chuck Loeb Memorial Jazz Ensemble Auditions

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Auditions: Sunday, February 23, 2025 at Immanuel UCC, Shillington

Need-Sensitive Summer Camp Awards

Application Deadline: Friday, April 25, 2025

**Need-Sensitive Private Music Study &
Instrument Upgrade Awards**

Application Deadlines: February 14, 2025; April 25, 2025; July 18, 2025;
and October 10, 2025

Please submit all applications through RMF's website.

Reading Musical Foundation
PO Box 14835, Reading, PA 19612
(610) 376-3395

Email: kshultz@readingmusicalfoundation.org

Website: www.readingmusicalfoundation.org

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SCAN QR CODES FOR APPLICATIONS



MERIT
AUDITION
APPLICATION



PRIVATE
STUDY/
UPGRADE



SUMMER
CAMP
APPLICATION

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Reading Musical Foundation is proud to offer more than 60 different scholarship programs to student musicians in Berks County. The program makes more than \$225,000 in awards annually, which are used to help students afford private music lessons, new instruments, and experiences like summer music camp, as well as provide recognition and monetary awards at RMF's merit-based auditions.

GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

- Unless otherwise specified, the student must attend a Berks County school (or be homeschooled in Berks County) and reside in Berks County.
- Applications are available for online submission on RMF's website, www.readingmusicalfoundation.org, under "Scholarships."
- Deadlines are strictly enforced. Submissions are allowed until 11:59 PM on the date of the deadline. No late applications will be considered for any reason.
- Applications should be complete at the time of submission. Students submitting incomplete applications risk losing audition placement or review consideration.
- Awards are paid directly to the music teacher for private lessons. RMF will pay the vendor or institution directly for college tuition awards. Instrument upgrades, or summer camp tuition may be reimbursed with receipts for these expenses.

- Awards are not retroactive without prior permission from RMF.

AUDITION-BASED PROGRAM

- Students must audition live, on the day noted; virtual auditions/recordings are not permitted.
- Audition locations vary, please check directory cover for locations.
- Self-composed pieces are not permitted for these competitive auditions.
- Students should be prepared to perform their selections in their entirety (no edits/cuts, except for major section repeats) within the noted time limit.
- Voice Applicants: Choral excerpts/voice-parts are not permitted.
- For students who play multiple instruments, multiple voices of the same instrument type must perform under a single audition. Examples of this include: Flute/Piccolo; Oboe/English horn; Bassoon/Contra-bassoon; Clarinets (soprano, alto, bass, etc.); Saxophones (soprano, alto, tenor, baritone, bass); Euphonium/Baritone; and Trombone/Bass Trombone. Please contact RMF with any questions.
- If memorization is required, it will be noted in the instrument/award guidelines.
- The non-refundable audition fee for students is \$20. Each additional sibling's fee is \$10. (Example: the total cost of two siblings auditioning would be \$30). Requests to waive the application fee due to financial circumstances should be noted on the application by the parent or teacher. The fee is applied once per year, regardless of the number of awards for which the student auditions.
- Students will audition in front of adjudicators who are proficient in the student's instrument or instrument family.
- Adjudicator names and award amounts will not be announced prior to auditions.
- All students will receive written evaluations from adjudicators during the week following the audition. Comments should be considered constructive and be shared with the student's music teacher.
- Performance opportunities for recipients: All merit recipients will be invited to perform at Trinity Lutheran Church in Reading on May 17 or May 18, 2025. First place recipients are invited to perform at RMF's Artists of Tomorrow Concert Series - details to be announced in late 2025.

AUDITIONS: ACCOMPANIST GUIDELINES

- Recorded accompaniment is not permitted (exception: Jazz Guitar).
- Instrumentalists in Grades 1-6 will audition without accompaniment.
- Instrumentalists in Grades 7-9 are encouraged to audition with piano accompaniment for solos that are written to include piano accompaniment/orchestral reduction for piano.*
- It is highly recommended that instrumentalists in Grades 10-12 audition with piano accompaniment for solos that are written to include piano accompaniment/orchestral reduction for piano.*
- Students auditioning for our College Tuition scholarships are required to audition with piano accompaniment for solos that are written to include piano accompaniment/orchestral reduction for piano.*
- All vocalists (Gr. 7-9, Gr. 10-12, College Tuition) are required to audition with an accompanist.* (Exception: The selection is specifically composed to be performed unaccompanied or a *cappella*.)
- Gr. 7-12 (non-College Tuition) instrumentalists who are considering auditioning without an accompanist should confirm with their music teacher that the unaccompanied piece is appropriate for our merit auditions.
- Guitar, harp, and percussion applicants will audition without accompaniment.
- Students must include the name of their accompanist on their application.
- Teachers may not accompany their students (parents are permitted).

*In memory of Rebecca Gass Butler, funding is available for students who cannot afford to hire an accompanist for their audition. Contact RMF for information.

MUSIC GUIDELINES FOR COLLEGE TUITION AUDITIONS

Based on past discussion, input by teachers, and a review of college/university music major audition requirements, repertoire requirements are as follows:

Music Requirements - At Least Two (2) Works/Movements of Contrasting Styles (One Baroque/Classical and One from Romantic/20th-21st Century), 20-minute total limit:

Bassoon	Cello	Clarinets	English Horn/Oboe
Flute/Piccolo	French Horn	Organ	Piano
Trumpet/Cornet	Viola	Violin	

Music Requirements - At least Two (2) Works/Movements of Contrasting Styles (From the standard concert solo repertoire for the specified instrument), 20-minute total time limit:

Double Bass	Euphonium	Harp	Saxophones
Trombone			

Other Instrumental/Voice Music Requirements:

Percussion: Three solos/etudes to include one mallet solo, one timpani solo, and one snare drum study/etude. A demonstration of drum set styles (rock, funk, jazz, samba, bossa nova, etc.) or world percussion/hand percussion usage may be added (optional) within the 20-minute total time limit.

Guitar: At least two (2) works/movements of contrasting style from standard classical guitar solo repertoire (from a sonata, concerto, suite, or short piece). A selection from folk or popular music repertoire may be added as a third selection within the 20-minute total time limit.

Voice: At least two (2) selections of contrasting style, including one from Baroque/Classical & one from Romantic/20-21c standard solo/recital repertoire. One must be in a foreign language. A selection from the Broadway musical repertoire may be added as a third selection within the 20-minute total time limit.

Musical Theatre: Two (2) songs of contrasting styles from the Broadway musical repertoire within the 20-minute total time limit. Students may audition for both the non-Musical Theater scholarships and the Cooper-Geracimos Musical Theater Scholarship (separate auditions, each with their own set of music requirements - contact RMF with questions).

Students intending to major specifically in jazz studies may substitute a selection from the jazz repertoire written for their instrument to use as a 20th/21st century selection or in place of one of their "standard concert solo repertoire" pieces.

NEED-SENSITIVE AWARDS (CAMP, LESSONS, INSTRUMENTS)

- No audition or fee is required.
- Previous recipients are encouraged to reapply.
- Scholarship Committee will determine recipients based upon written teacher recommendations. Students with financial need will be preferred over students with no apparent need (please note financial need in essay/recommendation).
- In the event a student receives an unfavorable teacher recommendation, RMF will consider the application on a case-by-case basis.
- Awards vary depending on level of financial need, with a maximum of \$500.
- Awards will not be paid retroactively without written permission from RMF.
- CAMP: Students may attend any summer music camp of their choice, but preference may be made to camps not devoted solely to marching band instruction.
- PRIVATE LESSONS: RMF requires a nominal financial commitment from the family. A per-lesson "co-pay" of \$5.00 is required. Payment should be arranged directly with the teacher.
- PRIVATE LESSONS: RMF need-sensitive scholarship awards cannot be used for fee-based lessons at K-12 school facilities during school hours, though before and after-school programs are permitted.

- **INSTRUMENT UPGRADES:** Instrument upgrade scholarships may be used toward the expense of a new instrument, cost to move an instrument, or cost to tune/repair your instrument. Awards will not be paid retroactively without written approval from RMF.

PIANO MERIT AUDITION GUIDELINES

Music Selections & Requirements for RMF Piano Auditions

- Students must play two pieces of contrasting style - one must be memorized.
- Time length for auditions:
 - Grades 1-6: No more than five minutes.
 - Grades 7-12 (excluding College Tuition): Total of no more than eight minutes.
- Intermediate and advanced students should avoid arrangements

Contrasting Selections

Most piano adjudications, competitions, and auditions (including the RMF Auditions) require students to prepare contrasting pieces specifically written for the piano. “Contrasting” means that the selections have evident differences in tempo, style, key/tonality, touch/articulation, and historical era.

Selecting Appropriate Repertoire

Teachers and students should choose pieces that highlight the student’s piano skills and match their current level, ensuring the music is challenging but achievable.

For early beginners, appropriate selections can include original pieces from widely recognized method books, such as those by Faber and Alfred, which are specifically composed for piano students.

Intermediate and advanced students should focus on established solo repertoire. Please avoid selections arranged for piano, such as pieces adapted from a different instrument or voice to piano, or movie themes or pop songs arranged for piano. Original compositions for piano better showcase the student’s skills, as they are tailored to the piano’s unique qualities. Exceptions: Advanced transcriptions by composers like Liszt are acceptable.

What Are Some Suitable Options?

For early students who are not yet ready for standard solo repertoire, original pieces from widely used method books (such as those by Faber, and the Alfred series) are acceptable and often include well-crafted beginner-level works that require piano-specific techniques. Additionally, pieces by composers such as (but not limited to) Türk, Gurlitt, Burgmüller, and “Streabbog” are excellent options. As students become more advanced, full movements of sonatas or suites become better choices. **For all levels, be sure the entire piece (or movement) is prepared for the audition – not just an excerpt.**

Questions?

For questions about repertoire, contact RMF at 610-376-3395. More resources are available under “For Teachers” at www.readingmusicteachers.org. A listing of past winners’ selections is available upon request.

PIANO & ORGAN MERIT AWARDS

AUDITION-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

ALL SOLO PIANO APPLICANTS:

- Students must play two pieces of contrasting style - one must be memorized.
- Time length for auditions:
 - Grades 1-6: No more than five minutes.
 - Grades 7-12 (excluding College Tuition): Total no more than eight minutes.
- Arrangements are not acceptable - see page 5 for an explanation.
- Students may audition for multiple awards from two different piano programs in the same year, though they may not win both. Students will audition once regardless of how many awards they are eligible for (accompanist applicants may audition twice: once for solo proficiency [if desired], and once for accompanist proficiency). *Note separate requirements for the accompanist auditions.*

GRADES 1-9: Auditions Saturday, March 15, 2025

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

GRADES 10-12: Auditions Sunday, March 16, 2025

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

PIANO AWARDS FOR GRADES 1-3

Thomas W. & Marion Christman Balkcom Scholarship

- Students must attend school in Berks County or reside in Berks County

PIANO AWARDS FOR GRADES 4-6

Thomas W. & Marion Christman Balkcom Scholarship (Grades 4-6)

Robert R. Kreitz - Mark A. Hornberger Piano Scholarship (Grades 5-6)

PIANO AWARDS FOR GRADES 7-9

Bruce Bengtson Keyboard & Organ Scholarship (Grade 9)

Robert R. Kreitz - Mark A. Hornberger Piano Scholarship (Grades 7-8)

Runyeon Piano - Accompanist Award

- RMF will provide a professional vocalist to accompany for audition
- 2025 Music: Giuseppe Giordani - Caro mio ben - Key of D Major (Quarter = 64)
- FREE DOWNLOAD: <http://www.mutopiaproject.org/ftp/GiordanoG/caromioben/caromioben-let.pdf>

Runyeon Piano Scholarship Fund - Solo Proficiency Award (Grades 7-9)

Ann W. Souders Piano Scholarship

- Students must attend school in Berks County or reside in Berks County

Chuck Loeb Memorial Jazz Fund

- Ensemble opportunity - separate application required - see page 12 for details

PIANO AWARDS FOR GRADES 10-12

Bruce Bengtson Keyboard & Organ Scholarship

William L. & Rebecca Gass Butler Accompanist Fund

- RMF will provide a professional vocalist to accompany for audition
- 2025 Music: Marco Antonio Cesti - Intorno all'idol mio - Key of E minor (Quarter = 84)

FREE DOWNLOAD: <http://artsongcentral.com/wp-content/uploads/lais008.pdf>

Atonement Bach Scholarship

- Top-placing piano applicant is eligible for Atonement Bach Scholarship in 2025
- Recipient is required to perform for Atonement Lutheran Church
- Interested students must select "add Atonement" on their application

Chuck Loeb Memorial Jazz Fund

- Ensemble opportunity - separate application required - see page 12 for details

ORGAN APPLICANTS:

- Students must play two pieces of contrasting style
- Time length for auditions:
Grades 6-12 (excluding College Tuition): Total no more than eight minutes.
- Arrangements are not acceptable - see page 5 for an explanation.
- Note: AGO Young Organist requirements differ.

ORGAN AWARDS FOR GRADES 6-12

AGO Young Organists Award (Grades 6-11)

- Open to students who reside in Berks County or Schuylkill County or attend schools in those counties
- For beginner/intermediate organists - students may audition on piano
- Award includes membership to the American Guild of Organists, Reading Chapter
- Two selections required: one must be from the Baroque period

Bruce Bengtson Keyboard & Organ Scholarship (Grades 9-12)

Marjorie Fitz Young Organist Scholarship Fund (Grades 9-12)

Lee G. & Marian M. Kachel Organ Scholarship (Grades 7-12)

Atonement Bach Scholarship (Grades 10-12)

- Top-placing organ applicant is eligible for Atonement Bach Scholarship in 2025
- Recipient is required to perform for Atonement Lutheran Church
- Interested students must select "add Atonement" on their application

GRADE 12: College Tuition Awards for Music Majors/Minors

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Audition Date: Live Auditions - Sunday, April 6, 2025

- Auditions at Immanuel UCC, Shillington | See page 13 for details

WOODWIND MERIT AWARDS

AUDITION-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

ALL WOODWIND APPLICANTS

- No requirement on the number of pieces, and no memorization required.
- See page 3 for rules regarding accompanists.
- Time length for auditions:
Grades 1-6: No more than five minutes.
Grades 7-12 (excluding College Tuition): Total no more than eight minutes.
- Applicants in middle school and high school may have the opportunity to win the use/or ownership of certain instruments in addition to a monetary award. Detailed information will be sent to applicants prior to the audition.

GRADES 5-9: Saturday, March 15, 2025 Auditions

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

GRADES 10-12: Sunday, March 16, 2025 Auditions

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

WOODWIND AWARDS FOR GRADES 5-6

Thomas W. & Edna Garrett Balkcom Scholarship

- Students must attend school in Berks County or reside in Berks County

WOODWIND AWARDS FOR GRADES 7-9

Ann L. Cusano & Kim Webster Double Reed Scholarship

Work Family Woodwind Fund

Chuck Loeb Memorial Jazz Fund

- Ensemble opportunity - separate application required - see page 12 for details

WOODWIND AWARDS FOR GRADES 10-12

David Bilger Woodwind Scholarship

Ann L. Cusano & Kim Webster Double Reed Scholarship (Grades 10-11)

Work Family Woodwind Fund

Atonement Bach Scholarship

- Top-placing woodwind applicant is eligible for Atonement Bach Scholarship in 2025
- Recipient is required to perform for Atonement Lutheran Church
- Interested students must select "add Atonement" on their application

Chuck Loeb Memorial Jazz Fund

- Ensemble opportunity - separate application required - see page 12 for details

GRADE 12: College Tuition Awards for Music Majors/Minors

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Audition Date: Live Auditions - Sunday, April 6, 2025

- Auditions at Immanuel UCC, Shillington | See page 13 for details

BRASS MERIT AWARDS

AUDITION-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

ALL BRASS APPLICANTS

- No requirement on the number of pieces, and no memorization required.
- See page 3 for rules regarding accompanists.
- Time length for auditions:
 - Grades 1-6: No more than five minutes.
 - Grades 7-12 (excluding College Tuition): Total no more than eight minutes.

GRADES 5-9: Saturday, March 15, 2025 Auditions

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

GRADES 10-12: Sunday, March 16, 2025 Auditions

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

BRASS AWARDS FOR GRADES 5-6

Thomas W. & Edna Garrett Balkcom Scholarship

- Students must attend school in Berks County or reside in Berks County

Mark Brumbach Euphonium Scholarship Program

- Available only in years that do not have any eligible applicants in Grades 7-12

Gerald & Joanne Wagner French Horn and Piano Scholarship

BRASS AWARDS FOR GRADES 7-9

Mark Brumbach Euphonium Scholarship Program (Euphonium Students)

- Open to all low brass instruments if no euphonium students apply

Henry A. & Elizabeth S. Gass Brass Scholarship Fund (Grades 10-11)

Chuck Loeb Memorial Jazz Fund

- Ensemble opportunity - separate application needed - see page 12 for details

Gerald & Joanne Wagner French Horn and Piano Scholarship

- Awards extended to Grades 7-9 if there are not any elementary applicants

BRASS AWARDS FOR GRADES 10-12

Mark Brumbach Euphonium Scholarship Program (Euphonium Students)

- Open to all low brass instruments if no euphonium students apply

Henry A. & Elizabeth S. Gass Brass Scholarship Fund

Lewis “Skip” Norcott III Low Brass Scholarship - High School Award

- Must audition on trombone, euphonium, baritone, Sousaphone or tuba

Atonement Bach Scholarship

- Top-placing brass applicant is eligible for Atonement Bach Scholarship in 2025
- Recipient is required to perform for Atonement Lutheran Church
- Interested students must select “add Atonement” on their application

Chuck Loeb Memorial Jazz Fund

- Ensemble opportunity - separate application required - see page 12 for details

GRADES 12: College Tuition Awards for Music Majors/Minors

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Audition Date: Live Auditions - Sunday, April 6, 2025

- Auditions at Immanuel UCC, Shillington | See page 13 for details

STRING, GUITAR & HARP MERIT AWARDS

AUDITION-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

ALL STRING, GUITAR, & HARP APPLICANTS

- No requirement on the number of pieces, and no memorization required.
- See page 3 for rules regarding accompanists.
- Time length for auditions:
 - Grades 1-6: No more than five minutes.
 - Grades 7-12 (excluding College Tuition): Total no more than eight minutes.
- Applicants in middle school and high school may have the opportunity to win the use/or ownership of certain instruments in addition to a monetary award. Detailed information will be sent to applicants prior to the audition.
- Specific music requirements for jazz guitar auditions - see page 10 for details

GRADES 1-9 (String/Harp): Saturday, March 25, 2025 Auditions

GRADES 4-9 (Guitar): Sunday, March 26, 2025 Auditions

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

GRADES 10-12 (String/Harp/Guitar):

Sunday, March 26, 2025 Auditions

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

STRING AWARDS FOR GRADES 1-6

Katherine N. Quartner - Rita Quartner Herman String Scholarship

- Students must attend school in Berks County or reside in Berks County
- Awards available in two categories: Grades 1-3 and Grades 4-6

STRING & HARP AWARDS FOR GRADES 7-9

Peter J. Brye Cello & Harp Fund

Katherine N. Quartner - Rita Quartner Herman String Scholarship

- Students must attend school in Berks County or reside in Berks County

Dr. Thomas B. Souders String Scholarship

Chuck Loeb Memorial Jazz Fund

- Ensemble opportunity - separate application needed - see page 12 for details

STRING & HARP AWARDS FOR GRADES 10-12

Peter J. Brye Cello & Harp Fund

Katherine N. Quartner - Rita Quartner Herman String Scholarship

- Students must attend school in Berks County or reside in Berks County

Atonement Bach Scholarship

- Top-placing string applicant is eligible for Atonement Bach Scholarship in 2025
- Recipient is required to perform for Atonement Lutheran Church
- Interested students must select “add Atonement” on their application

Chuck Loeb Memorial Jazz Fund

- Ensemble opportunity - separate application needed - see page 12 for details

CLASSICAL GUITAR AWARDS FOR GRADES 4-12

Aynardi Family Classical Guitar Scholarship

Atonement Bach Scholarship (Grades 10-12)

- Top-placing guitar applicant is eligible for Atonement Bach Scholarship in 2025
- Recipient is required to perform for Atonement Lutheran Church
- Interested students must select “add Atonement” on their application

JAZZ GUITAR AWARDS FOR GRADES 7-12

Carl & Mary Zeplin Jazz Guitar Scholarship Fund

- There are unique requirements and a specific rotating list of repertoire choices for Jazz Guitar. These requirements and instructions can be found at <https://readingmusicalfoundation.org/jazz-guitar-auditions/> or via QR code to the right.



GRADE 12: College Tuition Awards for Music Majors/Minors
Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Audition Date: Live Auditions - Sunday, April 6, 2025

- Auditions at Immanuel UCC, Shillington | See page 13 for details

PERCUSSION MERIT AWARDS

AUDITION-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ALL PERCUSSION APPLICANTS

- No requirement on the number of pieces, and no memorization required.
- Percussionists will audition without accompaniment.
- Time length for auditions:
Grades 7-12 (excluding College Tuition): Total no more than eight minutes.

GRADES 7-12: Sunday, March 16, 2025 Auditions
Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

PERCUSSION AWARDS FOR GRADES 7-9

Willis M. Rapp Percussion Fund

Chuck Loeb Memorial Jazz Fund

- Ensemble opportunity - separate application needed - see page 12 for details

PERCUSSION AWARDS FOR GRADES 10-12

Willis M. Rapp Percussion Fund

Atonement Bach Scholarship

- Top placing percussion applicant is eligible for Atonement Bach Scholarship in 2025
- Recipient is required to perform for Atonement Lutheran Church
- Interested students must select “add Atonement” on their application

Chuck Loeb Memorial Jazz Fund

- Ensemble opportunity - separate application needed - see page 12 for details

GRADE 12: College Tuition Awards for Music Majors/Minors

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Audition Date: Live Auditions - Sunday, April 6, 2025

- Auditions at Immanuel UCC, Shillington | See page 13 for details

VOICE MERIT AWARDS

AUDITION-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS ALL VOCAL APPLICANTS

- No requirement on the number of pieces, and no memorization required.
- See page 3 for rules regarding accompanists.
- Time length for auditions:
Grades 7-12 & College (excluding College Tuition Awards):
Total no more than eight minutes.

GRADES 7-9: Saturday, March 15, 2025 Auditions
Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

GRADES 10-12: Sunday, March 16, 2025 Auditions
Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

VOICE AWARDS FOR GRADES 7-9

Holly Altenderfer - Nancy Voigt Middle School Voice Award

VOICE AWARDS FOR GRADES 10-12 & College Isabel W. Sondheim Scholarship (Grades 10-12 & College)

- Students must attend school in Berks County or reside in Berks County
- Students enrolled in college, university or a music conservatory who graduated from a Berks County school are also eligible to apply

Atonement Bach Scholarship (Grades 10-12)

- Top-placing voice applicant is eligible for Atonement Bach Scholarship in 2025
- Recipient is required to perform for Atonement Lutheran Church
- Interested students must select “add Atonement” on their application

Chuck Loeb Memorial Jazz Fund

- Ensemble opportunity - separate application needed - see page 12 for details

GRADE 12: College Tuition Awards for Music Majors/Minors
Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Audition Date: Live Auditions - Sunday, April 6, 2025

- Auditions at Immanuel UCC, Shillington | See Page 13 for Other Details

ENSEMBLE SCHOLARSHIPS

AUDITION-BASED ENSEMBLE SCHOLARSHIP

Live Auditions: Sunday, February 23, 2025

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Location: Immanuel UCC, Shillington

Chuck Loeb Memorial Jazz Ensemble Scholarship

- One winning ensemble to receive cash awards and opportunity to perform at the Berks Arts Award Night on Thursday, April 3, 2025.
- Ensembles may consist of instrumentalists and/or vocalists of two or more students. Open to students in Grades 7-12 who live in and attend school in Berks County. Ensemble may feature students in Grades 7-12 from outside Berks, or enrolled in college, but they may not make up the majority of the ensemble.
- Ensembles should prepare two selections of contrasting style. All pieces must feature improvisation. Audition may not exceed 15 minutes.
- Ensembles of all music genres welcome; preference given to jazz ensembles.

OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS

CONRAD WEISER STUDENTS ONLY

MARCHING BAND, COLOR GUARD, INDOOR PERCUSSION

Application Deadlines: February 14, 2025; April 25, 2025;

July 18, 2025; and October 10, 2025

- Awards to help students offset the costs associated with these activities.
- No audition or fee is required and previous recipients are encouraged to apply.
- Applicants should use the CW B.A.N.D. application on RMF's website, under "Scholarships," then, "Ways to Apply."

HELEN AHRENS WEIDNER SNYDER FUND

Application Deadline: Selected by area music teachers

- RMF will contact eligible teachers annually each spring for their nominations.
- Up to four scholarships available annually for outstanding students transitioning from elementary school to middle school for private lessons.
- Recipients are selected by their music teachers.
- All Berks County school districts are eligible, and two are selected annually, rotating alphabetically through the county.

VA PRODUCTIONS DRUM MAJOR SCHOLARSHIP

Application Deadline: April 25, 2025

- RMF will contact eligible teachers annually each spring for their nominations.
- Up to four scholarships available annually for high school band directors to select a student (preferably their incoming drum major) to attend a summer camp program specialized for drum majors. RMF will contact schools on an alphabetical, rotating basis.

COLLEGE TUITION REQUIREMENTS

AUDITION-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Audition Date: Live Auditions - Sunday, April 6, 2025

Audition Location: Immanuel UCC, Shillington

High School Seniors | Requirements for All Applicants:

- *Please read carefully the music requirements on page 4.*
- Students must provide an accompanist (teachers may not accompany their students). Students must name their accompanist at the time of applying. Please see page 3 for complete information regarding accompanists.
- Students must have been accepted as a music major by an accredited school of post-secondary education by the time of the audition. (Haage Scholarship is open to any senior accepted to a college or university and who is not enrolling as a music major but will be taking music credits.)
- If not specified, the student must attend high school in, or reside in, Berks County.
- An audition of no more than 20 minutes. Auditions will halt auditions exceeding the time limit.
- Vocalists must include a piece performed in a foreign language (excluding Musical Theater).
- Memorization: pianists and vocalists must memorize their selections. Instrumentalists and organists are not required to memorize their selections.
- In addition to the other application requirements, *students must include a copy of their high school transcripts and two letters of recommendation (only one recommendation may be from a music teacher) with their application.*
- Recorded auditions are not accepted.
- RMTA awards are open to students who are actively studying with an RMTA member in good standing whose membership dues are paid in full for the current year, and has maintained active membership for two consecutive years.
- Awards are paid directly to the college, university or institution, and prorated over two, four or eight semesters, depending on the amount of the award (details shared in award letters to students following auditions).
- Students will audition in front of a panel of qualified adjudicators.

Robert Cooper - Nicholas Geracimos Musical Theatre Scholarship (Musical Theatre Majors Only)

- See page 4 for music requirements

Samuel L. Correnti Scholarship (Woodwind, Brass, Percussion Only)

George Haage RMTA Scholarship (All Instruments, including Voice)

- Open to students who are enrolling as a music minor *or* taking music credits. Monies will be paid directly to the university for tuition (music minors) or university for credit hours/teachers for private lessons (non-music majors).

Lewis "Skip" Norcott III Scholarship (Low Brass Only)

Ruth & Spencer Overholser Orchestral String Scholarship

(Violin, Viola, Cello or String Bass Only)

- Adjudicators may prefer students of comparable skill level who demonstrate financial need. (Teachers may make reference to need in their recommendation.)

Mildred Mogel Engle Scholarship (All Instruments, including Voice)

Elaine Bauscher Post Scholarship (All Instruments, including Voice)

Kathryn I. Schiffner Music Scholarship (Piano or Voice Only)

Helen Smith RMTA Scholarship (All Instruments, including Voice)

Charlotte B. Wicklein Scholarship

(All Instruments, including Voice - Only Female Applicants)

PRIVATE STUDY SCHOLARSHIPS

NEED-SENSITIVE PRIVATE STUDY SCHOLARSHIPS

Application Deadlines: February 14, 2025; April 25, 2025; July 18, 2025; and October 10, 2025

- Students must reside in and attend school in Berks County.
- No audition or fee is required to apply.
- Previous recipients are encouraged to reapply.
- Scholarship Committee will determine recipients based upon written teacher recommendations.
- Students with financial need will be preferred.
- Awards vary depending on level of financial need, with a maximum of \$500.
- RMF requires a nominal financial commitment from the family. A per-lesson “co-pay” of \$5.00 is required. Payment should be arranged with the teacher.
- Awards will not be paid retroactively without written permission from RMF.
- These awards cannot be used for fee-based lessons at K-12 school facilities during school hours, though before and after-school programs are permitted.

NEED-SENSITIVE PRIVATE STUDY/UPGRADE AWARDS

Alisa B. Anderson Vocal Fund (Reading Schools - Grades 7-12)

- Private study awards for vocalists in the Reading School District

Aynardi Family Classical Guitar Scholarship (Grades 4-12)

- Private study awards for classical guitarists

Berks Community Service & Music Fund (Grades 9-12)

- One annual award for a student who excels in music and community service
- Application should include separate letter of recommendation that commends students for an exceptional commitment to community service.

Blue Mountain Foundation High School Vocal Scholarship (Grades 9-12)

- Private study awards for vocalists

Chairman's Fund (Grades 1-12)

- Private study and instrument upgrade awards for vocalists and instrumentalists

Geoffrey S.H. Fuchs Memorial Music Study Program (Reading Schools - Grades 7-12)

- Private study awards for instrumentalists in the Reading School District

Henry A. & Elizabeth S. Gass Brass Scholarship (Grades 7-12)

- Private study awards and instrument upgrade awards for brass musicians

Nicholas Giovanelli Music Scholarship Fund (Grades 7-12)

- Private study and instrument upgrade/repair awards for woodwind musicians

Kern Family Wind Instrument Scholarship Fund (Grades 7-12)

- Private study awards for wind musicians

David L. Kline Family Mountain Folk Scholarship (All Ages)

- Private study and instrument upgrades available to students studying beginner/intermediate acoustic guitar, banjo, fiddle (violin), mandolin, ukulele, bass fiddle (violin), dobro, hammered dulcimer, lap dulcimer, autoharp, and related instruments, with an emphasis upon performance of American folk and roots music.

Robert “Bobby Raye” Lilarose Scholarship (Wilson Schools - Grades 4-12)

- Private study and instrument upgrade awards for instrumentalists in the Wilson School District

Jim McCauley Memorial Music Fund (Reading Schools - Grades 7-12)

- Private study awards for instrumentalists in the Reading School District

Sally S. Breidegam Miksiewicz Vocal Music Scholarship (Grades 7-9)

- Private study awards for vocalists

Eric & Georganne Moyer Music Fund (Reading Schools - Grades 4-12)

- Private study awards for instrumentalists in the Reading School District

Edward & Madeline Nawrocki Percussion Fund (Grades 7-9)

- Private study awards for percussionists

Ray & Carole Neag Middle School Vocal Program (Grades 7-9)

- Private study awards for vocalists

Solomon Frank & Phyllis Ensher Peters Oboe & String Fund (Grades 7-12)

- Instrument upgrade awards for oboe, harp, and string musicians

Kathleen & Karin Reinsel Early Instrument Scholarship (All Ages)

- Private study and instrument upgrade awards are available for students of any age (excluding professional level) on recorder, harpsichord, harp, mandolin, and certain other early instruments (including bagpipes).

RMF Early Piano Scholarship Fund (Grades 4-6)

- Private study awards for pianists

Scheidt/Heslop Jazz Fund (Grades 7-12)

- Jazz-related private study awards for instrumentalists and vocalists

Dr. Thomas B. Souders String Scholarship (Grades 7-9)

- Private study awards for string musicians in

Swartz Family Young Musician Scholarship (Grades 7-12)

- Jazz-related private study awards for pianists

Gerald & Joanne Wagner French Horn & Piano Fund (Grades 5-6)

- French horn and piano awards for students

Wilson Instrumental Fund (Wilson Schools - Grades 4-12)

- Private study and instrument upgrade awards for instrumentalists in the Wilson School District

Work Family Woodwind Fund (Grades 7-12)

- Private study and instrument upgrade awards for woodwind musicians

SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

NEED-SENSITIVE SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

Application Deadline: Friday, April 25, 2025

Decisions will be made by Monday, May 12, 2025

- Students may attend any summer camp of their choosing.
- No audition or fee is required.
- Previous recipients are encouraged to reapply.
- The Scholarship Committee may prefer applicants enrolled in programs not devoted primarily to marching band instruction.
- Students with financial need will be preferred (teachers should mention family financial need in their recommendations).
- Awards vary depending on level of financial need, with a maximum of \$550.

SUMMER CAMP AWARDS FOR VOCALISTS (GRADES 4-11)

Peter J. Brye Cello & Harp Fund

Chairman's Fund

Irvin & Lois E. Cohen Vocal Scholarship

James E. Fegley Orchestral String Scholarship Fund

Henry A. & Elizabeth S. Gass Brass Scholarship

Gladys & Carl Jensen Summer Camp Program

Robert "Bobby Raye" Lilarose Wilson Scholarship (Wilson Schools)

Sally S. Breidegam Miksiewicz Vocal Music Scholarship

Solomon Frank & Phyllis Ensher Peters Oboe & String Fund

Willis M. Rapp Percussion Summer Camp Program

Runyeon Piano Scholarship Fund

Scheidt/Heslop Jazz Fund

Wilson Instrumentalist Fund (Wilson Schools)

Work Family Woodwind Fund

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ADULTS

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ADULTS (Ages 18+)

Application Deadlines: February 14, 2025; April 25, 2025; July 18, 2025; and October 10, 2025

Requirements for All Applicants:

- No audition or fee is required.
- Applicants must reside in Berks County unless noted otherwise.
- Previous recipients are encouraged to reapply.
- Scholarship Committee will determine recipients based upon letter of interest submitted by the applicant. Adults with financial need will be preferred (please note financial need in letter).
- Awards will not be paid retroactively without written permission from RMF.
- The Foundation will make awards of up to \$500 per recipient.

Gibbs Artist Development Fund

- Open to musicians with a Bachelor's degree in any music field. This matching award requires equal funding from the applicant or another source and may support any professional music development, such as festivals, camps, or graduate studies

Lee G. & Marian M. Kachel Organ Scholarship

- Awards are available to adults who wish to begin/continue studying the organ.

David L. Kline Family Mountain Folk Scholarship (All Ages)

- Available to beginner/intermediate acoustic guitar, banjo, fiddle, mandolin, ukulele, dobro, dulcimer, autoharp, and related folk instruments
- Should awards remain available after June 1, students outside Berks County may apply if they can document participation in Berks County music activities
- Private study and/or instrument upgrade scholarships are available.

Kathleen & Karin Reinsel Early Instrument Fund (All Ages)

- Awards are available for students of any age (excluding professional level) on recorder, harpsichord, harp, mandolin, and certain other early instruments (including bagpipes). Private study and/or instrument upgrade scholarships are available.

NON-RMF AWARDS BY AUDITION

Please contact organizations directly for more information

Berks Sinfonietta Concerto Competition Award (Grades 10-12)

Contact: Dr. David McConnell, Artistic Director, info@berkssinfonietta.org

Details: Open to all Berks County instrumentalists in grades 10-12. Two winners will be selected for a \$500 scholarship and the opportunity to perform with the orchestra at its August 2025 concert.

Application Deadline: March 31, 2025

More Information: www.berkssinfonietta.org/concerto-competition

Ringgold Band Young Artists Award (HS Seniors - Berks)

Contact: Cynthia Miller-Aungst, m3flute@gmail.com

Details: Auditions to be held Monday, February 10, 2025

Application Deadline: Friday, February 1, 2025

More information: At Ringgold Band's website: www.ringgoldband.com

Reading Choral Society

Contact: Susan Coughlin, at scoughlin@readingchoral.org

Applications/More Information: Please visit website at www.readingchoral.org

Auditions will be held in person at Immanuel UCC, Shillington on Saturday, February 8, 2025, and Saturday, February 15, 2025 from 9:30-12:30pm each day.

College Choral Singer Scholarship Award - Reading Choral Society will award scholarships to college students who are currently enrolled at a college or university as a Vocal/choral major, Music Education major and as well as a scholarship to a student participating in a vocal/choral ensemble with a minimum of two music courses. Undergraduate or graduate students who are ages 18-30 and are a native resident of Berks County may apply. Auditions Required - Contact RCS for audition information. Deadline to apply: January 15, 2025

High School Senior Scholarship Awards - Through an audition/application process, RCS will award scholarships to high school seniors in Berks County who will major in or participate in Vocal/choral music and/or Music Education in college. Deadline to apply: January 15, 2025.

OTHER MUSIC AWARDS

Jim & Margie Fegley Orchestral String Scholarship of BCCF

Offered through the Berks County Community Foundation

Contact: Kim Sheffer, kims@bccf.org, (610) 685-2223

BCCF Scholarship Website: <https://rebrand.ly/bccfscholarship>

The purpose of the fund is to provide an annual scholarship to a Berks County resident who is pursuing his or her education in the field of music, more specifically, orchestral strings. Applicants must be pursuing a Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Music Education, Bachelor of Arts in Music, Bachelor of Science in Music degree or a music certificate. The applicant must have been an active participant in his or her high school or college music program or a music program outside the school. In order to apply, the applicant must have a strong commitment to academics by having achieved a high school cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale, or an 85% or higher on a 100% scale; or if already in college, a college cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. To be considered for this scholarship, apply on-line between January 1 and March 1. All applicants will be notified in May.

OTHER MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS BERKS

Please contact organizations directly for more information

Berks Summer Band Institute (Open to All Ages)

Contact: John Evans at evansj@muhsdk12.net

Programs: Free, weekly band program for musicians of all ages

2025 Information: Check www.berkssummerbandinstitute.org closer to summer.

Berks Summer String Institute (1st-5th Year String Students)

Contact: Steven Holgate, Director, at brass_coach@yahoo.com

Programs: Free, weekly string program for 1st-5th year string students

2025 Information: Check www.berkstrings.org or Facebook in April 2024/5

Berks Youth Chorus (Grades 3-12, Open Enrollment Year-Round)

Contact: Sam Barge, at director@berksyouthchorus.org or (610) 898-7664

Programs: Master Singers/Chorale/Choristers (3 choruses of varying levels, rehearsing weekly and performing throughout the region), Chorus for Causes, Summer Programs | More Information: www.berksyouthchorus.org

getJazzed Berks (Jazz Students - All Ages)

Contact: getjazzed@berksarts.org or Berks Arts at (610) 698-1930

Programs: Festivals, Adjudications, Jams, Other Special Events

More information: www.getjazzedberks.com

getJazzed Summer Jazz Camp (Grades 7-12)

Contact: Mike Eben at getjazzed@berksarts.org or Berks Arts at (610) 698-1930

Program: Summer jazz camp for area student jazz musicians

More information: www.getjazzedberks.com

Kutztown University Summer Music Festival (KUSMF)

Contact: Dr. Maria Asteriadou, asteriad@kutztown.edu

Program: Summer chamber music camp for high school and college age musicians (middle school students may be accepted depending on instrument/level of talent)

2025 information: Details at www.kusummermusicfestival.com

Olivet Boys & Girls Club Music Programs at the PAL Center for the Arts (Open to Students Age 7 - 14)

Contact: Brianna Williams, at (610) 373-8910 or Brianna.williams@olivetbgc.org

Weekly Classes: Recording Studio, Guitar, Keyboard, Percussion, and Choral

Summer Camp 2025 information: Contact Ms. Williams in March 2025

Opus One: Berks Chamber Choir

Contact: Christopher Hoster, at opusonechamberchoir@gmail.com

Programs: Membership Choir, Masterclasses, Professional Development, etc.

More Information: www.opusonechamberchoir.com

Rainbow Theatre (Open to Students 8-18 Years)

Contact: Carol Toomey, Director, call (610) 777-0900

Program: Summer music theater production

More information: rainbowact@aol.com

Reading Choral Society (Open to HS Juniors/Seniors, College)

Contact: Susan Coughlin, scoughlin@readingchoral.org

Programs: Membership Chorus, Scholarship Opportunities, High School Choral Workshops, Community Sings, Concert performances and other Special Events

More information: www.readingchoral.org

Reading Music Teachers Association

Contact: Millie Eben, President, ReadingMTA2020@gmail.com

Programs: Festivals, Performances, Resources for Area Students/Music Teachers

More Information: www.readingmusicteachers.org

Reading Philharmonic Orchestra (Open to Students of any Age)

Contact: Email info@readingphilharmonic.com

Directors: Michael Slechta, Conductor

Programs: Community Orchestra, College Conducting Intern Program

More Information: www.readingphilharmonic.com

Reading Pops Orchestra

Contact: Jessica Godek, at jessicagodek@gmail.com

Programs: Side-by-Side Orchestra Program

More Information: www.readingpops.com

Reading Symphony Junior String Orchestra (Grades 4-8) Reading Symphony Youth Orchestra (Grades 9-12)

Contact: David Himes, Education Manager at education@readingsymphony.org

Directors: Christopher Cinquini, Youth Orchestra | Brian Mishler, Junior Strings

Programs: Concerts, Travel Experiences, Side-by-side opportunities, Masterclasses

Audition Information: <https://readingsymphony.org/> or call (610) 373-7557

Ringgold Band

Contact: Chuck Ebersole, chuck.ebersole@ringgoldband.com

Student Programs: District 10 Reading Sessions, Young Artists Awards, Banding

Together concerts, and Side-by-Side Concerts

More Information: www.ringgoldband.com

Sunday Sinfonia Orchestra (Open to Students of any Age)

Contact: Use form via website at www.sundaysinfonia.org

Directors: Simon Maurer, Artistic Director; and Dana Allaband, Asst. Conductor

Program: Weekly community orchestra program

More Information: www.sundaysinfonia.org

Yocum Institute (Open to Students of any Age)

Contact: Susan Rohn, Executive Director, at srohn@yocuminstitute.org, or call (610) 376-1576

Programs: include group and private music instruction, music theater opportunities, as well as the audition-based Berks Piano Quartet program.

More Information: www.yocuminstitute.org

ABOUT THE READING MUSICAL FOUNDATION

RMF believes that every child in Berks should have access to high quality music programs, and our scholarship program allows us to make that possible. Not every student musician will become a professional musician, but the skills they've learned through choir and band room will play an important role in whatever direction they choose. Students who participate in music have a tangible advantage when it comes to developing a strong work ethic and positive attitude.

Nearly 100 years old, RMF is a public charity that provides financial support for music presenters in Berks County, music scholarships by audition and in response to financial need, and extensive music outreach, including programs in most of Berks County's public and parochial schools. RMF is governed by a self-perpetuating board of volunteer trustees and is administered by two full-time employees. The Foundation depends upon the public's support each year.

RMF's annual efforts to support music education and appreciation include:

- Investing more than \$225,000 in scholarships for Berks County student musicians, divided equally between audition-based awards and awards that respond to financial need.
- Supporting local music organizations with \$200,000 in program grants that advance and advocate for music education and appreciation.
- Advocating for Berks County's strong music network, from strengthening the capacity of school music programs to economic development found in the arts, as well as community access to concerts and ensembles.
- Ensuring quality instruments are available to students, regardless of their ability to afford them through Operation Replay, RMF's instrument recycling program sponsored by Zeswitz Music.

MISSION STATEMENT

RMF's mission is to advance and advocate for music education and appreciation in Berks County.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Reading Musical Foundation does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, sex or age in admission or participation in its programs, services and activities, or in employment.

ESTABLISHING A SCHOLARSHIP FUND

If you are interested in joining the more than four dozen individuals and families who have shared their music legacy with the music students of Berks County, please contact Keri Shultz, RMF President, at kshultz@readingmusicalfoundation.org. There are multiple scholarship fund options, and we will work to create a plan that suits your giving preferences.

STAY CONNECTED



ReadingMusicalFoundation



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