

MacPhail Scholarships

2026-27 Brochure

Composition Scholarships
Instrument and Voice Lesson Scholarships
Jazz Scholarships
Prelude Scholarships
Religious Study Scholarships
Iverson Inspirational Merit Scholarship
Scholarships for Students with Financial Need

Application deadline: Thursday, June 18, 2026, by 11:59 p.m.

Scholarship awards listed in this brochure are estimates. Dollar amounts will be confirmed in July when award letters are sent.

Please contact Melissa Falb, Director of Program Operations,
with questions at falb.melissa@macphail.org.

MacPhail

CENTER FOR MUSIC

Merit Scholarships at MacPhail Center for Music

MacPhail Center for Music offers six types of scholarships for study at MacPhail: Composition Scholarships, Instrument Lesson Scholarships, Jazz Scholarships, Prelude Scholarships, Religious Study Scholarships, and Voice Scholarships. Each scholarship has been created to honor a special person and/or passion for music. Scholarships are awarded to students of all ages, all instrument and voice types in varying amounts.

Composition Scholarships are available to students who complete the required application materials. Please read the requirements carefully. All required application materials are submitted online.

Instrument and Voice Lesson Scholarships are available to students who complete the required application materials; a pre-recorded video performance must also be submitted. Awards are granted to students who demonstrate a high level of skill in the audition. Students must also demonstrate significant performance experience and the desire to be an engaged MacPhail student. For some scholarships, students must meet additional criteria, such as demonstrating financial need. Please read scholarship requirements carefully. All required application materials are submitted online.

Jazz Scholarships are available to new or returning students who complete the required application materials and audition. Scholarship auditions are part of the fall combo auditions. Students will audition live with a faculty rhythm section. Audition requirements are posted in September. Please read the scholarship requirements carefully.

Prelude Scholarships are available to new or returning students who complete the required application materials for Prelude. Students interested in applying for a scholarship must check the scholarship box on their application to be considered for a scholarship. Auditions will be held in August. Awards are granted to students who demonstrate a high level of skill in the audition.

Religious Study Scholarships are available to students of all instruments and voice with a sincere interest in developing their music skills as related to religious music of any faith or creed. The applicant must be an active musician in a place of worship. Please read the requirements carefully. All required application materials are submitted online.

Financial Assistance: Scholarships for Students with Financial Need

MacPhail offers both financial aid and financial need scholarships for students needing financial assistance. **Scholarships for Students with Financial Need** are instrument-specific or specific to a particular program or area of study. These scholarships are awarded through the Financial Aid application process.

MacPhail also has a general Financial Aid fund which offers reduced tuition for qualifying students. Financial Aid is granted based on demonstrated financial need and is available for all qualified students, regardless of age, skill level or other factors. Financial aid applications are available by contacting MacPhail Student Services at 612-321-0100 or services.student@macphail.org or online at <http://www.macphail.org/financial-aid/>

MacPhail Center for Music transforms lives and communities through exceptional music learning.

In service to its mission, MacPhail maintains compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of the 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Action of 1990 to prohibit discrimination against persons with disabilities. MacPhail Center for Music is a vital, not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that does not discriminate in its admissions, employment, financial assistance or scholarship policies on the basis of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, age or special needs.

Composition Scholarships

TYPE OF AWARD: Scholarship(s) for composition study based on the quality of original music submitted, potential as a composer

AWARDS: Scholarship awards support an academic year (both fall and spring semester) of composition instruction at MacPhail. Scholarships are awarded as sufficient funds are available. Not every scholarship is available every year.

WHO MAY APPLY: Composers of all ages and genre

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
2	Kevin Chen & Joan Miller Composition Scholarship	\$1000

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPOSITION SCHOLARSHIP:

1. Student must submit **two complete scores** representative of their work as a composer. Compositions should represent at least eight minutes of music in total. Providing recordings of these works is highly recommended but not required.
2. The scholarship application form and all relevant documents must be received by **11:59 p.m. on Thursday, June 18, 2026.**

AWARD DECISIONS ARE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

- Successful completion of application: application form and scores must all be submitted by the application deadline.
- Composition skill as demonstrated by scores and recordings (optional).

AWARD OBLIGATIONS:

If you receive a composition scholarship, you are required to fulfill the following obligations:

- Send a thank you letter to the benefactors of the scholarship.
- Enroll for individual instruction lessons in composition for the 2026-27 academic year (fall and spring semester) at MacPhail.
- Perform or have your works performed in a MacPhail Composition Recital in the 2026-26 academic year.

Instrument and Voice Lesson Scholarships

TYPE OF AWARD: Instrument and Voice Lesson Scholarships are available by audition only and are awarded to students demonstrating exceptional performance ability and considerable performance experience.

AUDITION: A pre-recorded video audition is required. Videos can be uploaded to Get Acceptd (see MacPhail website for link).

AWARDS: Awards vary in amount and are applied to one full academic year tuition for individual instruction at MacPhail Center for Music.

WHO MAY APPLY: Instrument and Voice Lesson Scholarship eligibility varies by age, instrument and other factors. *Please read all guidelines carefully.*

MULTIPLE INSTRUMENTS: Students who are selected to audition may audition on more than one instrument. Only one scholarship per fall and spring term is awarded per student. Students with financial need may seek additional assistance from the MacPhail Financial Aid program. At their auditions, students are considered for any Instrument or Voice Lesson Scholarships for which they are eligible. Most scholarships are instrument-specific, in keeping with the wishes of the benefactors of these awards.

ACCOMPANIST: All performers are encouraged to record their audition videos with an accompanist or with a pre-recorded piano accompaniment or backing track.

AWARDS AVAILABLE: Scholarships are awarded as sufficient funds are available. Not every scholarship is available every year.

* Indicates additional requirements apply to this scholarship

General Scholarships (available for all instruments and voice)

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
Two (2)	E. Jerome Carlson Scholarship	\$750
One (1)	The Minneapolis Club Scholarship	\$500

Guitar Scholarships

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
One (1)	Peter Jackson Guitar Scholarship*	\$400

Woodwind Scholarships

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
One (1)	Ruben Haugen Woodwind Scholarship	\$1000

Piano Scholarships

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
One (1)	Theodore Bergman Piano Scholarship	\$500
One (1)	Chaya Gelfand Piano Scholarship	\$500
One (1)	Peter Jackson Keyboard Scholarship*	\$400
Two (2)	The Agnes Barnwell Sanders Kemp Piano Scholarship	\$1000
One (1)	J. Rudolph Peterson Piano Scholarship	\$500
Two (2)	The Gary Sipes Piano Scholarship*	\$750

Violin Scholarships

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
One (1)	Robert Bland Memorial Suzuki Violin Scholarship*	\$1000
Two (2)	Mary West Violin Scholarship*	\$1000

Voice Scholarships

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
Two (2)	Oksana Bryn Scholarship	\$1500
Four (4)	Mary Ann Kimball Scholarship*	\$1000
Four (4)	Patricia E. Maher Scholarship*	\$1,500

*The **Peter Jackson Keyboard and Guitar Scholarship** is awarded to two students annually, either for keyboard or guitar study at MacPhail Center for Music.

* The **Mary West Violin Scholarship** is available for advanced classical violin students.

*The **Mary Ann Kimball Scholarship** is awarded to students demonstrating need and talent for voice study at MacPhail.

*The **Patricia E. Maher Scholarship** is available for advanced classical voice students.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIPS:

1. All information given on the application form should pertain to the instrument that the student wishes to study with a scholarship award. If a student wishes to audition on more than one instrument, please complete a separate application for each instrument.
2. The student is required to submit a pre-recorded video audition as a part of their application.
3. The scholarship application and all relevant documents must be received by 11: 59 p.m. on **Thursday, June 18, 2026**. Late applications will not be accepted.

AWARD DECISIONS ARE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

- Successful completion of all application materials by the application deadline.
- Submission of a pre-recorded video audition. Factors evaluated during the audition include:
 - Musical elements: tone, technique, interpretation and rhythm
 - Non-musical elements: stage comportsment, appearance and professionalism

AWARD OBLIGATIONS:

If you receive a MacPhail Instrument or Voice Lesson Scholarship, you are required to fulfill the following obligations:

- Send a thank you letter to the benefactor of your scholarship.
- Enroll for individual instruction on the instrument for which the scholarship is awarded for the MacPhail 2026-27 academic year (fall and spring semester).
- Perform at select MacPhail community and donor events, not to exceed more than two per year.

Jazz Scholarships

TYPE OF AWARD: Jazz Scholarships are available by audition only and are awarded to students demonstrating exceptional performance ability and considerable performance experience.

AWARDS: Scholarship awards support an academic year (both fall and spring semester) of jazz instruction at MacPhail. Scholarships are awarded as sufficient funds are available. Not every scholarship is available every year.

WHO MAY APPLY: Students of all ages, instruments and voice

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
Two (2)	Debbie Duncan Scholarship	\$1000
One (1)	Jerry Grayson Scholarship (Drums)	\$750
One (1)	Noren Fats Nelson	\$1000
One (1)	Irv Williams Fellowship	Participation in the Dakota Combo

* The **Debbie Duncan Scholarship** is available for youth studying any jazz instrument or voice.

*The **Jerry Grayson Scholarship** is available for jazz drum set students.

*The **Irv Williams Fellowship** is awarded to a student auditioning for the Dakota Combo and covers their tuition for the ensemble for the academic year.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR JAZZ SCHOLARSHIP:

1. All information given on the application form should pertain to the instrument that the student wishes to study with a scholarship award. If a student wishes to audition on more than one instrument, please complete a separate application for each instrument.
2. The student is required to submit a pre-recorded video audition as a part of their application.
3. The scholarship application and all relevant documents must be received by 11: 59 p.m. on **Thursday, June 18, 2026**. Late applications will not be accepted.

AWARD DECISIONS ARE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

- Successful completion of Jazz application and audition.
- Exceptional performance ability and commitment to music study

AWARD OBLIGATIONS:

If you receive a jazz scholarship, you are required to fulfill the following obligations:

- Send a thank you letter to the benefactors of the scholarship.
- Enroll in a jazz lessons or ensemble for the 2026-27 academic year (fall and spring semester) at MacPhail.

Prelude Scholarships

TYPE OF AWARD: Prelude Scholarships are available by audition only and are awarded to students demonstrating exceptional performance ability and commitment to music study.

AWARDS: Scholarship awards support an academic year (both fall and spring semester) of Prelude at MacPhail. Scholarships are awarded as sufficient funds are available. Not every scholarship is available every year.

WHO MAY APPLY: Any student, new or current who is auditioning for the Prelude Program.

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
Three (3)	Elizabeth Drueding Voice Scholarship*	\$1000
Four (4)	Elinor Watson Bell Scholarship	\$1600
Two (2)	Lilian Vail Scholarship	\$500

* The **Elizabeth Drueding Voice Scholarship** is intended for a voice student (youth) who demonstrates financial need and commitment as demonstrated through an audition.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PRELUDE SCHOLARSHIP:

1. Student must complete the Prelude Application. Please check the box on the Prelude Application if you are interested in auditioning for a Prelude Scholarship. The application can be found on the Prelude page: <https://www.macphail.org/meta/prelude/>
2. Complete an in-person audition. See the Prelude webpage for audition requirements.
3. Applications and auditions must be completed by September 8, 2026.

AWARD DECISIONS ARE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

- Successful completion of Prelude application and audition.
- Exceptional performance ability and commitment to music study

AWARD OBLIGATIONS:

If you receive a Prelude Scholarship, you are required to fulfill the following obligations:

- Send a thank you letter to the benefactors of the scholarship.
- Enroll in Prelude Singer Actor Performance Lab for the 2026-27 academic year (fall and spring semester) at MacPhail.
- Attend classes faithfully

Religious Study Scholarships

TYPE OF AWARD: The Edith B. Norberg Scholarship is awarded to students of all instruments and voice with a sincere interest in developing their music skills as related to religious music of any faith or creed.

AWARDS: Scholarship awards support an academic year (both fall and spring semester) of Individual Lessons at MacPhail. Scholarships are awarded as sufficient funds are available.

WHO MAY APPLY: Any student, new or current who is an active musician in a place of worship.

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
Three (3)	Edith B. Norberg	\$1000

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR RELIGIOUS STUDY SCHOLARSHIP:

1. Complete the online application on Get Accepted that outlines significant public performance.
2. Provide a 250-word **personal essay** describing your interest in religious music, how you participate as a musician in your place of worship and what you hope to accomplish if awarded the Edith B. Norberg Scholarship.
3. Submit a pre-recorded video audition as a part of their application.
4. The scholarship application and all relevant documents must be received by 11: 59 p.m. on **Thursday, June 18, 2026**. Late applications will not be accepted.

AWARD OBLIGATIONS:

If you receive a MacPhail Religious Studies Scholarship, you are required to fulfill the following obligations:

- Send a thank you letter to the benefactor of your scholarship.
- Enroll for individual instruction on the instrument for which the scholarship is awarded for the MacPhail 2026-27 academic year (fall and spring semester).
- Perform at select MacPhail community and donor events, not to exceed more than two per year

Iverson Inspirational Merit Scholarship

TYPE OF AWARD: The Iverson Inspirational Merit Scholarship inspires students of any age to use their music for good in the world by helping others heal, mend, or cope while bringing joy into the lives of their listeners.

AWARDS: Scholarship awards support an academic year of MacPhail activities, lessons, classes, ensembles, and summer camps.

WHO MAY APPLY: Any student who has a plan to use music for positive change.

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
Two (2)	Iverson Inspirational Merit Scholarship	\$1000

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR IVERSON INSPIRATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP:

1. Complete the online application by June 30.
2. Describe your proposed project from either the past school year or what you have planned for the 2026-27 school year.

AWARD DECISIONS ARE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

- Descriptions of projects that students have used or plan to use music for positive change.
- Project Examples:
 - Performing in senior or memory care facilities
 - Integrating music in health/wellness programs
 - Helping ill children through music

AWARD OBLIGATIONS:

If you receive an Iverson Inspirational Merit Scholarship, you are required to fulfill the following obligations:

- Send a thank you letter to the benefactor of your scholarship.
- Enroll for individual instruction on the instrument for which the scholarship is awarded for the MacPhail 2026-27 academic year (fall and spring semester).
- Complete your project if you have not already done so.

Scholarships for Students with Financial Need

TYPE OF AWARD: Scholarships for Students with Financial Need are available to students through the financial aid application process. Students with financial aid can qualify for financial aid, Financial Need Scholarships or both as part of the financial aid award package.

AWARDS: Awards vary in amount and all are applied to one full academic year tuition for individual instruction (fall and spring semesters). Students can be awarded both financial aid and a Financial Need Scholarship.

WHO MAY APPLY: Anyone with financial need may apply for financial aid. Students who meet the scholarship criteria will also be considered for financial need scholarships.

AWARDS AVAILABLE: Scholarships are awarded as sufficient funds are available. Not every scholarship is available every year.

* Indicates additional requirements apply to this scholarship

Piano Scholarships for Youth

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
Two (2)	Roy and Virginia Genaw Memorial Scholarship Fund*	\$1000
Two (2)	Hellerud Tanaka Memorial Scholarship*	\$800

Piano Scholarships for All Ages

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
One (1)	Theone Walker Brown Scholarship	\$750
Two (2)	The Elise Midelfort Piano Scholarship	\$1000

School Partnerships Scholarship

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
Four (4)	Children Music and Art Fund Scholarship	\$2500

Suzuki Instrument Scholarship

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
Two (2)	Bjork-Pedersen Suzuki Scholarship*	\$1000

Voice Scholarships for All Ages

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
One (1)	Willie B. Hale (BIPOC student)	\$500
Four (4)	Audrey Stottler Memorial Voice Scholarship	\$850

Music Therapy Scholarship for All Ages

<i>Awards Granted</i>	<i>Scholarship Name</i>	<i>Award per Academic Year per Student</i>
Two (2)	Marie and Edwin Hirschhoff Fund	\$1000

* The **Roy and Virginia Genaw Memorial Scholarship** and **Hellerud Tanaka Memorial Scholarship** are awarded to piano students no older than a high school senior within the 2026-27 academic year. Video auditions are not required.

* The **Bjork-Pederson Suzuki Scholarship** is awarded to one student currently enrolled in the MacPhail Suzuki program, studying any instrument, to continue their Suzuki music education.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL NEED-BASED FINANCIAL SCHOLARSHIPS:

1. Students who would like to be considered for Financial Need Scholarships may opt-in by checking a box on their financial aid application.
2. When submitting their application, students must also provide a letter of recommendation from a music teacher or non-family member adult who can speak to a student's commitment to music study.
3. Students who receive financial aid awards and have submitted their letter of recommendation for the scholarship will have their letters reviewed by a committee. The committee will select students to receive the awards based on the student's commitment to music study.
4. Financial aid awards will be applied first to a student's tuition balance. Financial need scholarships awards will be applied second, up to the remaining balance on the tuition. Scholarships can only be applied to tuition at MacPhail. If additional funds are available, students can talk with their teacher about the possibility of adding additional lessons or extending the length of their lessons.
5. Students who receive assistance must enroll for individual instruction on the instrument specified by the scholarship for the 2026-27 MacPhail academic year (fall and spring semester) unless noted otherwise and send a thank you letter to the benefactor of the scholarship.

DECISIONS FOR ALL NEED-BASED AWARDS ARE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

- a. Successful completion of application
- b. Demonstrated financial need
- c. Commitment to music study