

Valley Music Academy Scholarship Guidelines and Application

Valley Music Academy has scholarships which provide assistance for Tuition costs for Musikgarten and private studio lessons. Scholarship availability and amount of award is determined annually by grant funding and the state of Valley Music Academy's current financial budget. Scholarships are awarded based on financial need of the family and the musical progress, effort and potential of the individual student. VMA uses the Federal Poverty Level Guidelines in determining scholarship amounts. To apply a family must have an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of no more than 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. Scholarships are only available to students until age 18 and actively enrolled in high school or home school. To apply for a scholarship, please read this entire document, fill out the form completely, attach the required documents and return to the Valley Music Academy Office. Mail to VMA, P.O. Box 1712, Waynesboro, VA 22980.

Scholarships are only awarded for the fall and spring semesters. All scholarships awarded will end on May 31st of each year, regardless of the date granted. **You must reapply for scholarships annually.** Scholarship applications are available for download at www.valleymusicacademy.org and must be submitted by the August deadline to be considered for the following year. Previous scholarship approval does not guarantee future scholarship availability.

If your family's financial situation changes, you must notify VMA immediately. The scholarship committee will review this information and notify you of any change, if any, in your scholarship assistance within four weeks. During this review time, the original level of scholarship aid will continue to be provided.

In addition to the general VMA Policies, scholarship students are required to abide by the following guidelines:

- Applicants must reside in one of the following areas: Staunton, Waynesboro, or the counties of Augusta, Albemarle, Nelson, Rockingham or Rockbridge. Scholarship awards may be used for online or in-person lessons or classes.
- Scholarships are awarded as a specific discount toward each individual lesson or class.
- Scholarship awards will be removed for excused absences and cancellations. Tuition charges will be removed.
- **Scholarship awards will be removed for unexcused student absences, however, tuition charges will not be removed. Students will be required to pay the full tuition rate for unexcused absences.** (see attendance policy for details)
- Two unexcused absences within a semester may result in termination of the scholarship. Refer to VMA Studio Policies for absence procedures.
- A valid credit or debit card authorization must be provided to VMA for monthly tuition and/or material payments. The student portion of the tuition will automatically be charged on or about the 1st business day of each month. Students who choose to pay by check or may be charged an additional convenience fee each month.
- Private studio student practice time must be recorded and initialed by the parent. This practice record must be turned into the teacher weekly. If practice time does not consistently meet the teacher's expectations, the teacher may recommend termination of the scholarship to the Board of Directors Scholarship Committee.
- Private studio students are required to attend all VMA performance events. This includes faculty recitals and other sponsored performances.
- Private studio students are required to perform in the spring student recital.
- Scholarship recipients are required to participate in all requested VMA fundraising events or activities.
- Scholarship recipient parents/guardians or students are required to volunteer a minimum of 5 hours to VMA per semester. This may include providing services, assisting with events, and more. Please see Program Director to see how you may be able to volunteer to assist VMA. Failure to volunteer during the specified semester will result in the denial of future awards
- Upon scholarship award, the parent/guardian must sign the scholarship award agreeing to the terms and conditions listed here. Failure to sign and return the scholarship award will result in forfeiture of the scholarship.

Scholarships apply toward tuition only. The scholarship student's materials and/or registration fees must be paid by the student/parent. Every effort will be made to keep material costs at a reasonable rate.

Please sign below acknowledging that you have read and understand the above policies, and that the supplied information is correct and accurate.

Parent: _____

Date: _____

Student: _____

Date: _____

Valley Music Academy Scholarship Committee
PO Box 1712 • Waynesboro, VA 22980 • (540) 942-8648

Student's Name: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Grade: _____ School Attending: _____

Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s): _____

Cell phone: () _____ Home phone: () _____

Email: _____

Address (Street) _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Program Scholarship Applied For: **Private Lessons – (Instrument _____)** **MusikGarten**

Have you ever received a VMA scholarship? Yes No

If Yes, did you (or family) fulfill the five hours of volunteer service required per semester? Yes No

If no, please explain: _____

Annual Gross Household income: \$ _____ Annual Adjusted Gross Income (AGI): \$ _____

Number of Dependents in household: _____ Total number of people living in household: _____

The following documentation is required:

- ✓ A completed parent/guardian volunteer form (see below).
- ✓ Copy of the most recent year's tax return (1040 only-no additional schedules required). **Please BLACK OUT any Social Security Numbers listed on the form.**
- ✓ *If you were not required to file a tax return, please provide proof of this status and proof of any source of income from items below:*
 - Copies of 2 most recent paycheck stubs from all receiving income in household
 - Proof of other sources of income (i.e. Social security, disability, unemployment, etc.)
 - Any other additional documentation showing household income
- ✓ A written recommendation from the current music instructor. If you have none, please provide written recommendation from a past school teacher. Include the name and email of the teacher writing a referral.

I affirm that the information provided in this scholarship application to Valley Music Academy is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guard Signature _____ Date _____

Only complete applications with all requested documentation will be considered.

Valley Music Academy Scholarship Committee Volunteer Form

Each family of a scholarship recipient is required to volunteer at least five hours per semester (ten per year) to Valley Music Academy. This can be done by one or more persons. Please complete the volunteer form below and return this as part of the scholarship application.

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Work: _____

Email: _____

Skills and Knowledge

Please rate your skill/knowledge with: **H**=highly skilled **E**= Experienced **S**= Some knowledge

- | | | |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| _____ Graphic design | _____ Web design | _____ Board of Directors |
| _____ Marketing/Postering | _____ Volunteer Coordinator | _____ Grant Writing/Research |
| _____ Fundraising | _____ Corporate Sponsorships | _____ Community Liaison |
| _____ Photography | _____ Videography | _____ Sound/Lights/Recording |
| _____ PSA/Promotional/Writing | _____ Event Organization | _____ Auction Fundraiser |
| _____ Other area(s) of skill or experience (please list): | | |

I would like to help with:

- _____ Annual Donation Drive (October/November)
- _____ Securing Corporate/Business Sponsorships
- _____ Online Marketing/Promotions
- _____ Spring Recitals (May)
- _____ Board of Directors (approx. 1.5 hours bi-monthly)
- _____ Annual non-profit IRS Filings (accounting experience required)
- _____ General Promotions (placing flyers, posters, rack cards in local businesses)
- _____ Serving at promotions booth at community events
- _____ Other (please list) _____

Thank you!! We will be in touch with you.