
2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION and INSTRUCTIONS

1. **APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Application packages must be postmarked OR EMAILED to scholarships@sbmusicclub.org no later than **SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026**. There will be no exceptions, in fairness to all. If you are mailing close to the deadline, we strongly recommend getting your package postmarked in person at the Post Office, OR EMAILING at least 1 day in advance of the deadline; otherwise there is no guarantee your package will be postmarked/received the same day you mail it.
2. **AUDITION DATE and LOCATION:** Auditions will be held Saturday, April 11, 2026 between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM, and Sunday, April 12, 2026 between 12:00 PM and 4:00 PM at the First Congregational Church of Santa Barbara (2101 State Street at Padre). All applicants must audition in person.
3. **AGE LIMITS (at time of application due date):** Instrumental: 23 years; Vocal: 26 years
4. **RESIDENCE ELIGIBILITY:** Scholarship eligibility is limited to those whose permanent address is in Santa Barbara County. **Applicants coming from outside the county to attend college in Santa Barbara County are not eligible.** Applicants must currently be studying in, or have graduated from, pre-college schools within the Santa Barbara County, including home schooling. P.O. Box addresses on the application form are not acceptable.
5. **PROFICIENCY ELIGIBILITY:** Applicants must have completed a minimum of 3 years of private study and have achieved at least an intermediate level of proficiency. Although the Santa Barbara Music Club (SBMC) wishes to foster and encourage a love for music in all ages and levels of advancement, we ask that for scholarship consideration and auditions, teachers use discretion and avoid submitting students who have not yet become secure with fundamental facility in pitch, tone production, and technique on their instruments, regardless of their age.

Applicants most deserving of a scholarship award are those who perform above the expected level for their age and demonstrate a consistent rate of progress when reapplying in successive years.

6. **LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION:** A letter of recommendation from the applicant's current primary teacher is required. The letter must be signed and placed in a sealed envelope and mailed, and must either be included with the application package or mailed separately by the applicant's teacher by the application deadline. Emailed recommendations will not be accepted.
7. **DETERMINATIONS:** Scholarships are awarded based primarily on merit and secondarily on financial need. Eligibility and award amount will be determined solely by the SBMC Scholarship Committee.
8. **EDUCATION and USE OF FUNDS:** Applicants should be in the process of pursuing their musical education and currently taking private lessons. Scholarship funds are primarily for tuition and should be used to further musical education. Travel, instruments and related expenses will also be considered at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee.
9. **REPERTOIRE:** If an applicant has previously auditioned for the SBMC, new repertoire must be presented each year. Each musical selection must be at least 2 minutes in length. Audition time slot durations will be 8 minutes maximum; therefore, plan repertoire accordingly.

NOTE: Selections longer than 8 minutes are acceptable with the following options: applicant may use planned cuts to reduce performance time, or; applicant may allow the judges to decide when to stop and possibly restart the piece in a different place. Most importantly, applicant must be prepared to play the entire selection.

Requirements are:

- **Instrumental:** Two contrasting works from different historical periods.
 - **Please Note:** for pianists only, concertos are not accepted as audition repertoire.
 - **Vocal:** Two contrasting works, in different languages and different historical periods.
10. **ACCOMPANIST:** Applicants are responsible for securing and paying their own accompanist. If one needs referrals for accompanists, please contact the SBMC Scholarship Committee.
 11. **ONE AUDITION PER APPLICANT:** Each applicant is allowed one audition slot, on one instrument or voice. Applicants cannot audition on more than one instrument.

Questions? Contact the SBMC Scholarship Committee at:

scholarships@sbmusicclub.org



OUR 56TH SEASON!

www.sbmusicclub.org

Instrument/Voice Type _____

Current Teacher _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____

E-mail _____ **Years of Study with This Teacher** _____

Pre-college schools attended in Santa Barbara County (include home schooling):

Musical Education: In chronological order, list schools and private instruction, with teachers' names

Career Goals:

Honors and Awards (List dates and amounts):

Purpose for which scholarship is requested (Including total cost):

Statement of need: Please supply information about your financial resources, hardship, and any other factors for scholarship consideration.

Other current applications (List to whom, and amount requested):

Remarks: Is there any further information you wish to offer in support of your request for funds?

Audition Repertoire: Your audition time slot will be 8 minutes maximum for both pieces. You may make cuts if needed to meet the time limit. Each selection must be at least 2 minutes in length. If you have previously auditioned for the SBMC, new repertoire must be presented. You are encouraged to perform from memory, but not required to do so. Applicants are responsible for securing their own accompanists.

1. _____
Composer Title of work and which movement Duration (in minutes, e.g. 4.5)

2. _____
Composer Title of work and which movement Duration

Your accompanist : _____ **Phone** _____

Audition Date/Time Request: Please indicate any audition time requests or restrictions. Every effort will be made to accommodate your request, but it may not be possible to do so. Leave blank if you have no preference.

Saturday 4/11: _____

Sunday 4/12: _____

Concert Performance: Selected winners may be invited to perform on one of our two Gala Scholarship Concerts at the end of the season, scheduled for Saturday, May 30, 2026 at 3 PM and Saturday, June 6, 2026 at 3 PM at the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Santa Barbara, CA. Concerts last approximately 1 hour. Please indicate your availability to perform on either of these concerts. Your availability to perform, or lack thereof, has no effect on your eligibility or chances of receiving an award. If you are selected and need an accompanist, an extra \$50 will be added to your award towards the cost of your accompanist.

If invited, I am available to perform on (check one or both):

Saturday May 30, 2026

Saturday June 6, 2026

How did you hear about the Scholarship Program? Please check all that apply:

Teacher School Web site Facebook Other: _____

The SBMC occasionally takes photos and/or videos of our auditions for organization-related media and publicity. Your participation in our scholarship auditions acknowledges understanding of this policy and consent to having your performance photographed or videoed.

Signature of Applicant _____ **Date** _____

If emailing your application, please type your full name as signature

If under 18, Parent/Guardian must also sign

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ **Date** _____

If emailing your application, please type your full name as signature

Relationship to Applicant _____

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Double-check all these items.

Incomplete or unsigned applications cannot be processed.

- All pages of the Application Form are complete
- Application form is signed and dated by applicant, and parent/guardian if applicant is under 18
- Letter of recommendation is enclosed or being mailed separately by the teacher by the deadline
- Application postmarked OR EMAILED no later than SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026**
No exceptions.