Dear Music Scholarship Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in music at Aurora University. Recognizing the skill, dedication and enthusiasm music requires, Aurora University is offering Music Achievement Scholarships for keyboard, vocal and instrumental applicants. Auditions are held during open house days, as described below.

AU music awards are open to music majors as well as students in any major. Scholarships are awarded based upon their musical achievement, academic record and dedication to furthering their skill in the art of music. If you have questions regarding music scholarships or would like more information pertaining to our music programs, please visit aurora.edu/music or contact me at 630-844-4577 or lfredenb@aurora.edu.

To schedule a scholarship audition, please contact Ms. Julianne Vickers, Administrative Assistant for the Music Department, at 630-844-6161 or music@aurora.edu. You may also apply online at aurora.edu/musicscholarship.

Best wishes as you complete your current studies and begin your college education. We look forward to meeting you on campus.

Sincerely,

Lisa Fredenburgh, DMA
Chair, Music Department and Director of Choral Activities
Music Achievement Scholarships

» Apply and schedule an audition date online at aurora.edu/musicscholarship.

» Award amount ranges from $500 to $5,000.

» Open to students regardless of major or minor.

» Vocalists, pianists, organists and instrumentalists may all apply.

What you will need in order to audition:

» A minimum 300-word essay on your interest in music and what you hope to achieve at Aurora University as a musician. This may be submitted via email, US Mail, or at the time of audition.

» Applicants must submit a letter of recommendation from one person who knows them as a musician commenting upon character, demonstrated work ethic, team participation and ability of the applicant. This may be submitted via email, US Mail, or at the time of audition.

» Non-music majors will need to perform a prepared piece of their choice, preferably memorized for vocalists and pianists. Vocalists, it is preferred that you sing a classical or musical theater piece, aria or oratorio, or a folk-song arrangement at your audition.

» Music majors will ideally perform two contrasting works of music. It is suggested that piano majors should perform a work by J. S. Bach, if possible, and one other. Vocalists in the music major should sing one of their selections in a language other than English, if at all possible. Musical Theater majors will be expected to sing at least one piece in that genre.

Note: As part of your audition, you will be asked to work briefly with a music instructor and interview with faculty members. Pianists and instrumentalists may be asked to play scales or arpeggios. Vocalists will be asked to demonstrate range and sight reading.

Helpful information:

» Auditions/interviews will last approximately 10–12 minutes.

» Students needing the service of an Aurora University accompanist will need to request an accompanist via Ms. Vickers in the Music Department, music@aurora.edu, or on the application web form.

» Provide sheet music for the accompanist the morning of the audition, or earlier for more advanced accompaniments. Music may be provided in PDF format via email as well as paper. Photographs of the music will not be accepted.

» Please dress professionally for your audition.

» Upon completion of your application and audition/interview, your Admission counselor will contact you regarding the scholarship.

» Scholarship will be awarded pending acceptance to Aurora University.
Audition dates throughout the year (audition times starting at 12:30 p.m.):

» Saturday, November 21, 2020
» Saturday, January 23, 2021
» Saturday, April 24, 2021

Please make all effort to audition during these days. However, we understand that with performers and athletes, schedules may be challenging. Individually scheduled auditions are available. It is preferable and more advantageous for the musician to appear personally. However, if distance is prohibitive, a Skype or digitally recorded audition may be permitted. The interview portion of the audition can take place via webcam or telephone. For questions, please contact Ms. Julianne Vickers, Administrative Assistant for the Music Department, at 630-844-6161 or music@aurora.edu.

Scholarship Commitment

ALL scholarships, regardless of type, carry with them responsibility as outlined below:

» Conscientiously and fully participate in and support the Aurora University ensembles, including membership in University Chorale, AU Band or Flute Ensemble. Additional ensembles are available.

» Demonstrate leadership and commitment to development as a musician through preparation for lessons and ensembles, punctual attendance and supportive participation.

» Take four semesters of private lessons beginning the freshman year. Applied lessons are offered as a class but arranged at a mutually agreeable time between the student and teacher. The four semesters should occur in the first two years of study at AU, but some flexibility exists for those with complicated class schedules.

» Students will be evaluated by the music faculty each spring to review academic progress and scholarship status. In order to be considered for scholarship continuation, students must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA, and demonstrate the qualities outlined above.

Please note: It is the student’s responsibility to fulfill scholarship commitments. Advisors will be notified of the student’s scholarship commitments. Faculty will be available to advise and will monitor student progress. The student will be notified once if he or she is in danger of not meeting scholarship commitments, with enough time to correct behavior. A student who does not meet his or her commitments while on scholarship will not be awarded a scholarship for the subsequent semester. Failing to meet commitments also endangers the likelihood of receiving scholarship funding in future years.