



2024 TALENT SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORM

CSA students currently registered for music lessons, or a member of an ensemble, are eligible to apply for one of the six talent scholarships awarded each year. Talent scholarships will be awarded to two students at each of the following grade levels: **Elementary (Grades 3 - 5)**, **Junior (Grades 6 - 8)**, and **Senior (Grades 9 - 12)**. Each award is worth \$250.00, with each scholarship winner receiving a \$50.00 check and a total of \$200.00 towards the cost of lessons or the ensemble in the next two semesters -- \$100.00 in the spring semester and \$100.00 the following fall semester. High school seniors or those who are moving from the area may receive the full amount in the spring semester. There is an expectation that a student who is awarded a talent scholarship will continue with the program for both semesters of the award period.

Application Deadline - December 18, 2023: Students, parents, and music teachers are asked to complete this application form, which must be received no later than **Monday December 18**. Applications submitted after this date or that do not have the private music teacher and parents' signatures will not be accepted. A \$15 application fee will be added to your CSA account for each accepted application.

Students registered for lessons on two instruments may audition on both instruments but must submit two forms and pay two fees. Students who are registered for a CSA ensemble are invited to audition on one instrument only. Students who received an award in one year may not audition again on that instrument for the next two years.

Students will be expected to memorize a piece or a portion of a piece to be performed before a committee of judges. It is recommended that students choose a challenging piece that is a good showcase for their abilities. Performers are expected to bring an original (not photocopy) of the music for the judges.

The audition performance time limit for the elementary division is four minutes, for the junior division is five minutes, and for the senior division is eight minutes. Students will be penalized, possibly by being disqualified, if the audition performance is longer than the time allocated. To manage the audition time limit, the performer may either make cuts (noting these on the judges' music) or end their audition performance at an appropriate place.

A piano accompanist is provided (gratis) by the program, but it is fine for you to use a different accompanist if you prefer. Note: NIU teacher and graduate student Hyounkyoung "Joy" Kim is our piano accompanist for talent scholarship auditions in 2024. It is advisable to use an accompanist if your piece has a piano part.

Audition Date - January 20, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. Applicants will receive their audition time by email two weeks before the audition date. Auditions will take place in person in the NIU Recital Hall.

Honors Recital – February 24, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. The six students awarded scholarships perform in the NIU Recital Hall.

Talent Scholarship Application Form

Complete this form and bring it to Music Building Room 132, scan/email it to ksherman2@niu.edu, or mail it to: NIU Community School of the Arts, College of Visual and Performing Arts, Northern Illinois University, 1425 W. Lincoln Hwy., DeKalb, IL 60115. A \$15 application fee will be added to your CSA account. Your application must be received no later than **December 18, 2023**.

Student's Name **Age (as of 1/20/24)** **Current Grade**

Parent Name

Parent Phone number

Parent Email address

Instrument

Private Music teacher or Ensemble Director name

School name

Name of piece, movement, and composer (Or enter "undecided" and inform us of your decision by January 5 - two **weeks** before the audition date.)

Will you be using the program's accompanist at the audition? yes no You may schedule a brief rehearsal with the accompanist prior to your audition. **If you will not use the program's accompanist, please check here to confirm**

Parent's or guardian's signature: Print both parents' names.

Private music teacher's or ensemble director's signature

The Northern Illinois University Community School of the Arts is an equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, marital status, national origin, disability, or status as a disabled or Vietnam-era veteran. The Constitution and Bylaws of Northern Illinois University afford equal treatment regardless of political views or affiliation, and sexual orientation.