



Thank you for your interest in music at Aurora University!

Recognizing the skill, dedication and enthusiasm music requires, Aurora University offers scholarship for keyboard, vocal, and instrumental applicants. The rest of this packet will guide you through the process and how to sign up for a timeslot.

Music scholarships are open to music majors as well as students of any major. Scholarships are awarded based upon musical achievement, academic record, and dedication to furthering one's 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](http://aurora.edu/music) or contact Program Chair, Mark Plummer at [music@aurora.edu](mailto:music@aurora.edu).

There are two ways to schedule a scholarship audition. You may use the link on the Music Scholarship website to choose a time. Additionally, you can request a time by contacting Mr. James McCarron, Administrative Assistant for the Music Department, at 630-844-6161 or [music@aurora.edu](mailto:music@aurora.edu).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Plummer", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark Plummer, DA  
Program Chair | Associate Professor of Music

# Music Achievement Scholarship

- Apply and schedule an audition date online at [aurora.edu/musicscholarship](http://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.

## 2024 Audition Dates (1:00-4:00 p.m.)

- Saturday, January 27
- Saturday, February 24
- Saturday, April 20

Please make every effort to audition on one of the above dates. We understand, however, that schedules can be difficult. Alternate audition dates are available and can be arranged with three weeks advanced notice. Contact Mr. McCarron at [music@aurora.edu](mailto:music@aurora.edu) to request an alternate audition date.

- Confirmation of your audition date and time will be emailed to you.
- Upon completion of your application and audition/interview, your Admission Counselor will contact you regarding the scholarship. Please note, that you must be admitted to Aurora University before your scholarship is revealed to you.

What you will need in order to audition:

- **Essay:** 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 or at the time of your audition.
- **Letter of recommendation:** 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 or at the time of your audition.
- **Repertoire:** Non-music majors will need to perform a prepared piece of your 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 need to 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 possible. Musical Theater majors will be expected to sing one piece in that genre.
- **Skills:** Instrumentalists and keyboardists will be asked to play scales. Vocalists will be asked to demonstrate range and sight reading.

Helpful information:

- Auditions/interviews will last approximately fifteen minutes.
- If you need an accompanist, contact Mr. McCarron in the Music Department, music@aurora.edu, or request where noted via the online application.
- Sheet music for the accompanist must be emailed at least two weeks prior to your audition in PDF format. A photo of the music will not suffice.
- Please dress professionally for your audition.
- Upon completion of your application and audition/interview, your Admission counselor will contact you regarding the scholarship in 2- or 3- weeks' time.
- Scholarships will be awarded pending acceptance to Aurora University.

All music scholarships carry with the following responsibility:

- Conscientiously and fully participate in and support the Aurora University ensembles, including membership in University Chorale, AU Band, Flute Ensemble, or String Ensemble.
- 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 instructor. 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.

- Music faculty and Admissions counselors will be notified of the student's scholarship commitments and will monitor their progress; however, faculty will not provide continual reminders.
- The student will be notified once if there is danger of not meeting expectations, 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 any future years.
- Repeated lateness or skipping classes, not showing up to a lesson or rehearsal, not meeting deadlines or turning in assignments will necessitate loss of scholarship.