

The following guidelines for the Scholarship Committee were adopted by the Executive Board on July 14, 2025, and negate any previous guidelines. They are based on provisions specified in letters relating to the original sources of the Club's scholarship funds, namely: a letter from Mrs. James Montgomery to the club, dated February 6, 1985, in which she informed the Club of her monetary gift to the scholarship program; a letter from Ammon G. Dunton, Jr., dated February 20, 1985, in which he notified the Club of a bequest from his mother, Carolyn K. Dunton, for the scholarship program; a second letter from Ammon G. Dunton, Jr., dated January 9, 2001, announcing a similar bequest from his father, Ammon G. Dunton, Sr., and a third letter in October 2023 from Ammon G. Dunton, Jr., announcing a bequest from his brother, James Dunton.

Although future additions to the Club's scholarship funds from other sources may contain different provisions, for tax reasons all scholarships must be considered part of the Club's scholarship program and be subject to a selection process that includes both the Scholarship Committee and the Executive Board.

Guidelines for Carolyn K. Dunton Scholarship and Grant Awards Rappahannock Music Study Club

I. The Scholarship Committee of Rappahannock Music Study Club will be composed of at least three and not more than five members of the Club; the Chairperson will be appointed by the President.

II. Applicants eligible for **college tuition scholarships** and **music education grants** for music lessons will be worthy residents of the five counties of the Northern Neck of Virginia (Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond, Westmoreland, and King George) who have musical talent and reasonable proficiency and who need financial assistance to further their music education. In accordance with the bequest, preference for the Carolyn K. Dunton scholarship will be given to residents of Lancaster County.

III. Scholarship and Grant Eligibility

A. Scholarships: High school seniors who have been accepted by a college and plan to pursue music studies.

B. Scholarships: Undergraduate college students who wish to renew an RMSC scholarship.

C. Grants: Middle school (beginning at age 11) or high school students who wish to continue music lessons, attend an accredited summer music camp, or music workshop.

D. The Board, at the recommendation of the Scholarship Committee, may also award grants to help fund significant musical opportunities.

E. Unless otherwise decided by the Board, the awards will be used for lessons in applied music.

F. The term of each scholarship will be one year of college, one session of summer music camp, one significant opportunity, or multiple music lessons, whichever applies.

IV. Amount

- A. The number and dollar amounts of scholarships may vary from year to year, according to the availability of funds and the number of applicants.
- B. In consultation with the Treasurer, the Executive Board will determine the amount of scholarship money available in any given year; it will not exceed the income from the trusts for that year.
- C. Genevieve Pledge or Carolyn K. Dunton scholarships awarded to college students will be for the sum of at least \$1000.00 for one year. The Board, at the recommendation of the Scholarship Committee, will decide the amount of each grant for summer camp, music lessons, or other musical opportunities.

V. Awards

- A. Beginning in January, the Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee will advertise the availability as widely as is practical. That announcement may include contacting the guidance departments and music departments of appropriate schools; announcements in Northern Neck newspapers and to church musicians and music teachers; and individual mailings.
- B. Applications, recommendation letters (for grant and scholarship applicants), and transcripts (for college scholarship applicants), must be in the hands of the Scholarship Chairperson not later than April 1.
- C. **College Scholarship holders** who wish to renew must write to the Scholarship Chairperson not later than February 15. The applicant is responsible for having sent to the Chairperson a letter from the student's music department or music teacher about his or her music studies, and involvement in music activities at the college or conservatory; and an academic transcript (unofficial is acceptable).
Grant holders who wish to continue must fully apply and audition each year for the following year.
- D. The Chairperson will acknowledge all completed applications.
- E. The Scholarship Committee will reserve the right to investigate each applicant's talent and financial need, and rule on eligibility prior to the auditions or awarding the scholarships.
- F. Announcement of scholarships and grants will be made at the May meeting of the club.

VI. Auditions

- A. Auditions will be held in April under arrangements made by the Scholarship Committee, before judges chosen by the Committee. Applicants will be auditioned by three judges who are practicing musicians and/ or have a degree in music. The Committee will advise applicants of the time and place of auditions, and will be represented at the auditions.

B. Each applicant must be prepared to perform, at least three minutes and no more than five, a selection of his or her own choice. If an applicant needs an accompanist, he or she must arrange for one.

C. Auditions will not be open to the public.

D. Judges will determine on merit alone and will give their recommendations to the Scholarship Committee, which will recommend to the board for its approval the candidates for scholarship awards.