

2025 VENICE MUSICALE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
MUSIC TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

Overview

As part of Venice Musicale's annual scholarship program, talented music students from the greater Venice area are invited to apply for funds to support one or more of the following performance development activities:

1. Private lessons
2. Summer music camp
3. First-year college-level music performance studies (rising high school seniors only)

Each applicant must complete a scholarship application found on venicemusical.org which includes a music teacher recommendation. Completed teacher recommendations must be emailed to scholarship@venicemusical.org no later than **Feb 24, 2025**. Selected applicants will be asked to participate in the competitive audition phase of the application process on **March 29, 2025**, in accordance with the 2025 Venice Musicale Scholarship Guidelines.

In the audition phase, Senior Division (9th-12th) and Middle School Division applicants (6th-8th grade) must perform two short pieces reflecting contrasting periods and styles of music, including one from memory. Ten minutes will be allotted for each performance. Junior Division applicants (K-5th grade) need prepare only one piece and must perform it from memory. Five minutes will be allotted for each performance. A panel of expert judges will listen critically to each student's performance and will provide a score in each of five selected elements of performance, including: accuracy, technique, rhythm, tone quality, and expression. Each of the five elements is worth one to five points, for a total possible score of 25 per judge. The five-point scale assumes five as the highest for distinguished performance, four as the score for advanced performance, three for proficient performance, two for emerging performance, and one as the score for a performance that demonstrates beginner-level skills. *Please read the chart below carefully to understand the specific definition of each of the five levels.*

Students who audition will receive a summary sheet with comments from the judges as part of our effort to ensure that students receive helpful feedback to support their continuing development whether or not they receive scholarships.

Instructions

As the applicant's principal music teacher, we ask that you provide your own assessment of your student's performance ability, using the same framework the judges will use, adding some personal observations about the student. We understand and expect that music students are still building their skills so please be as candid as possible in your review. *These reviews are not shared with the*

student. Also, please go over the scoring rubric with your student. If she/he is invited to audition, please help him/her select audition pieces that best demonstrate the appropriate skill level.

Please complete and submit through email the following teacher recommendation form for submission as part of your student’s application. Please email Betsy Bullis at scholarship@venicemusical.org. If you need to send via USPS, I will provide my snail mail address. Thank you for your support of your applicant and of all your students.

SCORE	DISTINGUISHED 5	ADVANCED 4	PROFICIENT 3	EMERGING 2	BEGINNING 1
DEFINITION	<i>Demonstrates mastery of this element of performance in every detail. Improvement is simply a matter of continuing study and experience.</i>	<i>Mostly consistent in demonstrating skill in all details of this element with only minor adjustments required for mastery.</i>	<i>Generally consistent in demonstrating skill in this element of performance with a limited number of identifiable areas on which to focus for improvement.</i>	<i>Somewhat consistent in demonstrating some skill in this element of performance with several identifiable areas on which to keep working.</i>	<i>Demonstrates some initial skill in this element of performance.</i>

STUDENT
NAME (Print) _____ DATE _____

	DISTINGUISHED 5	ADVANCED 4	PROFICIENT 3	EMERGING 2	BEGINNING 1	COMMENTS
ACCURACY, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accuracy re: printed pitches • Intonation • Memorization 						

	DISTINGUISHED 5	ADVANCED 4	PROFICIENT 3	EMERGING 2	BEGINNING 1	COMMENTS
TECHNIQUE, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articulation • Diction (for Voice) • Control of range • Agility • Posture 						
RHYTHM, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accuracy of note/rest values • Accuracy of meters • Consistency of pulse/beat 						
TONE QUALITY, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resonance • Clarity • Consistency • Control 						
EXPRESSION, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriateness of style • Interpretation • Phrasing • Dynamics • Stage presence • Tempo 						
TOTAL (Please total <i>each</i> column)						

In addition to the rating(s) above, please provide answers to the following questions about the student: PLEASE PRINT FIRMLY

1. How long have you worked with the applicant and in what capacity?
2. What do you think are the student's notable strengths as a musician?
3. What do you think the student most needs to work on in order to continue to improve?
4. Do you believe this student is competition ready or should she/he wait one more year?
5. Please share any other comments you might wish to make.

TEACHER NAME (print) _____ PHONE _____

SIGNATURE _____ EMAIL _____