



The Music Settlement
OHIO CITY • UNIVERSITY CIRCLE

2026-2027 Merit Scholarship Audition Application

Audition Dates: March 2026

These merit scholarship auditions are open to music students of all ages who currently study at The Music Settlement ("TMS"). Students must complete the form below and review it with their private instructor. Students awarded merit scholarships must be enrolled at TMS for the entire 2026-2027 school year. Scholarships will be applied towards 2026-2027 tuition. Recipients will be notified by email with additional award information. Students awarded scholarships must complete a series of requirements during the school year, which may include performing for TMS, writing a thank you letter to their donors, and fulfilling a service requirement.

These auditions are for merit awards to be put toward tuition for traditional private music lessons or for our J@MS Program (Jazz at the Music Settlement). Separate merit scholarship auditions are available for the Suzuki Program. For more details, please contact the Suzuki Department at Suzuki@TheMusicSettlement.org.

To Be Completed by the Adult Student or Guardian (Please print legibly)

Student Name (Last, First): _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Email: _____

If Under 18, Guardian's Name (Last, First): _____

If Under 18, Guardian Phone: _____ Email: _____

If Under 18, Birthdate: _____ Grade (2026-27): _____ School Name: _____

TMS Campus Where Student Currently Takes Lessons (select one): ☐ University Circle ☐ Ohio City ☐ Online

Private Instructor's Name (Last, First): _____ Instrument of Study: _____

I am auditioning for (check all that apply): ☐ Traditional Private Music Lessons ☐ J@MS Program

Suzuki students, please contact the Suzuki Department at Suzuki@TheMusicSettlement.org to receive the Suzuki application.

Audition Repertoire

Please list two contrasting works – including the title and composer. Refer to the audition requirements on page 3.

Please consult with your private instructor to confirm the accuracy of this information prior to submitting your form.

Title of Work	Movement/Opus	Composer
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____

Technical Study (if applicable): _____

Major Scales: _____ Length of Study (with current teacher): _____

Minor Scales: _____ Length of Study (in total): _____

APPLICATION CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE.

FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 7, 2026
RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO NCLAVERIE@THEMUSICSETTLEMENT.ORG.

2026-2027 TMS Merit Scholarship Audition Schedule

Department	Date	Time	Location
BRASS & WINDS	Thursday, March 5, 2026	4:00 pm – 8:00 pm	TMS University Circle Glick Recital Hall
J@MS & PERCUSSION	Saturday, March 7, 2026 Saturday, March 14, 2026	Incorporated into the daily J@MS schedule	TMS University Circle
STRINGS	Thursday, March 19, 2026	3:00 pm – 8:00 pm	TMS University Circle Glick Recital Hall
VOICE	Friday, March 20, 2026	3:30 pm – 8:30 pm	TMS University Circle Glick Recital Hall
PIANO	Friday, March 27, 2026	2:30 pm – 8:30 pm	TMS University Circle Glick Recital Hall
OVERFLOW	Saturday, March 28, 2026	12:30 pm – 4:30 pm	TMS University Circle Faculty Lounge
COMPOSITION	Scores due by March 31, 2026	Email: NClaverie@TheMusicSettlement.org	

Select the date you plan to audition:

*(Auditioning on multiple instruments?
Submit a second application.)*

- ☐ Brass & Winds (March 5th)
☐ J@MS & Percussion (March 7th/14th)
☐ Strings (March 19th)
☐ Voice (March 20th)

- ☐ Piano (March 27th)
☐ Overflow (March 28th)
☐ Composition (March 31st)

I will complete my audition (select one):

- ☐ In Person ☐ By Audition Video *(students outside NE Ohio only)*

If there is an approximate time when you wish to audition, please indicate it here: _____.

Note: Auditions are a maximum of 10 minutes (15 minutes for percussion). Audition times are available on a first come, first served basis. We cannot guarantee you a precise time.

IN-PERSON AUDITION REMINDER:

All students **MUST BRING** three (3) copies of their audition music to the audition.

Please do NOT submit music with your application unless you are auditioning by video.

VIDEO SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS – VIRTUAL STUDENTS ONLY

Video auditions will only be accepted for students who live outside the Northeast Ohio area. If you are a local resident and would prefer to audition by video, please email your request to NClaverie@TheMusicSettlement.org.

Audition videos may not exceed 10 minutes. Videos must be framed horizontally (side-to-side) and must be recorded in one take – no editing is permitted. Please introduce yourself and state the names of your pieces before you perform them. Videos can be submitted by email attachment or by uploading the video online (e.g., YouTube, Google Drive, Dropbox) and writing the video link below. **If you have any concerns about your ability to make a video, please contact your TMS private instructor. All videos must be received at least two weeks prior to your selected audition date. Late videos will not be accepted.**

Audition Video Link: _____

VIDEO AUDITION REMINDER:

Video applicants must submit copies of their audition music and a video link along with their application.

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2026-2027 TMS MERIT SCHOLARSHIP AUDITION REQUIREMENTS BY DEPARTMENT

BRASS & WINDS Intermediate and up	Two contrasting solos. Etudes/technical pieces accepted. Memorization optional. Grades 6 – 8: major scales up to 4 accidentals, one minor scale. High school and up: All major scales, one minor.
COMPOSITION Intermediate and up	Audition by submission of two original works that demonstrate creativity and skill level in melodic invention, harmonic and rhythmic interest, and formal structure. Printed score and hand notated sample must be submitted if work is presented on a CD or a flash drive.
FIDDLE Intermediate and up	Two hoedowns in different keys and/or tuning, memorization required. All tunes should be played at or close to dance tempo in old-time fiddle style. Cross tuning is allowed. May play alone or with one accompanist.
GUITAR Intermediate and up	Two contrasting solos. Memorization required. Two major scales, one minor scale, two octaves.
HARP Intermediate and up	Two contrasting solos, memorization optional. Etude, appropriate to skill level. Arpeggios optional.
J@MS Intermediate and up	Perform a blues melody and improvise over blues changes. Four major scales and four blues scales in cycle order: C-F-Bb-Eb.
PERCUSSION Intermediate and up	Snare drum rudiments, open/closed rolls, prepared snare drum solo, drum set (if studied). Optional: if studied – mallet scales and solo, timpani tuning and solo.
PIANO Advanced Beginner and up	Two contrasting pieces, memorization required. Jazz, pop, and concerto movements are acceptable, as are cuts of longer pieces. Advanced Beginner Level: One octave major and minor scale, hands separate. Intermediate Level: One to two octave scale, hands together, plus one octave arpeggio (major or minor), hands separate or together. Advanced Level: Intermediate level plus two-octave arpeggio (major or minor), hands together.
STRINGS Intermediate and up	Two contrasting solos, memorization optional. Major scales up to three accidentals, one minor scale. Intermediate Level: 2 – 3 octaves memorized. Advanced Level: 3 octaves memorized.
VOICE Intermediate and up	Two contrasting solos. Memorization required (except for oratorio arias). One piece may be old repertoire and the other piece must be new repertoire within the last 12 months. Accompaniment is required either with a pianist, self-accompaniment, or an audio recording on a good speaker provided by the student.

Acknowledgement

By signing, I acknowledge that I have reviewed this audition application with my/my student's TMS instructor. I further acknowledge that the instructor has given their approval for this audition and the information above is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. If awarded a merit scholarship, I agree/my student agrees to adhere to the 2026 – 2027 Traditional & J@MS Merit Scholarship Requirements, provided on page 4 of this document.

 Adult Student/Parent/Guardian Print

 Adult Student/Parent/Guardian Signature

 Date

Questions? Please contact:

Nikki Claverie
 Manager, Center for Music
 (216) 421-5806 ext. 188
 NClaverie@TheMusicSettlement.org

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2026-2027 Traditional & J@MS Merit Scholarship Requirements

The following requirements pertain to an individual merit scholarship award. If a student accepts multiple merit scholarships, the student must complete the associated requirements for each individual merit scholarship award.

- **Course Attendance:** Students must attend lessons/rehearsals regularly and show progress and interest. Please note that a merit scholarship may be withdrawn if a student has more than *three (3) unexcused absences*.
- **Performances:** Students must perform in at least two (2) performances for The Music Settlement. This includes student recitals, studio recitals, and concerts.
 - In addition to performances at The Music Settlement and TMS community events, students may complete this requirement using one non-TMS performance (e.g., school concert, church events, regional competitions). In order to receive credit for the performance, the student must identify themselves at the event as a student of The Music Settlement and email a copy of the event program to NClaverie@TheMusicSettlement.org.
- **Recognition:** Students must write a thank you letter to each of their award stewardees. (Some awards may have more than one stewardee.)
- **Service:** In the spirit of giving back to the community and sharing the gift of music, merit scholarship students are strongly encouraged to complete one (1) act of service before the end of June 2027. (This is not a requirement.) Possible service ideas may include:
 - Sharing your Music Story on the TMS website
 - Visit www.TheMusicSettlement.org/support-us/share-your-story
 - Performing for family, friends and/or neighbors
 - Joining our Friends of Center for Music committee for parents, families, and adult students
 - Email NClaverie@TheMusicSettlement.org for details.
 - Host a Facebook birthday fundraiser for TMS
 - Helping increase awareness of The Music Settlement on social media:
 - Follow our social media pages and “like” TMS
 - Invite others to “like” TMS on social media
 - Sharing content from our pages, such as upcoming events
 - Post a written testimonial on our Facebook page
 - Record a testimonial video about your experience at TMS
 - Email videos to Testimonials@TheMusicSettlement.org.

Failure to adhere to these requirements may result in a student's disqualification from receiving a merit scholarship for the 2027 – 2028 school year.