**FY 2024 ACH Youth Scholarship**

*FY 2024 ACH Youth Scholarship Guidelines*

**Please read these grant guidelines first!** They contain important information that must be reviewed prior to starting an application: Youth Scholarship Grant Guidelines for both grades 7-12 and grades 3-6.

1. We recommend that you write your answers in a word-processing document first; then copy and paste them into the appropriate fields in this application. Microsoft Word version: Youth Scholarship Application Questions

2. **There is one form for both ages of Scholarships**. There are different questions that students in grades 7-12 answer and students in grades 3-6 answer. Each section is clearly identified.

3. **The Prairie Lakes Board prefers clear and concise answers, with several sentences in paragraph format for each question.**

4. Call the Prairie Lakes office for assistance regarding grant program eligibility and corresponding applications. You can review the Grant Review Criteria for Grades 7-12 or Grades 3-6. Students in grades 7-12 are required to have two or more years of experience in their art form. Students in grades 3-6 need one or more years of experience.

5. The Recommendation Form is completed by your Instructor. **There is a field within this application where you will send your instructor an email requesting that they complete the Recommendation Form online.** Contact the PLRAC office if you need further assistance or if your instructor does not use email.

*General Information*

**First and Last Name\***

Provide your first and last name for filing purposes.

**Amount Requested\***

Choices: $300 for grades 7-12 or $200 for grades 3-6

**Project Start Date\***

The start date for a Prairie Lakes Youth Scholarship is the point at which the project is set in motion (e.g., lessons, classes, rehearsals, etc.). No expenses can be incurred prior to the project start date.

**Earliest start dates: January 1, 2024**

**Project End Date\***

Projects must be completed by September 1, 2024. Any changes must be requested and cleared in writing in advance with Prairie Lakes.

*Student Information*

**School Name\***

Provide the name and address of the school you are currently attending or if you are home schooled.

**Current Grade\***

Choose the grade you are currently in at school.

**Choices:** 3rd Grade, 4th Grade, 5th Grade, 6th Grade, 7th Grade, 8th Grade, 9th Grade, 10th Grade, 11th Grade, 12th Grade

**Chosen Art Form\***

Select the art form you want to study from the list.

**Choices:**  Dance, Literature, Music, Theater, Visual or Media Art, Folk or Traditional Art, Other

**Other Clarification**

If you selected "Other" above, please specify your art form.

*Parent or Guardian Information*

**Parent or Guardian Name\***

**Parent or Guardian Email Address\***

Enter a valid email address for your parent or guardian. **Note:** A majority of our contact with students regarding this scholarship will be through email.

*Instructor Information*

The scholarship will only be paid to the instructor or organization named on this application. The scholarship can be for lessons with a private instructor, classes, or to participate with an arts organization. This activity must be within the state of Minnesota only. Lessons can be conducted in-person or online via Skype, Zoom, or other live platforms. Youth Scholarships are for $300 (Grades 7-12) or $200 (Grades 3-6), so additional costs will need to be covered by you or your family.

**Instructor, Arts Group or Training\***

Choose one of the following options. If you choose "Private Instructor" or "Other", please answer the corresponding question below.

**Choices:** Dance Conservatory of Southern Minnesota; Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra; Mankato Ballet Company; Mankato Children's Chorus; Mankato Playhouse; Mankato School of Music; New Ulm Suzuki School of Music;Mankato; Private Instructor (List instructor’s name below);Other (List arts group below)

**Private Instructor Clarification**

If you selected "Private Instructor" above, please list the instructor’s name.

**Other Clarification**

If you selected "Other" above, please specify the arts group you will be participating with.

**Location of Activity\***

List the location and address where the scholarship activity will take place.

**Instructor's Email Address\***

Enter a valid email address for your instructor. **Note:** A majority of our contact with your instructor regarding this scholarship will be through email.

*Grades 7-12 Application Questions*

Answer the following questions **if you are applying for the $300 scholarship for grades 7-12.**

It is very important to be clear and specific in your answers and use several sentences or paragraphs to describe yourself.

**Art Form to Study**

Describe what art form you want to study from January 1 to September 1, 2024 (i.e., dance, literature, music, theater, visual or media art, folk or traditional art, etc.) and what specific aspect of this art form you want to focus on with an instructor, classes, or at a training workshop. This activity must be within the state of Minnesota only. (Grades 7-12)

**Interest in Art Form**

Why are you interested in this art form, and if this is something new for you, what brought on this recent interest? What efforts have you made on your own to study in this art form? (Grades 7-12)

**Years of Experience**

Students should have two or more years of experience in this art form. For example, a student who is interested in creative writing should already be writing poems, short stories, keeping a journal, etc. A student interested in being in a regional youth choir or orchestra should be participating in band or choir at their school, or taking private lessons.

Explain your years of involvement in each art or music discipline or a combination of disciplines. (Grades 7-12)

(i.e. school lessons/class, with youth organization, private lessons, etc. including multiple instruments and disciplines studied)

Example:

Violin lessons \_\_\_\_ # years involved and/or \_\_\_\_ # months involved.

Piano lessons \_\_\_\_ # years involved and/or \_\_\_\_ # months involved.

Band at School \_\_\_\_\_ # of years involved and/or \_\_\_\_ # months involved.

Dance Classes \_\_\_\_\_ # of years involved and/or \_\_\_\_ # months involved.

**Other Activities**

What other activities are you involved in? For example: school classes, with youth organizations, private lessons, sports, 4-H, scouts, etc. (Grades 7-12)

**Time Spent on Art Form**

How much time do you now spend on this art form? Include class time, practice time, rehearsals, performances, etc. (Grades 7-12)

Example: \_\_\_\_\_# Hours per week

**Artistic Commitment**

A mentorship, training workshop, or weekly lessons are an intensive learning experience. You may be spending 2-3 hours per week in classes and practice time at home if you are awarded this scholarship.

Why are you willing to commit this amount of time to this experience? (Grades 7-12)

**Artistic Expectations**

What do you expect to learn from a mentor, instructor, or participating in this activity that you are not learning now? (Grades 7-12)

**Artistic Challenges**

List some of the most challenging things you have done with your art and describe why they were challenging to you. (Grades 7-12)

**Artistic Strengths and Weaknesses**

As an artist, what are your strongest and weakest areas? (Grades 7-12)

**Artistic Role Model**

Is there a professional artist (past or present) whose work you especially admire? Why? (Grades 7-12)

*Grades 3-6 Application Questions*

Answer the following questions **if you are applying for the $200 scholarship for grades 3-6.**

It is very important to be clear and specific in your answers and use several sentences or paragraphs to describe yourself.

**Interest in Art Form**

Why are you interested in this art form, and if this is something new for you, what brought on this recent interest? (Grades 3-6)

**Years of Experience**

Students should have one or more years of experience in this art form. For example, a student who is interested in creative writing should already be writing poems, short stories, keeping a journal, etc. A student interested in being in a regional youth choir or orchestra should be participating in band or choir at their school or taking private lessons. (Grades 3-6)

List your years of participation in each art or music discipline or a combination of disciplines. (Grades 3-6)

(i.e. school lessons/class, with youth organization, private lessons, etc. including multiple instruments and disciplines studied)

Example:

Violin lessons \_\_\_\_ # years involved and/or \_\_\_\_ # months involved.

Piano lessons \_\_\_\_ # years involved and/or \_\_\_\_ # months involved.

Dance Classes \_\_\_\_ # years involved and/or \_\_\_\_ # months involved.

**Other Activities**

What other activities are you involved in? For example: school classes, with youth organization, private lessons, sports, 4-H, scouts, etc. (Grades 3-6)

**Time Spent on Art Form**

How much time do you now spend on this art form? Include class time, practice time, rehearsals, performances, etc. (Grades 3-6) Example: \_\_\_\_\_# Hours per week

**Artistic Commitment**

Why are you willing to commit this amount of time to your art form? (Grades 3-6)

**Artistic Expectations**

What do you expect to learn from a mentor, instructor, or participating in this activity that you are not learning now? (Grades 3-6)

**Favorite Activities**

What are the favorite things you’ve done with your art, dance, or music and describe why? (Grades 3-6)

*Impact on the Participants*

**Number of Adult Artists that will Participate in the Project\***

Enter the number of instructors you will have during the scholarship period.

**Children Benefiting\***

Enter "1" to represent you, the student participating in the arts activity.

*Outcome Evaluation Plan and Minnesota Legacy Goals*

Prairie Lakes has identified a student goal, outcome, and evaluation plan which is part of your Youth Scholarship. Select "yes" for the following Arts Education goal, outcome, and evaluation statements.

**Goal Statements for Arts Education 5\***

The number of students who are engaged in arts education and learning opportunities increases.

**Outcome Statements for Arts Learning and Education 5\***

Students develop skills in or expand their knowledge about an artistic discipline.

**Evaluation Plan\***

The Instructor will evaluate if the student improves by completing questions on the Final Report.

*Data Collection*

**Data Collection Information.** The data gathered in the following questions is maintained by the Minnesota State Arts Board in cooperation with the Regional Arts Councils and may be distributed to others in accordance with the Minnesota Data Practices Act. Youth contact information is kept confidential and is not made public.

**Institution\***

Enter "02". (This code is used because Youth Scholarships are awarded to minors.)

View Institution Codes

**Status\***

Enter "01". (This code represents that you are applying as an individual, not an organization.)

View Status Codes

**Project Discipline\***

Enter the code which best describes the artistic discipline of your project. (For example: 02A Band for instrument lessons; 02H Solo/Recital for piano or guitar lessons; and 02I Orchestral for violin/cello lessons.)

View Discipline Codes

**Ethnic Characteristics\***

View the link and enter the code that matches your Ethnicity. Multiple codes can be entered. For example: AW can be entered if you are both Asian and White.

View Ethnic Characteristics Codes

**Special Characteristic Codes**

Enter a "I" if have a disability. (This is optional.)

View Characteristic Codes

**County\***

Select the county you reside in from the list.

**Choices:**  Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca, Watonwan

**MN House District\***

Select your MN House District from the list. View Legislative Codes.

**Choices:** 15B, 17A, 17B, 18A, 18B, 19A, 19B, 21B, 22A, 22B, 23A

**U.S. Congressional District\***

Select your U.S. Congressional District from the list. View Legislative Codes. **Choices:** 1, 2, 7

*Certification and Electronic Signatures*

The success of the student's training depends, in part, on your support. Parents or guardians will be expected to help provide transportation to and from where lessons or the training will take place. Students who make the most progress receive support and encouragement to practice at least three hours per week at home.

I as the student/parent understand this Application for a Youth Scholarship requires both my parent’s and my signature, the correct application questions answered, and the online Recommendation Form has been completed by my Instructor.

I understand that my student must complete a Final Report Form and send Thank you letters to our Senator and Representative for this scholarship.

I also understand that my student will not be eligible for any future scholarships if a Final Report is not submitted.

I also understand that my student will not be eligible for a scholarship if they do not live in the 9-county area Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council serves.

By checking the box below, the student and the parent or guardian certify that we have read the information in this application and will provide the support and encouragement needed for my student to succeed. We certify that the student meets all of the eligibility requirements of this grant program. In addition, we certify that all of the information contained in this application and its attachments is true and correct to the best of our knowledge.

**Certification\***

Check this box if you certify this application as detailed above.

Parent or Guardian Electronic Signature (name)\*

Student Electronic Signature (name)\*

*Grades 7-12 Instructor Recommendation Form*

**Third Party Email\***

Youth Scholarships require that a student provide a Recommendation Form submitted from an adult mentor, current instructor, teacher, organization, etc.; or you will not be eligible.

**Enter your instructor's email address in the field below to request that they complete the Grades 7-12 online Recommendation Form on your behalf.** Click on the "Compose Email" button and write your instructor a note telling them that they will receive an additional email from Prairie Lakes' online system that will include a link to your online Recommendation Form. Click "Send" when you have completed your note.

You will be able to see the status of their online Recommendation Form from your dashboard. However, you will not be able to view your instructor's responses. Contact the PLRAC office if you need further assistance or if your instructor does not use email.

*Grades 3-6 Instructor Recommendation Form*

**Third Party Email\***

Youth Scholarships require that a student provide a Recommendation Form submitted from an adult mentor, current instructor, teacher, organization, etc.; or you will not be eligible.

**Enter your instructor's email address in the field below to request that they complete the Grades 3-6 online Recommendation Form on your behalf.** Click on the "Compose Email" button and write your instructor a note telling them that they will receive an additional email from Prairie Lakes' online system that will include a link to your online Recommendation Form. Click "Send" when you have completed your note.

You will be able to see the status of their online Recommendation Form from your dashboard. However, you will not be able to view your instructor's responses. Contact the PLRAC office if you need further assistance or if your instructor does not use email.