

JEN Scholarship Guidelines



The **Jazz Education Network (JEN)** is a community where educators, students, pros, and aficionados share and learn from each other online and in person at the annual conference.

JEN's scholarship program has been in existence since the organization's first year and remains an important benefit to the members and students we serve. Each year, we proudly recognize talented, hardworking, aspiring students with a passion for jazz. We also offer a number of additional programs that help fund and support jazz education. JEN Member students and teachers of students are encouraged to self-nominate or nominate a candidate for a particular scholarship. The committee will consider the student in all applicable areas.

You are invited to apply to one of our programs designed to assist aspiring artists in their goals in the field of jazz.

Scholarships offered:

- [The Chick Corea Scholarship for Composition](#) 2
- [The Dave Brubeck Living Legacy Scholarship](#) 4
- [The Deborah Landon Memorial Jazz Scholarship](#) 5
- [The Dr. Dee Daniels Vocal Jazz Scholarship](#) 6
- [The Stanley Kay Jazz Drummer Scholarship](#) 9
- [JEN Core Scholarships](#) 11

Please read carefully and have the needed materials ready before applying.

Applications are open from January 1 - April 15

Have questions? Please contact me!

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The Chick Corea Scholarship for Composition

In honor of the incredible life and artistry of Chick Corea, the Jazz Education Network (JEN) and Jazz Education Abroad (JEA) – iJazzMusic have partnered to establish The Chick Corea Scholarship for Arranging.

This annual award will encourage a younger generation of composers and arrangers to expand their ideas and creativity for large ensembles, awarding efforts for new compositions and arrangements that push the boundaries of instrumentation, fusions of style, and original merit.

This scholarship program intends to further the professional potential of its participants with mentorship, financial awards, and publishing opportunities. Winning scholarship award recipients will bear the distinction of furthering Chick's indelible spirit – forging new ground in the jazz art form and its expanded reach.

Award Criteria

- Eligible applicants must be students currently enrolled in a jazz arranging, composition, or broadly relevant degree program who are under the age of thirty-five (35) before May 15 of the submission year.
- Submissions must include **new arrangements** of a Chick Corea composition with full recordings for standard big band layout.
 - Instrumentation:
 - 5 Saxophones (with doubles on flute/clarinet)
 - 4-5 Trumpets
 - 4 Trombones
 - Piano, Guitar, Bass, Drum Set (optional 1 Additional Percussion)
 - New arrangements are qualified as those that have not been previously published or monetized.
 - Merit considered for arrangements with ready playability while still being inventive and expanding or combining styles
- Recordings must be submitted in .wav, .mp3, or .m4a formats along with a score and full parts.

Award Process

- Applications will be adjudicated by a diverse, relevant expert panel of JEN and JEA representatives.
- Applications are open from January 1 and close September 15. Review & Adjudication Jury will deliberate thereafter. The award recipient is announced in October.

- All applicants will receive feedback on their submitted works as well as official joint certificates from JEA and JEN.

Scholarship Award Details

- The winning composer and work will receive the following:
 - \$1,000 USD financial award
 - Non-exclusive publishing contract of the work through iJazzMusic.com with winning The Chick Corea Scholarship for Arranging notice on materials
 - 1-year JEN Full Individual Membership

The Dave Brubeck Living Legacy Scholarship

Presented in coordination with the Brubeck Living Legacy (BLL) Foundation

The Dave Brubeck Composer and Pianist Scholarship will be awarded to a collegiate-level student in the field of jazz, with a focus on piano composition and/or piano.

The winner of this prestigious scholarship will receive the following:

- \$1000 financial scholarship awarded in May
- The book, "Dave Brubeck: A Life in Time," by Philip Clark
- A collection of Dave Brubeck recordings
- Registration for the next Jazz Education Network (JEN) conference in January
- Designated mentor throughout the January conference
- \$250 per diem for meals throughout the conference
- 4 nights of hotel lodging during the conference reserved by the Jazz Education Network
- Roundtrip flight + taxi/car pickup to/from the airport arranged by the Jazz Education Network
- One-year JEN full individual membership

Dave Brubeck Living Legacy Scholarship Requirements:

1. Applicants must be collegiate-level students attending classes in the fall semester in the field of jazz with a focus on composition and/or piano.
2. Applicants must submit 3 audio recordings/videos demonstrating their playing. One upload must contain an **original composition**.
3. Attendance at the next conference in January will be required.

Application Process:

- Application is open **January 1st - April 15th**
- Application should include a written statement of artistic and professional goals and reason for application.
- Applicants should upload an audio and/or video sample of playing.
- A letter of recommendation is to be submitted.

The Deborah Landon Memorial Jazz Scholarship

In honor of the life and legacy of Deborah Leona Landon, the Jazz Education Network (JEN) has partnered with funders to establish The Deborah Landon Memorial Jazz Scholarship. This annual award will help bridge the financial gaps of first-year university or collegiate students who have the passion, but not the full individual means, to study jazz performance. This scholarship program intends to further the success of its participants with direct mentorship aimed at counseling the crucial period of transition for a graduating high school student in a first-year setting in higher education.

Award Criteria

- Eligible applicants must be high school student musicians who have (a) either already graduated or are confirmed to graduate within the award process cycle and (b) intend to pursue jazz studies at a higher level of education.
- Applicants must have declared and verified a letter of intent (LOI) to enroll, with acceptance to a broadly relevant degree program at a college or university at the time of the award decision (May).
- Representation of need–
 - Reported Expected Family Contribution (EFC) or Student Aid Index (SAI) amount from a completed Free Application for Financial Student Aid (FAFSA) within a current award cycle. For students who have yet to receive their EFC or SAI from FAFSA, please fill out the student aid estimator found on the FAFSA website. <https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator/>
 - Submit a narrative describing how receiving the Langdon award along with other broad support enables the applicant to pursue their educational goals.

Award Process

- Applications will be adjudicated by a diverse, relevant expert panel of JEN members and affiliated representatives.
- Applications will open on January 1 and close on April 15th. The review & Adjudication Jury will deliberate during April and the award recipients are announced in May.

Scholarship Award Details

- Two winning awardees will receive:
 - \$1,500 USD financial award
 - 1 year of mentorship with a JEN-designated expert professional in each recipient's instrumental, vocal, composition, or relevant field of study

- 1-year JEN Full Individual Membership

The Dr. Dee Daniels Vocal Jazz Scholarship

The Dr. Dee Daniels Vocal Jazz Scholarship has been established by Dr. Daniels to provide young aspiring jazz vocalists with the opportunity to be mentored by renowned professional jazz artists, and to hone the craft of jazz singing, performance, and music industry business. The annual award will offer each recipient the opportunity to be inspired, and to inspire others while attending JEN Conferences.

Award Criteria

- Applications will be accepted from students who are currently enrolled in a **college** degree program for **vocal jazz performance**; or from graduating **high school seniors** with declared intentions to enroll in a college vocal jazz program.
- Applicants should display exceptional talent and potential in jazz performance and/or education or industry. They should demonstrate potential for growth, artistic accomplishments, and leadership skills.
- Applicants should demonstrate financial need related to college tuition and/or school-related expenses via narrative paragraph -or- Federal Pell Grant eligibility (EFC).
- Recipients will be accountable for how their scholarship award is applied by reporting back to JEN and Funders.
- Demonstrate a high level of self-motivation and the ability to apply experience and knowledge to their performance.

Award Process

- Applications and audition submissions will be adjudicated by a diverse, relevant expert panel of JEN members and affiliated representatives.
- Applications will open on January 1st and close on April 15th. The review & Adjudication Jury will deliberate during April and the award recipients are announced in May.

Scholarship Award Details

- One winning recipient will receive the following:
 - \$1,000 USD financial award
 - 3 private lessons (2 hours each) with Dr. Dee Daniels arranged either in person or through digital platforms
 - Opportunity to be mentored by JEN-selected professional vocalists while attending a JEN Conference – with avenues to expand their jazz vocal skills, knowledge, and practical experience through attending clinics, having private lessons, and shadowing JEN-selected vocal artists. A private lesson and shadowing with Dr. Daniels will be included whenever she attends the conference.
 - 1-year JEN Membership with full benefits

- All applicants will receive feedback and evaluation of their submissions

Application Submission Requirements

- If the applicant is under the age of 18 (at the time of the application), a letter of consent from a parent or legal guardian is required.
- Letter of recommendation from school music director, professional jazz artist, or accredited jazz music industry professional
- Be a high school, college, or university student who is currently active in a vocal jazz performance program.
- A short biography of 200 words or less
- Current high-res photo
- Short written resumé of musical experiences, including any special recognition (i.e. honor choir, awards, special performances, etc.)
- A short written statement of professional intent of 300 words or less, describing your musical plans and how this scholarship will further your goals
- Submit three individual digital video recordings (each song should be on a separate video, do not put all three songs on one video). Please include the following in the following order:
 - A jazz ballad (first 8 bars a cappella; the rest performed with instrumental accompaniment)
 - A medium or up-tempo swing tune
 - A bebop, blues or latin (e.g. bossa nova, samba, rhumba) tune.
 - Improvisation (scatting) is encouraged on at least one of the pieces.
 - Your music should come from the appropriate repertoire. Use of a Standards Real Book or Standards Fake Book is acceptable.
 - Original compositions within the jazz genre are also acceptable.
 - All audition submissions must be memorized and performed without the use of sheet music.

Accompaniment Requirements

- Accompaniment is limited to piano or guitar.
- You may accompany yourself (on piano or guitar) keeping in mind only the vocals are being adjudicated.
- Make sure the level of your accompaniment does not overpower the sound of your voice in the recording.

Guidelines for Videotaping Your Audition

Video from any camera, mobile device, or computer is suitable under the following guidelines.

- Leave the camera in one location. Shoot the vocalist straight on.
- Be sure your image is clear and well-lit. Judges should be able to see your face clearly.
- The camera should be set at a distance to frame your face and body clearly.
- Check for good balance and blend. Please ensure the balance between accompaniment and voice is appropriate.

Evaluation Criteria

- Professional Aspirations
 - Statement of professional intent, biography, and resumé of experiences will be considered in context of the recorded audition videos.
- Audition evaluation
 - **Presentation**
 - **Tone Production** — the ability to achieve a quality of sound appropriate to the type of voice and to the style of the music
 - **Technique** — the degree to which the performer has acquired control of the voice
 - **Diction** — accurate pronunciation and clear articulation
 - **Intonation** — singing in tune
 - **Interpretation** — the ability to accurately express a clear understanding of the lyrics of each song. The method of expression is the recipient's choice and/or creation
 - **Phrasing** — sensitivity to the need for phrasing and the ability to execute it
 - **Timing**

The Stanley Kay Jazz Drummer Scholarship

The DIVA Jazz Orchestra and Jazz Education Network have partnered to provide young aspiring jazz drummers with the opportunity to be recognized and awarded for their dedication to the craft of big band playing. The Stanley Kay Scholarship for Jazz Drummers honors the musical legacy, integrity, creativity, and excellence of The DIVA Jazz Orchestra's founder, advancing the next generation of performers and large jazz ensemble repertoire. It takes on the eleven-plus year legacy of this same award from the DIVA Jazz Orchestra.

Award Criteria

- Applications and auditions will be accepted from students aged 15-25 who are currently enrolled in a college degree program for music performance or are in high school level jazz or community music programs.
- Applicants should display exceptional talent and potential growth in jazz big band and/or swing performance.
- Applicants will provide a narrative statement indicating how this award process will advance their musical goals.
- Applicants will secure a recommendation letter from a relevant music teacher or mentor.
- Recipients will be accountable for how their scholarship award is applied with usage reporting back to JEN.

Award Process

- Applications and audition submissions will be adjudicated by a diverse, relevant expert panel of JEN members and affiliated representatives.
- Applications will open on January 1 and close on April 15th. The review & Adjudication Jury will deliberate during April and the award recipients are announced in May.

Scholarship Award Details

- The winning recipient will receive:
 - \$1,000 USD financial award
 - 1-year JEN Membership with full benefits
- All applicants will receive feedback and evaluation of their submissions.

Application and Audition Requirements

Applicants for the Stanley Kay Scholarship for Jazz Drummers will prepare the following materials and video audition media for consideration:

1. A cover letter expressing **WHY** this opportunity would make a difference in the applicant's musical life and aspirations.
2. A letter of recommendation from a music teacher (private teacher, band director, regional ensemble conductor, etc.).
3. Three to four video links or files of the applicant's Big Band drumming. It is preferred that media clips are edited to feature drumming highlights (shout sections or solos) or include timestamps for those sections.
 - Big Band play-along tracks are acceptable if a live performance isn't possible
 - Medium or up-tempo swing
 - Ballad or slow swing
 - Afro-Cuban or Brazilian
 - Optional – style of applicant's choice

Note: Please only submit video links or files of the applicant playing with a big band or big band play-along tracks.

JEN Core Scholarships

Submit One Application

JEN offers a variety of scholarships for **full-time high school and college students**. Only one application is needed to be considered for any of the following scholarships applicable to a candidate's qualifications:

- Yamaha / Jim Widner Scholarship
- David Baker Scholarship
- Hal Leonard Collegiate Scholarship
- Jamey Aebersold Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Lou Fischer JEN Co-Founder Scholarship
- Mary Jo Papich JEN Co-Founder Women in Jazz Scholarship
- Mary Ann Fischer Scholarship

The other scholarships administered by JEN require separate applications found on this GetAccepted platform.

Scholarships will be awarded in early May

JEN Member Students and JEN Member teachers of students are encouraged to click the appropriate tab to self-nominate or nominate a candidate for a particular scholarship. The committee will consider the student in all areas that are applicable.

Application Timeline:

- Application Forms and Criteria are available online until the various scholarships and awards are closed.
- Scholarships will be notified via email and/or mail by the end of May.
- **Submit ONE application for all applicable scholarships.**
- DEADLINE – APRIL 15th – Application and additional support materials to all programs
- May – Notification to recipients as applicable by the end of May

Eligibility Criteria:

- Outstanding high school or university student, age 14 and older, who, in the opinion of their peers and instructors, displays exceptional talent and potential in jazz performance and/or education or industry (NOTE: Some JEN Core Scholarships are only for college/university students or those planning to enrolling into full-time university studies in the fall.)
- Demonstrates potential for growth, artistic accomplishments, and leadership skills

- University students should demonstrate financial need for college tuition and/or school-related expenses.
- High School students should use the scholarship award as tuition to attend either a summer jazz camp or college tuition and/or school-related expenses.
- Applicants must participate in a jazz class or ensemble during the school year after the scholarship is granted.

NOTE: Please have all of the following information prepared before submitting an application:

- Nomination and/or Self-Nomination by a current JEN member may be submitted online with required support materials.
- Narrative describing how the applicant meets the eligibility criteria
- The applicant's address, phone number(s) and email address are required data
- Recordings of performance (either audio or video) that demonstrate your ability and growth in pursuit of Black American Music and jazz styles. These do not need to be perfectly polished productions, but your performance or writing/arranging should be demonstrable.
- Two to four letters of support (two minimum required) including one support letter from your relevant Jazz Program/Ensemble director
- A short biography (200 words or less)
- A current hi-res photo (300dpi or greater)