



Master'Singers Memorial Scholarship Applicant,

Here you will find a description of the Arkansas Master'Singers Memorial Scholarship Fund sponsored by The Arkansas Master'Singers. We are pleased to announce that the amount to be awarded for the 2022-2023 school year will be **\$1,000**. Scholarship recipients will also have the potential to renew that award annually, for up to three additional and successive academic years, for a total award of \$4000.

The Master'Singers Memorial Scholarship is designed to support students who are preparing for some type of vocational ministry through music. The scholarship is named in memory of deceased members of the Arkansas Master'Singers. The principal funds, which serve as a foundation for the scholarship, are received in the form of memorial gifts and freewill offerings at concerts presented annually by the Arkansas Master'Singers.

There are 3 parts to this Application Process:

The Scholarship **Process and Guidelines** page, including this letter,
The Scholarship **Application/Personal Statement** Form, which can be completed online
The Scholarship **Recommendation Questionnaire** Form (to be filled out confidentially online by three recommenders- a staff member of your church, a music teacher (present or former), and a member of your church (not a family member.) You can direct them to <https://www.absc.org/arkansas-mastersingers-memorial-recommendation-questionnaire-2022-2023>.

Should you have questions about the scholarship process, guidelines or application, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

Jim Daniel
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The Master'Singers Memorial Scholarship Fund
Scholarship Application Process and Guidelines:
2022-2023 Academic Year
Administered through the Arkansas Baptist Foundation
Sponsored by the Arkansas Master'Singers

This scholarship will be awarded annually to one qualified applicant. If the recipient continues to meet the established criteria, the award can be renewed annually for up to three additional and successive academic years, for a total of four years. Scholarship Guidelines and Forms will be available on April 1st and include a Letter/ Process and Guidelines page, one Application Form which includes a personal statement, and Recommendation Questionnaire Form. The Application and Recommendation Questionnaires are due back to the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Evangelism & Church Health Team office by June 1st.

1. General Information

- a. The applications will be reviewed, and scholarship awards determined by a Scholarship Committee comprised of members of The Master'Singers officers and ABSC Executive Board music staff, in consultation with the staff of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation.
- b. The scholarship award will be **\$1,000.00** (awarded annually up to four years). The funds will be paid in a lump sum directly to the school indicated by the person chosen to receive the scholarship and designated for that student's use.
- c. No person will be eligible to participate on the Scholarship Committee in the selection process whose relative or student is involved in the scholarship application process.

2. Requirements of Applicants

- a. Applicants must be at least a senior in high school for eligibility.
- b. Applicants must be an active member of a congregation cooperating with the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, or originally from an Arkansas Baptist congregation but now actively involved with a Southern Baptist congregation in another state and cooperating with state and national SBC entities.
- c. Applicants must submit the **completed application/personal statement form** on or before June 1st, for the coming academic school year.
- d. **Three Recommendation Questionnaires** must be completed and returned to the ABSC Evangelism & Church Health Team office, one each from: a staff member from the applicant's local congregation, a music teacher familiar with the applicant, and a lay person (church member/non-family) from the applicant's local congregation. Matters for consideration include the applicant's Christian commitment (including an affirmation of the applicant's likely contribution to the ministry of music), character, commitment to completing an education, and worthiness for the use of scholarship funds designed to assist a student preparing for a ministry career. (Recommender should complete the online Questionnaire by the June 1st deadline.)

3. Criteria for Awarding the Scholarship (Applicant must meet all criteria)

- a. Commitment to some type of vocational ministry through music.
- b. Past and current contributions to and participation in a local church music ministry.
- c. Scholastic record – first consideration given to students with a 2.5 or higher GPA (4.0 scale).
- d. Current enrollment or anticipated fall enrollment as a college, university or seminary student seeking a degree in music or church music (theology degree with church music emphasis is acceptable).
- e. Written recommendations of church staff, music teacher and lay person.
- f. Financial need – given consideration in balance with the other criteria.

4. Process of the Scholarship Committee

- a. Notice of the scholarship will be given to the members of The Arkansas Master'Singers, the church music departments at Ouachita Baptist University and Williams Baptist College, and to the public through an announcement in the *Arkansas Baptist Media* each April.
- b. The Committee will meet after June 1st and name a recipient by July 31st.
- c. The Scholarship Committee may choose to interview applicants as needed.
- d. Factors not specifically covered in this description of the Process and Guidelines may be determined and acted upon by a majority vote of the Scholarship Committee. In the absence of a qualified applicant, the Scholarship Committee is not required to award a scholarship. The decisions of the Scholarship Committee are final.