

ILLINOIS SYMPHONY GUILD  
OF BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

PRIVATE LESSON SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025

(Application deadline is Monday, March 31st, 2025) – no exceptions)

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

404 N. Prairie St.

Bloomington, IL. 61701

1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

The following private lesson scholarships will be awarded:

**GRADES 8-11: Orchestral Instruments**

(strings, woodwind, brass, percussion, piano)

**1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE: \$1000; 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: \$600; 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE: \$400**

**\*(When possible, these monetary awards might be higher than listed here)**

**GUIDELINES**

Auditions are open to all students who live in McLean County who are presently in grades 8-11. It is recommended, but not required, that students be members of their school orchestra or band; or play in the Bloomington-Normal Youth Symphony; or be a student of an Illinois Symphony Orchestra musician.

This year we will select 15 participants to audition based upon their application information.

Previous 1<sup>st</sup> place winners can not audition again unless on a different instrument. However, 1<sup>st</sup> place winners from the past two years will be invited to play in an Illinois Symphony Orchestra Guild honors recital in May 2025.

Participants are required to perform one piece of their own choosing up to 5 minutes in length.

Students must perform with LIVE accompaniment and provide their own accompanist unless the music was originally composed as an unaccompanied piece.

Students must supply two (2) complete copies of the music for the judges, including accompaniment. The music should include measure numbering to assist the judges in their comments.

Students will be judged according to the criteria in the IHSA adjudication form: tone quality, intonation, technique, rhythm, musicianship, bowing (strings); articulation (winds); other performance factors (appearance, choice of literature, poise, posture, general conduct). Piano: also to include finger dexterity, note accuracy, pedaling, tone/touch control, phrasing, dynamics.

Electronic media submissions will not be accepted in place of this audition.

Students will be provided fifteen (15) minutes of warmup time prior to the audition.

Selected participants will be notified of their audition times by Tuesday, April 1, 2025. .

Applications must be received by the application deadline of Monday, March 31st, 2025, and sent by email to: Marilyn Mertz, ISO Scholarship Audition Chair: [cloud7mm@aol.com](mailto:cloud7mm@aol.com) OR sent by mail to: Marilyn Mertz, 2604 Rainbow Ave., Unit #4, Bloomington, IL 61704

If you have questions please contact Marilyn Mertz at 217-454-1230 or [cloud7mm@aol.com](mailto:cloud7mm@aol.com).

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, MARCH 31ST, 2025**