



January 2024

Dear Music Educator,

The Octavo Singers are pleased to let you know we will be awarding a **\$1000** cash scholarship to a **junior** or **graduating senior** high school student who shows interest in pursuing further voice study. We're hoping you will get the word out and encourage the participation of your eligible students!

***(Please take note that since this scholarship is only offered in alternate years, eleventh-grade students should not hesitate to apply.)***

### **ELIGIBILITY**

A high school junior or senior from one of the following counties: **Albany, Fulton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, and Schoharie.**

The student must be planning to pursue vocal music education at an advanced level, for example, a major or minor in a future college program. The funds will be paid to the scholarship winner upon receipt of proof of enrollment in such a program at their chosen school of higher education.

**APPLICATIONS** must include:

- A completed application form
- A summary of the student's performance experience
- A brief essay describing the importance of vocal music in the student's life, and plans for pursuing this interest post high school graduation
- A letter of recommendation from the student's music or voice teacher

The application form (a fillable PDF) is attached to this email (also available at [octavosingers.org/scholarship](http://octavosingers.org/scholarship)), and must be e-mailed to [scholarship@octavosingers.org](mailto:scholarship@octavosingers.org).

***The deadline for submitting applications is March 1, 2024.***

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

Our selection committee will conduct a review of all applications.

Applicants selected as finalists will be invited to prepare two vocal performance pieces (songs or arias) for audition.

Auditions before a small jury that includes Andrew Burger, Octavos' artistic director, will be conducted on March 16, 2024.

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Candidates will prepare two vocal performance pieces (songs or arias) and sing them in their entirety. Candidates must supply their own piano accompanist but may contact Octavos at [scholarship@octavosingers.org](mailto:scholarship@octavosingers.org) if they're having difficulty finding an accompanist.

The winning applicant will be notified within a week after the audition.

**To introduce the student to our audience as the newest member of our Octavo family,** they will be invited to perform a portion of Mendelssohn's *Elijah* oratorio with the Octavos at our Spring Concert on **April 21, 2024**.

For the winner to receive the scholarship funds, a copy of the letter of acceptance and confirmation of the student's enrollment in a higher education vocal program will be required. If the winner's plans change, the scholarship will be awarded to another applicant.

Thank you in advance for your interest and assistance in this exciting opportunity to showcase your students' talents.

Direct any questions to: [scholarship@octavosingers.org](mailto:scholarship@octavosingers.org).

Sincerely,

Gayle McLaughlin  
Octavos Scholarship Chair  
[scholarship@octavosingers.org](mailto:scholarship@octavosingers.org)

attachment: application form

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## 2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

*Before completing this application, please review the eligibility requirements and selection process at [octavosingers.org/scholarship](http://octavosingers.org/scholarship).*

**Name of Student** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**High School:** \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Music Teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Length of Vocal Study:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Along with this completed form, submit the following documents in PDF format:**

1. A personal statement that includes the following:
  - A summary of your performance experience
  - A brief essay of *no more than 200 words* describing the importance of vocal music in your life and your plans for pursuing this interest past high school graduation
2. A letter of recommendation from your music or voice teacher

Please send application and supporting documents in PDF format to [scholarship@octavosingers.org](mailto:scholarship@octavosingers.org).

### IMPORTANT

***All applications and accompanying documentation must be submitted in PDF format and by email no later than Friday, March 1, 2024.***

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