

Elyce Fishman Scholarship Fund

The Elyce Fishman Scholarship celebrates Elyce's life by assisting Michigan children and adults to gain skills and education in traditional music, dance, arts and crafts. She was a strong advocate of individual opportunities and a lover of children, fine and traditional arts and the humanities.

This scholarship, supported by Wheatland Music Organization and donations, makes it possible for those with the greatest financial need and potential for growth to enhance their personal growth.

The Wheatland Music Organization, Inc. (WMO) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to serve as a regional resource center, and to preserve and present traditional music, dance, arts and crafts. One of the ways that WMO meets this mission is through the Elyce Fishman Scholarship Fund.

*Submit scholarship application
and letters of reference.*

APPLY ONLINE AT:

www.wheatlandmusic.org

For more information (989) 967-8879

Email: Scholarship@wheatlandmusic.org



The Elyce Fishman Scholarship Fund

The Wheatland Music Organization, Inc. (WMO) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to serve as a regional resource center, and to preserve and present traditional music, dance, arts and crafts. One of the ways that WMO meets this mission is through the Elyce Fishman Scholarship Fund.

Elyce was an associate member of the Wheatland Music Organization, Inc. She was a lover of children, fine and traditional arts, and the humanities. She was a strong advocate of individual opportunities, rights and personal growth. Her life took many paths. This scholarship program, supported by an annual allocation, and donations from the general public, celebrates Elyce's life by making it possible for others to enhance their personal growth, experiences, and education related to the traditional arts. The purpose of the Elyce Fishman Scholarship Fund is to provide funding to enable Michigan residents, giving preference to children and adults from the mid Michigan area, to enhance their growth and education in the areas of traditional music, dance, arts and crafts. Traditional arts are learned person to person, passed from generation to the next, and influenced by culture, family, ethnicity, and era; they often represent a place or a group of people and can express the thoughts and feelings of a point in history. Examples of traditional music are folk music, olde time, bluegrass, Cajun, French Canadian, blues, Great Lakes, and more. Traditional dance styles may include clogging, Celtic, step-dance, and more. Puppetry and storytelling are examples of traditional performance art. Traditional craft arts include stone building, pottery, basket making, quilling, quilting, bead work, spinning, wood carving and more. Applications are accepted by individuals wishing to take part in workshops, lessons, performances and other activities, instrument rental/purchase and arts supplies. It is the intention of the Wheatland Music Organization, Inc. to assist those with the greatest financial need and/or the greatest potential for growth.

Approximately 50 awards are made each year. Applications are considered on a first come first serve basis. The names of the awardees and purpose of award are published in the annual Wheatland Music Organization, Inc. festival program and/or in the organization's newsletter "Quarter Notes." Checks are only forwarded after the applicant has raised the additional amount necessary and plans are confirmed.

**The Elyce Fishman Scholarship Fund is to support individuals – not groups.
Each individual must apply separately.**

Not all applicants are awarded. Applicants increase their chances of being awarded by:

- Requesting funding for activities that fit the Scholarship Fund's stated purpose and clearly name the skills to be gained.
- Completing the application themselves
- Being a first time applicant.
- Demonstrating the greatest financial need and/or the greatest potential for growth.
- Showing commitment by having raised a portion of the funds needed.

While there are no fixed deadlines, applications are received between Feb. 1 and Dec. 1. Applications received after Dec. 1st may not be considered.

Applications need not be typed. Two reference letters must accompany the application, with at least one preferably from someone in the traditional arts and knowledgeable of the applicant's potential. Reference letters must be completed by persons other than family members. References should be from parties who will not benefit financially by the award. Also, applicants should attach copies of brochures or registration forms showing the event they wish to attend. If possible, send the application package two months before the activity or event.

Awards usually range from \$75 to \$500. Within 30 days following the end of your traditional arts study, awardees are required to provide a written report using the Fund's evaluation form (Awardee Report) which is also completed and signed by your arts instructor. Awardees are also expected to publicly acknowledge receipt of the scholarship.

Note: By accepting this scholarship, recipient expressly consents and agrees to the use of recipient's name and/or likeness in any WMO publication or promotional material. Recipient further agrees that any photos produced by WMO incident to this consent are the exclusive property of WMO.

Scholarship applications can be obtained from school counselors, music stores, arts centers, by calling Wheatland Music Organization, Inc. at (989) 967-8879, or, from the organization's webpage www.wheatlandmusic.org (click on Giving and Receiving and then Elyce Fishman Scholarship).



Wheatland Music Organization

Elyce Fishman Scholarship Fund

APPLICATION FORM

The purpose of the Elyce Fishman Scholarship Fund is to provide funding to enable children and adults to enhance their personal growth and education in the areas of traditional music, dance, arts and crafts. Applications are accepted by Michigan residents to participate in workshops, lessons, performances and other activities, for instrument rental/purchase and arts supplies. It is the intention of the Elyce Fishman Scholarship Fund to assist those with the greatest financial need and/or the greatest potential for growth. Wheatland Music Organization, Inc. (WMO) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to serve as a regional resource center, and to preserve and present traditional music, dance, arts and crafts.

NOTE: All blanks must be filled.

Applicant Name: _____

Age of Applicant: _____

Email address _____

Home Mailing Address: _____

City _____, MI ZIP: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

Total Household Income \$ _____

How many family members are living on this income? _____

What circumstances cause financial need? _____

Have you received a scholarship from us in the past?

☐ Yes ☐ No Amount \$ _____ Year _____

Did you submit an Awardee Report? ☐ Yes ☐ No

How did you hear about the Scholarship Fund? _____

Have you ever attended Wheatland Music Organization events?

(optional) ☐ Yes _____ ☐ No

Please list other experiences you have had in the area of traditional arts:

(Information below must be completed by applicant if 10 yrs or older... The back of this form can be used if more space is needed. One application per financial request, please.)

Please describe the activity in which you wish to participate:
(what, when, where, how often, total hours of training, etc.)

What activity: _____

When/Dates of activity: _____

Where/Location, address of activity: _____

Name of instructor _____

& qualifications (if known) _____

Time/ duration of activity (for example, 1 hour per week for 6 weeks)

Who is sponsoring this program? _____

Date a response to this application is needed? _____

Describe the traditional art skill, talent, instrument played or art/craft you will learn or improve through this activity:

What do you hope to gain by participating in this activity?

Please be specific.

How does this activity fit in with your future goals?

Please be specific.

How is this activity consistent with the goals of the Wheatland Music Organization, Inc. and the purpose of the Elyce Fishman Scholarship Fund "to enhance personal growth and education in the areas of traditional arts and music?"

What is the total cost of participating in this activity?

Fee _____ Travel _____ Other _____ (specify)

Amount you have raised to date? _____

Amount requested from WMO? _____

(Note: Average awards are \$75-500.)

Reference letters from _____ and

_____ are attached.

(Note: References must not be from relatives or a person that will financially benefit.)

Please mail (or email) completed application, along with 2 letters of reference letters by those familiar with traditional art and/or those who can attest to your character and ability to follow through. Also, if applicable, attach copies of brochures or registration forms showing the activity.

Applicant
Signature _____ Date _____

Guardian
Signature _____ Date _____

Date received by office _____

This form is fillable using your computer or can be printed and filled out by hand. Be sure to make a copy before mailing the originals.

MAIL TO: Scholarship Committee, Wheatland Music Organization, Inc., P.O. Box 22, Remus, Michigan 49340.

– OR – Scan completed form and two reference letters together as a pdf and email to scholarship@wheatlandmusic.org.

Elyce Fishman Scholarship Committee



POLICY STATEMENT

The goal of the Scholarship Committee is to evaluate applications fairly and make distributions to eligible candidates.

1. Adults and youth applicants whose families have higher incomes are encouraged to show matching funds at least equal to the scholarship grant request amount. Youth applicants are encouraged to show commitment by having raised at least a portion of the funds themselves.
2. The Committee shall be comprised of at least three persons of whom one is a Board Member and at least one youth.
3. The Committee shall strive to evaluate applications within two weeks of receipt by Committee.
4. The Fund shall be funded by a line item allocation each year and by donations from individuals and groups (gifts may be earmarked to a particular art form or geographic area – not to an individual or group of individuals). Remaining earmarked donations may be carried over.
5. The Committee shall base its decision making on the criteria outlined in the Elyce Fishman Scholarship Fund guidelines. At least 2/3 of the allocation will be reserved for those seeking assistance for traditional arts endeavors – with the intention of phasing out fine arts awards.
6. The Committee reserves the right to restrict the number of awards to the same applicant and may choose to reduce the award amount with repeat applicants.
7. The Committee shall not give preference to applicants who are, or whose family members are, employees, staff, officers, directors, committee members, or contributors. All applicants will be evaluated based on fund's criteria. The Committee makes selections on an objective and nondiscriminatory basis.
8. Committee members shall disclose any relationship to applicants and abstain from voting if a direct or indirect financial or personal interest is noted.
9. The WMO office shall maintain records, including those who received or were denied funds, for a period of at least 7 years. The records shall include the completed application, the response and the followup report.
10. Scholarship awardees for lessons must complete study within a twelve month period following award.
11. Awards are typically \$75 - \$500. Applicants are received Feb. 1 – Dec. 1; those received after Dec. 1 may not be considered until Feb. 1 or after.

Note: In the event an award of \$600 or more is paid to an applicant, an IRS 1099 is required.

Elyce Fishman Scholarship Fund

AWARDEE REPORT

Note: This must be completed and returned within 30 days following end of study; if not, future awards may be denied.

Dear Scholarship Awardee:

The Internal Revenue Service exempts nonprofit organizations that make awards to individuals from tax liability if specific conditions are met. Therefore, Wheatland Music Organization, Inc. must make sure that the scholarship awardee receives the award to achieve a specific objective or improve or enhance an artistic skill. The IRS requires Wheatland Music Organization to obtain a followup report from each scholarship awardee describing the skill that was improved or enhanced.

If you are awarded an Elyce Fishman Scholarship by Wheatland Music Organization, it is your responsibility to complete this report and return it within 30 days following the end of your traditional arts study.

Scholarship awardee name: _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Describe activity for which the scholarship was used.: _____

Dates scholarship funds were used: _____

1) In the application you were asked to describe the traditional arts skill, talent, instrument played or art/craft you will learn or improve through the scholarship activity. Describe the specific objectives or improved/enhanced artistic skills you achieved as a result of your scholarship award. *[Example: I received an Elyce Fishman Scholarship to pay for one on one guitar lessons to learn to finger pick and improve my strumming. After eight lessons from January May, I am now able to finger pick six songs on the guitar.]*

Optional: Attached photo showing child performing or demonstrating the traditional art that Wheatland Music Organization may use in publications. Parent signature _____ Date _____

2) Written comments by the instructor/teacher/mentor:

Instructor signature and date: _____

Return completed form to: Elyce Fishman Scholarship Committee, Wheatland Music Organization, Inc. Box 22, Remus, MI 49340