

Michael James Richards Music Scholarship Application

– Up to \$10,000 in scholarship(s)

Michael James Richards, a Park City High School student, started his spirit journey shortly after his high school graduation in 2019. Michael had a voracious appetite for all things music; he was a collector of vinyl, was always on the lookout for limited edition artist hoodies to add to his collection and grew up immersed in the live music world of Mountain Town Music. More importantly, Michael was a generous, charismatic, funny kid with a huge heart who marched to the beat of his own drum and cared deeply about his family, friends, and his community. The Michael James Richards (MJR) Scholarship honors Michael's life and helps provide a path for students with a passion for music, to pursue music as a vocation.

Applicant Criteria:

- Application available for review on February 1; opens to apply on March 15; due April 15; and awarded May 2, 2022
- Letter of recommendation from someone in music field
- Must be in an academic musical emphasis program after high school
- **ESSAY:** What does music specifically mean to you?
- **SHORT ANSWER:** Your plan for your future in music + general description of who you are as a student and person.

Step 1: Obtain a Scholarship Application and Plan

- Application available for review on February 1; opens to apply on March 15; due April 15; and awarded May 2, 2022
- The application and scholarship list can be found:
 - Mountain Town Music Website (www.mountaintownmusic.org)
 - The Park City High Website under Scholarships
 - The South Summit High Website under Scholarships
 - The North Summit High Website under Scholarships
 - Paper applications can be picked up from the high school Counseling Office or via requested email.

Step 2: Apply

- Review the criteria and follow the steps (1-4)
- Not all applicants will receive a scholarship due to limited funding.
- Applicants will not be able to receive more than one MJR scholarship.

Step 3: Complete Your Electronic or Paper Application and turn it in by 5 pm on APRIL 15 – no late applications will be accepted

REQUIRED APPLICATION INFORMATION:

- A. **Personal Information** (This is the only page that should have your name on it)
- B. **Letter of Recommendation** – please ask the writer not to use your full name
- C. **College Application Information** – places where you are intending to study
- D. **Scholarship Essay** - Must be typed on separate paper (1-page limit)
- E. **Short Answer Questions** - Must be typed on separate paper (2-page limit)
- F. **Additional Consideration** – Must be typed on a separate paper (1-page limit)
 - 1. **MTM Audio program experience** – briefly describe
 - 2. **MTM experience** – briefly describe

Review Process:

The review process is blind, meaning that the reviewers will not see your name in the process. The scholarship donors or volunteers will review applicants based on your scholarship selection.

An Awards Celebration to celebrate the scholarship awardees will occur during one of the summer MTM concerts. **You are not required to show up in person, but you are encouraged.** Please tentatively plan on participating. **You will be notified if you have received a scholarship by May 2 via a phone call and email.**

Receiving your Scholarship:

- **You must claim your scholarship by May 20th - check your email for a link to Claim your scholarship before May 20th!**
- Checks will be sent directly to your institution for tuition and fees in early August. You will need to send the address of the Financial Aid Office & your College/University Student ID #
- If you pay your tuition bill and show proof of payment, your check may be written to you for reimbursement on a case-by-case basis.
- **Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, special circumstances or need help with anything – jeana@mountaintownmusic.org**
- If you do not claim your scholarship by the end of the academic school year, your scholarship will go back to the MJR scholarship fund.

STEP 4: Final Checklist Before Submitting Your Application

- _____ Letter of recommendation – is it signed? Does it have your last name? Cross it out.
- _____ Your name should not appear in any of your essay(s) or short answers
- _____ NO staples, NO sheet protectors, and NO double-sided copies – if you submit printed
- _____ Put pages in order as seen in Step 3 above (A-F)
- _____ Submit via email to jeana@mountaintownmusic.org with subject line MJR Scholarship
- _____ 1.5 spaced, 12 type, Times New Roman font, single sided, PDF only

THE APPLICATION (type please):

A. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name _____ Date of Birth _____
Address _____
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Non-school email address _____

B: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FROM SOMEONE IN THE MUSIC FIELD

. Signed by the author and includes their contact details

C. COLLEGE APPLICATION INFORMATION (TOP 3 CHOICES)

School	Going?	Program/Field of Study
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

D. SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

- On a separate piece of paper, please type a brief essay explaining ‘**What music means to you?**’ Keep your essay to 1 page or shorter.

E. SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

Please type and answer these questions on a separate piece of paper, keep your answers to 1-2 pages total:

1. **What are your educational and career plans with music?**
2. **Describe your achievements in school (awards, presentations, publications, etc.)**
3. **Describe your extracurricular activities (leadership, athletics, music, clubs, etc.)**
4. **Describe your involvement in the community (community service, volunteering)**
5. **What are your hobbies and interests?**
6. **Describe your work and/or internship experiences?**
7. **Describe a unique challenge (financial, emotional, physical, etc.), which you have overcome. How has it impacted your life? How did you overcome this challenge?**

F. OPTIONAL: ADDITIONAL MATERIALS – Must be typed on a separate paper (1-page limit)

1. MTM Audio program experience – briefly describe
2. MTM experience – briefly describe