

The Charles Williams Scholarship for Excellence in Music 2026

Instructions -- PLEASE READ BEFORE BEGINNING APPLICATION

**** Deadline May 1, 2026****

Thank you for your interest in submitting an application for the Charles Williams Scholarship. We STRONGLY suggest that you download the application in PDF format (see www.ConcordLibrary.org), save down to a Word document and complete the application first in this format, then copy your answers to this online Google form. This provides you with a final copy for your records.

Before beginning this application, please read the William Scholarships FAQs in their entirety and direct any questions in advance to Williams@CFPLCorp.org. The FAQs can be found [here](#).

Please complete this form in its entirety as you can not go back in and make changes. For more information on application guidelines, eligibility, and deadlines visit the Concord Free Public Library's website at www.ConcordLibrary.org.

Applications for Williams Scholarships require submission of certain documents and media files the Committee will review and evaluate. Upon submitting this application form for a Charles Williams Scholarship, each applicant will receive a link to a dedicated Google folder. Each applicant should upload all required artistic submissions and letters of recommendation to that folder. Once all uploads have been submitted, please send an email to Williams@CFPLCorp.org so that we may confirm receipt of all required materials.

The deadline for scholarship applications is May 1, 2026. Online submissions must be received by this date. Winners will be notified via email no later than Sunday, May 31 unless otherwise specified by The Williams Committee.

If you have any questions, contact Williams@CFPLCorp.org or by phone at 978-318-3356.

* Indicates required question

1. Email *

Section 2: Personal Information

2. Last Name *

3. First Name *

4. Middle Initial

5. Gender Preference

6. Preferred pronoun (he/she/they)

7. Home address *

8. Parent/Guardian I *

9. Address (if different from above):

10. Parent/Guardian II:

11. Address (if different from above):

12. Please check this box to confirm that you have been a resident of Concord for a minimum of two (2) years prior to the date of this application. **Please read the FAQs referenced above for more information on this requirement.** *

Check all that apply.

Yes

13. Phone Number *

14. Email address *

15. Current School *

16. Year of graduation *

17. Please list the college or university which you will attending next year (if known)

Section 3: Letters of recommendation

The Williams Scholarship selection committee requires two (2) letters of recommendation. One must be from your current school music teacher or private lessons teacher. The other letter may be from any other teacher or adult who can speak to your musical ability. Letters of recommendation should be addressed to The Williams Committee and can be submitted directly to Williams@cfplcorp.org. A Williams Scholarship application will not be considered to be complete until both letters of recommendation are on file.

18. Name (first letter of recommendation) *

19. Relationship (first letter of recommendation) *

20. Name (second letter of recommendation) *

21. Relationship (second letter of recommendation) *

Section 4: Artist Information

22. What is your primary instrument or interest? Please include number of years of study, and provide details regarding private or group instruction. If you are self-taught, please provide some details regarding your learning process: *

23. What is your secondary instrument or interest (if any)? Please include number of years of study, and provide details regarding private or group instruction. If you are self-taught, please provide the Committee with some details regarding your learning process: *

24. Please list all schools and/or other institutions where you received music instruction. This may include high school, as well as extracurricular programs such as The Rivers Conservatory, The Concord Conservatory of Music, Greater Boston Youth Orchestra, and New England Conservatory.

If you are currently taking private lessons, please provide the name of your instructor and the number of years studied with your instructor (if less than one year, please provide similar information for any prior instructor):

25. Please discuss what motivates your work in your primary medium of voice/instrumentation (maximum 300 words): *

26. Please provide information regarding any musical groups you have actively contributed to, including a brief description of the musical focus and performance experience (if any). This may include school groups as well as extracurricular ensembles such as The Rivers Conservatory, The Concord Conservatory of Music, Greater Boston Youth Orchestra, and New England Conservatory groups: *

27. Please list two works performed in orchestra, choir, band, ensemble, etc., within the last year; list two recently completed solos and their composers: *

28. Please list any musical honors or awards you have received:

29. Although The Williams Scholarship is not exclusively intended for applicants who plan to pursue music as a professional career, or as a major in college, it is intended for applicants who intend to make music an integral part of their lives through future development and/or study. How do you envision incorporating music into your life through college and beyond? (maximum 300 words) *

Section 5: Artist's Statement

30. Applicants for The Williams Scholarship for Excellence in Music are required to submit an Artist's Statement. The Committee would like to learn what inspires you as a musician and the impact you want to make through your music. You may submit a short video (maximum: 2 minutes), or a written statement (maximum: 500 words) in which you answer this prompt: *

Section 6: Musical Submission Requirements

Digital Submission: Applicants for the Williams Scholarship for Excellence in Music are required to submit two (2) video clips, each 3-5 minutes in length that best showcase the applicant's abilities in their primary performance area (instrument or voice). The clips must clearly feature the applicant performing two works that contrast in style or tempo. The applicant may perform alone or accompanied by a pianist or ensemble. **Clips of the applicant performing as a member of a group in an orchestral or choral setting, theatrical production, or group ensemble will not be accepted.**

Please note, applicants should make their best effort to submit works that are appropriate for a juried competition, including attention to audio and video quality.

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31. Please use this space to provide the Committee with information regarding your submissions as described in the application form above: *

Section 7: Verification & Consent

32. I verify that all of the information presented in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. (Name and Date) *

33. Your submission of the Williams Scholarship application materials authorizes the Trustees of The Concord Free Public Library Corporation to publish your name and image in local media should you receive a scholarship award from us.

Check all that apply.

If you do not wish to give permission to the Trustees for publication of your name and/or image in local media, please check here

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