



## Due West Orchestra Scholarship Information

Due West Orchestra scholarships are supported by various members of our congregation who desire to support the music ministry at the church. As this scholarship program is new and still being established, applicants must reapply every six months. Eligibility is determined by these factors:

1. Age - Players must be a junior or senior in high school or a college freshman during application.
2. Availability - Players commit to attend Wednesday orchestra rehearsals and Sunday performances, as well as special events on a quarterly basis (two special events per six-month scholarship period). In the event when the player has to miss for a vacation or illness, adequate prior notice is given to orchestra leaders so that they can find a substitute if needed. Approximately one Sunday a month, the full orchestra will not play.
3. Qualifications - Players have 3 or more years of instrumental experience in a school orchestra/band and/or private instrumental lessons.
4. Completed application - Scholarships are issued biannually based on individual application basis and approval.
  - a. Biannual schedule of scholarship commitments is as follows:
    - i. August through December (Includes Morning of Worship Through Song and Christmas special music events)
    - ii. January through June (Includes Holy Week and Freedom Sunday special events)
5. Scholarship applications must be submitted by December 31 for consideration for the Spring, and July 31 for consideration for Fall. Due to the close proximity of the application deadline to the first rehearsal, NO late submissions will be accepted. No exceptions.
6. Instrument - As an orchestra made up primarily of volunteers within the church, the instrumentation from year-to-year may change, and not all instruments are scholarship-eligible every season.

Once a player has been awarded scholarship status, they should be aware of the guidelines of this scholarship:

1. Good stewardship - Players must be prepared for Sunday services having invested practice at home, prompt attendance to rehearsals, and a positive attitude during orchestra rehearsals.

2. Sustained availability - Any uninformed or unexcused absence will result in a reduction of the scholarship fund available for the student at the end of the six-month period. Repeated uninformed absences will result in loss of the scholarship. Emergencies can happen to all of us. The most important part of this requirement is communication with orchestra leaders when necessary. Recipients are expected to attend 100% of special events and 90% of rehearsals and normal Sunday services.
3. Special Events - These four non-negotiable events are pivotal to the life of our church and attendance is required to be eligible for the scholarship.
  - a. Third Sunday in September: Morning of Worship Through Song
  - b. Second Weekend in December: West Cobb Christmas Celebration
  - c. Holy Week: Thursday, Friday, and Easter Sunday services, as needed. Weekday service needs may change depending on the year.
  - d. Last Sunday in June: Freedom Sunday
4. Professionalism - Scholarship recipient is expected to rehearse, play to the best of their ability, work on improving their abilities, and maintain a professional and positive attitude during rehearsals, services, and special events.

Payment of this scholarship will be given in the form of a check to the student upon the completion of an approximately six month period in Due West's orchestra. Full scholarship amount for all available services and rehearsals is \$500. Reductions for absences are taken from this amount.

Schedule:

1. Orchestra Rehearsal - Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in Sanctuary  
A. Rehearsals begin the second Wednesday in August for the Fall, and the second Wednesday in January for the Spring.
2. Sunday sound check/warm-up - 10:00 AM
3. Sunday Service - Blended Traditional Worship, 11:00 AM
4. Special Events as noted above

Due West uses all types of styles in this 11:00 service. We often involve an orchestra prelude and postlude which are purely instrumental and can include jazz, big band, gospel, classical, and contemporary styles. We have an adult choir that sings most Sundays and youth and children's choirs who sing with us on special occasions.

Due to availability of funds and requirements, the Music Ministry at Due West Methodist may at any time in its sole discretion change the rules and schedules set forth above. By signing and submitting this application, the applicant understands and agrees to the above additional terms.