

RSCM America National Scholarships for Summer Courses

Guidelines

1. RSCM America offers three (3) national awards each year for the purpose of assisting choristers in need of financial help to attend a summer course. One award is given from the Jack Burnam Scholarship Fund, one from the Enid Oberholtzer Scholarship Fund, and one from the Ben Hutto Memorial Scholarship Fund. Each award given will be in an amount up to a maximum of \$250.00.
2. It is to be understood by an applicant for this award that they have exhausted all possible local avenues of assistance before applying for one of these three scholarships, including inquiring as to the availability of any scholarships offered by the course to be attended, and that an RSCM America national scholarship is their only remaining option for financial assistance.
3. Application should be made by sending a letter or e-mail requesting consideration for an award, written by a parent or legal guardian of the applicant, to the President of the Board of Directors. The reasons for seeking the award should be noted in the letter. The application letter should include details of any previous RSCM America summer courses the applicant may have attended, including the year(s) of attendance. It is also expected that included with this letter will be a short, 2- to 3-paragraph composition, written by the applicant, detailing his/her experience at a previous RSCM America summer course; or, if this is to be his/her first course, how membership in a choir, including the use of RSCM music and/or training, has impacted his/her life.
4. Accompanying this letter should be a letter of support from a priest or minister of the applicant's home church, and/or from his/her choir director. This letter should include information pertaining to the unavailability of local support for the chorister, and also include information about the chorister's behavior, musicianship, and participation in the local choir.
5. Once an application has been received it will be reviewed by the RSCM America Scholarship Review Committee. This committee is composed of the President and the Chaplain of the Board of Directors, and also the Training Courses Committee Board Representative. Having reviewed the application, the committee will contact the Course Manager of any course that the applicant has attended to assess the level of participation and behavior of the applicant during the course. A member of this committee may also contact the priest, minister, and/or choir director of the home church if deemed necessary.
6. The deadline for an application is May 1 of the year in which the summer course to be attended is scheduled.
7. The Scholarship Review Committee will review the application, contact those mentioned in guideline number 5 above, and come to a decision on or before May 15. The President of the Board of Directors will then inform the two successful applicants on or before that date of the positive outcome of their application.
8. The awards will be given in the form of a check made payable to the summer course that the applicant is planning to attend. In the event of the applicant not attending the course, the Course Manager of that course will supervise the returning of the check to the RSCM America Office.

October 25, 2016