

The 31st District PTSA Presents

DARLENE PANFILL

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

**\$300 for Private Lessons
Available to Students Grades 6-12
Applications Due March 26, 2021!**

CATEGORIES:

- +BRASS INSTRUMENTS**
- +STRING INSTRUMENTS**
- +WIND INSTRUMENTS**
- +PERCUSSION**
- +PIANO**
- +VOICE**

**To Learn More Visit:
31stdistptsa.org/music-scholarship**

Thirty-First District PTSA
17445 Cantlay St. | Van Nuys, CA 91406
(818) 344-3581 | 31stmusicscholarship@gmail.com





THIRTY-FIRST DISTRICT PTSA
be the change you want to see in the world

Music Scholarship Committee

Jenny Smith, Chair

17445 Cantlay St.

Van Nuys, Ca 91406

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Darlene Panfill Music Scholarship Program

Welcome!

The 31st District PTSA is proud to provide an opportunity for students to audition for a scholarship of \$300 worth of private lessons. It is our goal to encourage the discovery and development of the musical talent of our youth. We wish to inspire our youth to follow their passion for the arts at any level of study and to assist them whether or not they have had an opportunity to study privately. Thank you for your participation and good luck in both your practice and performance!

History of the Program

This music scholarship opportunity was established in 1953 - the same year that the 31st District was chartered. Over the past 68 years, music students have benefited from private lessons because of this opportunity. For many of our participants, auditioning in front of professional musicians who are able to give individual feedback, guidance, and advice is a brand new experience. Not everyone grows up to be a famous musician, but the lessons our students learn by putting themselves out there for an audition by dressing up, preparing a song or piece, performing it, and growing based on the feedback they receive are invaluable and will help to shape the fine young adults we have the pleasure of meeting year after year. Becoming more today than we were yesterday is what builds a dynamic community, and that starts with our youth.

A Note from the Chair

"While meeting in person is still unsafe, it would be far easier to put all of our programs on hiatus and wait until things go back to normal. I personally believe that taking the easy way out does a huge disservice to the momentum and growth of our young musicians. I hope that this unconventional opportunity will provide an outlet for the creativity, skill, talent, and hard work of students that are currently going without recognition or praise. To all of our participants, we hope that this virtual interpretation of an audition process will help to reignite your hibernating passions and help you to continue moving forward with your musicianship. And for some of you - it will even provide funds to help you start, or continue private lessons.

We hope to all be back together again soon with in-person auditions and our annual Concert of Performers. But in the meantime, thank you for your support of our program, your support of the arts in your world, and lastly, take care and be safe."

Jenny Smith, 31st District Music Scholarship Chair

Feel free to email 31stmusicscholarship@gmail.com with any confusion, questions, or concerns you may have at any point during your audition process.

Video Submission Deadline: **March 26th, 2021 at 11:59 pm**

→This is the link for the Application and Submission Form←

Guidelines and Requirements

Eligibility — *Can I apply for this scholarship?*

- ❖ Applicant must be in **grades 6-12** within the 31st District PTSA area (San Fernando Valley-Sunland-Tujunga)
 - Students who are in public schools, private schools, or are being homeschooled may all apply.
- ❖ Applicants may only receive this scholarship **twice**.
- ❖ Applicants are **not** restricted to those currently enrolled in music classes or with established private instructors.
- ❖ Applicants may submit up to **two** submissions (**one** per instrument).

Application — *How do I apply?*

For the safety of our performers and judges, in-person auditions are not an option for us this year. Therefore, the submission and application process will be one and the same.

- ❖ All of the information normally shared on the application form will instead be submitted by the deadline **along with** the recording of your audition.
- ❖ There is **no** application fee.
- ❖ There is no separate deadline for applications and submissions. They are the same form and therefore have the same deadline of **March 26, 2021, at 11:59 PM**.

Submission — *How do I turn in my recording?*

Auditions will be pre-recorded and submitted along with your application information.

- ❖ On the application/submission form, you will state important contact information as well as information about your instrument/voice and the piece(s)/song(s) you will be performing.
 - As stated in the eligibility section, applicants may submit up to **two** submissions per year, and only one per instrument.
- ❖ At the end of the form, you will be allowed to submit your recording(s) as either a video file, Google Drive link, Dropbox link, or unlisted Youtube link.
 - **PLEASE CHECK THAT THE LINK WORKS BEFORE SUBMITTING!**

Audition — *How do I record and prepare for a video audition?*

Recording an audition rather than auditioning in-person can be a little tricky. We will provide a list of things you must include, as well as a few suggestions to keep in mind while preparing for your video submission.

- Requirements for Submission:

Applicants will need to provide a PDF of the sheet music for the piece being performed as well as a link to the performance itself. Be sure to follow all of these video requirements.

❖ Preparing your Recording Space

- Remove as much audio and visual clutter as possible. Loud TVs or family members in the background, pets wandering through the frame, or anything that could serve to distract you while performing or detract from your professionalism (dirty laundry on a chair) should be removed to the best of your ability.

❖ Dress Code

- Concert black and white attire is preferred if possible. Wear something that is both comfortable to play in, and gives you confidence.
 - The purpose of this requirement is to allow the focus of the video to be on your musical performance and not on your clothes.

❖ Camera Angle

- Position the camera far enough away so that you are completely visible in the frame. Make sure that there is a clear view of your hands (and feet for pedals if necessary) to allow more cohesive feedback from the judges, just as you would be able to receive if you were auditioning in-person.

❖ What to Record

- ***Introduction (1 min. max):*** Begin your video with an introduction. Make sure we can see your face. Tell us your name and a little bit about your history with music as well as some goals you have for any future studies. This would normally happen conversationally with the judges, so share anything you feel is important for them to know.
- ***Performance (8 min. max):*** There is no minimum for how long your piece must be, but there is a maximum. This is to both ensure you don't overwhelm yourself preparing something that's too long, as well as to ensure the judges can view all of the submissions in a timely manner.
- ***Your introduction and performance do not need to be done in one take, but please edit them into one cohesive video.***

- *Suggestions for Preparation and Practice:*

❖ *Understand that this is still an Audition.*

- It is easy to assume this will be easier than an in-person audition because you will have the opportunity to play a few times and simply pick your best recording to submit.
 - This is a dangerous mindset to have while preparing for an audition.
- Trying to get the perfect recording comes with its own set of stress, especially if you procrastinate.

❖ *Do Not Wait Until the Last Minute to Record.*

- Practice in short consistent bursts every day or every few days, rather than forcing yourself through one long practice session the day before the deadline.
- If you wait until the last moment to record your performance, you will most likely end up turning in an audition that you are not proud of for the sake of submitting something on time.
- Remember that recording your piece is just the first step; you also have to double-check that the format you upload your video with is viewable. Give yourself time to make sure everything works. The judges cannot provide feedback to a submission they can't see.

❖ *Do a Few Test Recordings.*

- Watch your own recordings so that you know exactly what the judges will be seeing. If the audio is clipping or cutting out, there's an annoying light glare you didn't notice, or there are mistakes in your performance that you didn't catch before, these test runs will allow you not only to further perfect your piece but perfect your recording set-up as well.
- The purpose of this audition is to show the judges where you currently are and where you want to go.
- Don't overwhelm yourself trying to be perfect.

Thank you for your interest and participation. This program has been a pillar of pride for the 31st District for many years. Good luck, and have fun with your performance!