

THE MAYFLOWER CHORAL SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Mayflower Choral Society Scholarship Fund's mission is to benefit people from all walks of life who have exhibited a talent or a strong interest in music and who either want to increase their knowledge, develop that talent to their fullest potential, or achieve both of these goals.

About the Choral Society

The Mayflower Choral Society, an outgrowth of the Mayflower Chorus, was formed in 1993 as a non-profit corporation. The Society's mission is to provide cultural and educational benefits to its members and for the community by presenting musical programs and activities of a professional caliber to the general public, schools, institutionalized citizens, and other community organizations. The Mayflower Chorus is presently the performing arm of the Society. The Mayflower Chorus began in 1977 as a Christmas caroling group at the Mayflower Inn in San Rafael. Until his death in 1991, Larry Vargo directed and shaped the Chorus through its many years of growth and success. The Chorus continues as a non-auditioned community chorus in the most traditional sense of the term. Members of the Chorus come from all walks of life. The primary unifying element is a love of performing great music with an interesting and diverse group of individuals. The repertoire is varied and includes Broadway musical selections, choral arrangements of popular tunes, some classical music, and some original compositions by current and former members. The Mayflower Chorus director is Mark Penn

About the Scholarship Grants

The Choral Society accepts applications once each year and these are given in three general categories. The categories generically represent the broad spectrum of current and former members of the Chorus, especially those in whose memory donations have been made to the Scholarship Fund over the years. Grants are no less than \$250. Grants are available to all, regardless of Chorus/Choral Society membership, but are limited to those 16 years of age and older. Proof of valid use of the grant will be required, and recipients may be provided an opportunity to demonstrate their skill at a Chorus concert, banquet, or gala if they so chose.

About the Application Process

Applicants are requested to return the application form to the indicated address prior to the deadline listed in the annual announcement. Within each grant category, the Selection Committee will choose the finalists based on the applications received. Those applicants who are not selected as finalists will be notified.

Applications should clearly identify the category for which the grant is being requested. The grant categories are:

- * Vocal Performance
Applicants in this category should be requesting a grant for the purpose of vocal study or study in the performing arts related to the voice.
- * Arrangement/Composition
Applicants in this category should be requesting a grant for the purpose of study in arranging or composing music.
- * Choral Direction
Applicants in this category should be requesting a grant for the purpose of study in directing and conducting vocal music.

About the Selection Process

The finalists will be asked to meet with the Selection Committee for a brief interview and skills demonstration lasting approximately 10 minutes. No preparation for the interview portion is necessary. A photo may be taken for our records. For the skills demonstration, finalists should come prepared with accompaniment if appropriate; either live or taped (a piano is available). Applicants should be prepared to present two selections of contrasting styles for approximately 5-10 minutes audition. Applicants will be evaluated on preparedness, enthusiasm, presentation, and other criteria as appropriate for the finalist's level of experience and learning. All decisions of the Selection Committee are final.