

MUSICOUNTS ACCELERATE SCHOLARSHIP NOMINATION GUIDELINES

Updated May 30, 2022

NOMINATION PROCESS OVERVIEW

What is the MusiCounts Accelerate Scholarship?

This annual scholarship program will help accelerate the careers of 4-6 high-potential individuals who are close to graduating from post-secondary studies in music through financial support and unique mentorship opportunities.

- Financial component: successful nominees will receive a \$5,000 financial award to assist in purchasing instruments and equipment, paying for future travel, music production costs, and other professional endeavors.
- Mentorship component: recipients will participate in an intensive music industry mentorship experience. This typically happens in Toronto, but may happen virtually owing to COVID-19 restrictions. Throughout the week, scholarship recipients will have the unique opportunity to connect with and learn from established professionals in the music industry. [Click here](#) to learn more about the 2021 MusiCounts Accelerate Scholarship Mentorship Experience.

How does the process work?

- Each post-secondary institution in Canada can nominate up to three students enrolled in music studies (undergraduate degree, diploma, or certificate) who intend to pursue a career in music performance, music production/recording arts, or music business. Institutions can nominate one student per stream.
- Post-secondary institutions will nominate students using [this form](#). **Nominations are due by June 30, 2022.**
- Once all nominations are cast, all nominees will be prompted to complete an online application form.
- Once all applications are received, they will be adjudicated by a panel of industry professionals.
- Recipients will be determined by early August 2022. All applicants will be notified of the outcome at this point.
- Depending on COVID-19 restrictions, the Mentorship Experience will happen either in-person or virtually in October 2022. If the Mentorship Experience is offered in-person, MusiCounts will cover all expenses associated with travel to Toronto, Ontario.

Who can nominate students?

All Canadian post-secondary institutions that offer some kind of music program are welcome to nominate up to three students for this scholarship in accordance with the eligibility criteria outlined below. Typically, one representative (department head, department administrator, or appointed instructor) will submit all nominations on behalf of their institution. Nominations should be cast on behalf of your institution following consultation with other faculty members to determine who the most suitable nominees are.

Who should you nominate?

This scholarship celebrates accomplishment and potential among aspiring professionals in Canada's music industry. We aim to award this scholarship to students who will benefit most from it. That said, we suggest you nominate students who are in need of the financial support the scholarship offers, as well as students whose interests and career ambitions directly align with the mentorship component of this program.

[CLICK HERE TO BEGIN THE NOMINATION PROCESS.](#)

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- This program is intended for senior undergraduate students.
 - Students who are entering the final year of their postsecondary program are eligible to be nominated. Exceptions may be made for students entering the penultimate year of their academic program at the time of nomination.
 - Students who have graduated from their academic program in spring 2022 are eligible to be nominated.
 - Students in Masters, PhD, or DMA programs are not eligible to be nominated for this scholarship.
- Nominees must identify primarily with (and primarily study) one of three career streams: music performance, music production/recording arts, or music business.
 - Students may only be nominated in one category. If the student's career interests overlap between these categories that is fine, but they may only be nominated on behalf of a single career stream.
- Nominees must intend to work in the music industry—or further study in music—following graduation from their current postsecondary program.
- Nominees must be 18-30 years of age upon nomination.

THE APPLICATION

Once nominations are submitted, all nominees will be notified via email and asked to complete an online application form. In this form, nominees will be asked to:

- Provide work samples that are representative of their musical accomplishments to date.
- Answer questions about their career aspirations, and how receiving this scholarship will support this.
- Provide a resume/CV, website links, and relevant social media information.
- Provide letters of recommendation from those who are familiar with their work.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Each application is reviewed by established professionals in the areas of musical performance, music production/recording arts, and music business. In the adjudication process, we look for students that demonstrate dedication and excellence in their given career stream, as well as great potential for a career in the music industry. Further, MusiCounts strives to award this scholarship to young professionals who will be able to benefit from the skills and connections that will be fostered during the Mentorship Experience in Toronto.

EQUITY PRIORITY POLICY

Through our scholarship programs, MusiCounts strives to promote a more inclusive and sustainable music industry in Canada. In MusiCounts' 25-year history of investing in music education, however, the majority of our resources have been allocated to approaches that reflect a Western colonial music education tradition. In an effort to promote equal access to music education, and to foster a music industry that is more reflective of Canada's diversity, MusiCounts is committed to empowering artists and industry professionals from underrepresented communities.

CONTACT

If you have questions about the nomination process, please contact:

Nick Godsoe
Manager, Programs & Education
MusiCounts
nick@musiccounts.ca
506 654 2857