



## COWICHAN MUSICAL SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

As of fiscal 2024/25, CMS introduced a new scholarship program to provide funding to support community members who wish to pursue a career in the performing arts – both on and off stage.

### **SOCIETY ACTIONS/REQUIREMENTS**

1. At the fiscal budget confirmation meeting early in the new fiscal year, the Board will determine the budget for scholarships. That number will be reviewed each year, depending on the Society's available funds.
2. The Society must be in a secure financial position to confirm scholarship funds. Therefore, the Society's available funds on March 31 must be at least \$30,000.
3. Scholarships range from \$500 to \$1000.00.
4. Any Board member whose child has applied must abstain from discussion about and voting on the scholarship applicants.
5. Number of scholarships awarded will depend on
  - o total budget for this fund set aside by the Board and
  - o number of applications approved by the Board.The Board will determine the amount of each scholarship (between \$500 and \$1,000) to optimize the impact of the scholarship program.
6. This scholarship process must be posted on the CMS website, on the CMS Facebook page, and announced via Constant Contact to all past and present members. Cast members should also be informed at the opening of rehearsals each year.
7. Applications will be accepted between **March and May**, and awards will be announced by **June**.
8. Scholarship recipients will be judged on merit – how hard they have worked to contribute to our shows and to the Society.

### **APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS**

1. This scholarship is open to **post-secondary graduates up to the age of 29**.
2. Applicants must have performed in or worked behind the scenes in our productions for **at least 2 years**.
3. Applicants must prove they have been accepted into an accredited performing arts program. Applications for the CMS Scholarship may be submitted prior to formal acceptance, and funds will be distributed upon proof of enrollment in their chosen program.
4. Applicants do not have to be a first-year student; they may apply if they are going into a second or third year of study. They may also apply more than once. They may NOT apply twice within a single school calendar year, e.g. if the school year is September to August, the next course they can apply for must begin after September 1 the following year.
5. Applicants must complete the online application form available at [cowichanmusicalsociety.org](http://cowichanmusicalsociety.org).
6. Scholarships are determined on the above requirements, not on the basis of greatest talent.