

The Classical Guitar Society of Upstate New York is excited to announce that it will be continuing to offer the George Lesh Memorial Music Scholarship(s) in 2025. George Lesh was Chorus and General Music teacher at Unatego Jr. Sr. Highschool for over 30 years and went above and beyond his obligations as a music instructor. After his retirement, he became an integral part of the Classical Guitar Society of Upstate NY serving as their secretary for 7 years. The award amount is \$500.00.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Applicant must be a resident of, and a senior enrolled in high school in New York State.

The applicant must be planning to study music with the intent of pursuing a career in this field. Awarding of the scholarship is contingent upon the acceptance of the applicant into an associated department in an institute of higher learning.

The applicant cannot be related to a Board Member of CGSUNY.

Three personal, written references from individuals not related to the applicant are required to be submitted at the time of the application. One reference must be from a music instructor. References must be mailed by the individuals directly to the scholarship committee below.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Applications may be obtained from the CGSUNY website, local All-County Organizations, and private instructors after they are distributed end of May. **All applications should be returned to the Scholarship Committee listed below by July 15th, 2025.**

Each applicant will be required to send an audition video to the Scholarship Committee. This committee will determine the winner(s) and the announced decision will be final. It is not mandatory that the committee award a scholarship after hearing the applicants each year. **Videos should be in mp4 format and sent to mdowney@cgsuny.org.**

The awarding of the Scholarship will be announced by the committee at our August meeting. **Upon the successful completion of the first semester, and subsequent enrollment in the second semester in a music program, the scholarship award will be paid to the student through their music department chair.**

References, Application, and Video Audition due by July 15th, 2025. Video should be emailed to mdowney@cgsuny.org. References and Applications to be sent by July 15th, 2025 to :

CGSUNY
George Lesh Scholarship Committee
627 Flax Island Rd
Otego, NY 13825

Committee Members : Matt Downey, Donna Noyes-Grosser, Dennis Turechek, Harry Pellegrin

Application for George Lesh Memorial Music Scholarship

The Classical Guitar Society of Upstate New York

1. Name : _____
2. Home Address : _____

3. Telephone : _____
4. Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) : _____
Address (if different from above): _____

5. Place and date of Birth : _____
6. To which Colleges, Universities, or Conservatories have you applied?
7. Which of the above would you prefer to attend? _____
8. What do you hope to do with your musical education upon graduation?
9. Please tell us how Music has influenced your life so far. Feel free to use this as a venue to share about your interests, hobbies, and anything else you might find relevant.

Applicant agrees and understands that in the event he or she is awarded a scholarship, scholarship funds will be paid directly to music department chair after verifying semester 1 grades and semester 2 intended class schedule.

I hereby apply for the George Lesh Memorial Music Scholarship

Date : _____

Signed : _____

(Applicant)

Date : _____

Signed : _____

(Parent of Guardian)

The applicant plans to graduate from _____
in June of _____ .

(Applicants High School)

Audition Information

All applicants for the George Lesh Memorial Scholarship will be required to send an audition video in mp4 format to mdowney@cgsuny.org

Audition videos will be reviewed during the second half of July and recipient will be decided in the month of August.

The video should include two pieces in contrasting styles. Contrast can be in musical period, genre, mood, tempo, form, and harmonic structure. Judges criteria includes rhythmic accuracy, intonation (if applicable), diction (if applicable), presence, expression, technical difficulty, and musicality.