

Instruments for Young Lives Program 2015

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future (EPSMF) is committed to inspiring the community in music and education. EPSMF strives to reach young people with potential and commitment to their natural gifts and musical aptitudes. The *Instruments for Young Lives* program is designed to assist talented young musicians with unmet financial need. A minimum of 2 students will be selected to receive a step-up musical instrument to support their talent and music education. The gifts of musical instruments through the *Instruments for Young Lives* program are one-time awards to recipients. Recipients will become participants in the EPSMF outreach and community leadership programs.

ELIGIBILITY & SELECTION CRITERIA

Eligibility is limited to classical instrumentalists (ages 8 thru 18) who have not yet entered their senior high school year during the academic year 2014-2015. Applicants must be U.S. citizens. Applicants must be interested in pursuing their music education, performing community outreach, and demonstrate:

- ♦ Exceptional musical talent
- ♦ Unmet financial need
- ♦ Solid academic achievement
- ♦ Discipline in their music education
- ♦ Strength of character

Exceptional Musical Talent: Applicants must have strong musical ability. Musical ability will be assessed based on the applicant's completed application and audition recording.

Unmet Financial Need: Applicants must substantiate a limited family income and insufficient funds to cover the cost of rented or new instruments. An average annual family income of \$35,000 or less will be considered. Higher family incomes with extraordinary financial stresses, such as medical expenses and number of dependents, will also be considered.

Solid Academic Achievement: Applicants should possess strong scholastic records indicated by good grades (GPA of 3.0 or above), academic awards and recognition, and test scores (if available).

Discipline in Music Education: Applicants should possess drive/determination, initiative, and maturity in the practice and study of classical music. **Music teacher and school/guidance counselor recommendations are required.**

Strength of Character: Applicants must possess integrity, leadership, and the desire to give back to the community. **Two (2) professional recommendations are required.**

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

Recipients of an EPSMF *Instruments for Young Lives* award will be required to:

- ♦ Respond to follow-up queries regarding the recipient's music education and progress for a period of two (2) years starting from the date of receipt.
- ♦ Be available for community outreach for a period of two (2) years after receipt of the instrument award.

Community outreach with EPSMF consists of music education events where youth reach out to community groups of all ages through informal presentations and/or performances. Dates and location are determined by EPSMF. Recipients are guided to share their music experiences, to gain new insights, and to develop leadership skills.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

All application materials must be sent in one complete package. **The El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future will not consider incomplete applications.** All forms must be filled out completely. Answers must be complete (indicate N/A if appropriate). Please write in legible handwriting in blue or black ink. Only the essay may be typed.

Application Checklist:

Applicants are responsible for making sure that the following items are accurate and complete before submitting to EPSMF. Please do not use folders or binders.

- EPSMF Instruments for Young Lives complete application (available at www.epsmf.org)
- Audition Recording (DVD or CD preferred)
- Applicant's current photograph
- Application Fee

The application includes:

- Student Information Form
- Student Essay (may be typewritten)



- Audition CD Form
- Certification Form
- School Report Form
- Official School Transcript or a copy of the most recent school report card
- Music Teacher Recommendation Form
- One (1) Recommendation from the school/guidance counselor
- Two (2) Recommendations from professionals in your community
- Family Financial Information Form
- Copies of 2013 Federal Tax Form(s) and W-2 Form(s)
- Copies of schedule and attachments to 2013 Federal Tax Form(s)
- Alternate documentation of income if Federal Tax Forms/W-2 Forms are not available

APPLICATION DEADLINE and STATUS NOTIFICATION

All Applicants: January 15, 2015 (notified by March 1, 2015)

Receipt of completed applications and materials received will be confirmed in e-mail or by U.S. Postal Service.

Applications must be postmarked no later than January 15, 2015. Applications postmarked after this date will be returned to the sender.

SELECTION PROCESS

Applications and submitted materials will be reviewed by a panel of individuals selected by the EPSMF Board of Directors. Applications will be reviewed for completeness and the criteria based upon exceptional musical talent, unmet financial need, solid academic achievement, character references, and discipline in their music education.

Recommendations for the awards will be submitted to the EPSMF Board of Directors for final review and approval.

The El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex age, physical or mental disabilities, sexual orientation, or national origin. The EPSMF Board of Directors, affiliates, and their families are not eligible to apply.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about the *Instruments for Young Lives* program, please visit the El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future website: www.epsmf.org. You may also contact Lynn Provenzano at 915-449-0619.

ABOUT THE EPSMF

*...bridging generations and nurturing the present for the future
...through the power of music.*

The El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future (EPSMF) established a new name in the Spring of 2014 as a way to launch the organization in its 10th anniversary into a clear and identifiable direction with its work.

Originally founded as the El Paso Summer Music Festival, EPSMF had its first concert in June 2005. The event grew out of a memorial concert for Michael Salzman and the inauguration of a piano scholarship in his name for the University of Texas at El Paso Music Department. The aim was to have an annual summer series featuring guest artists along with recognizing a prominent member of the community integral to the Arts.

Today, the El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future is a non-profit organization working to give the border region unique classical music events and outreach along with recognition to key supporters of music and the Arts. Events have included an Annual Concert featuring acclaimed artists, such as international harpist, Grace Cloutier, concert pianist, Christopher O'Riley, live tapings of NPR's *From the Top*, and exceptional local musicians, including EPSMF Competition winners.

EPSMF Outreach has partnered in the community where music adds insight, education, or comfort to lives. Programs include master classes on general musicianship and workshops to assist students in preparation for auditions, scholarships, performance, and competitions, as well as presentations to underserved populations. EPSMF Awards programs, the *Competition for Young Musicians* and *Instruments for Young Lives*, support young musicians in education and music standards of excellence. Competition finalists and Instrument recipients all participate in outreach activities to build cultural and leadership skills. More at www.epsmf.org.

APPLICATION: Instruments for Young Lives Program 2015

The El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future *Instruments for Young Lives* program is open to:

- ♦ Classical instrumentalists between the ages 8 and 18 who have not yet entered college during the academic year 2014-2015.
- ♦ Applicants must be U.S. citizens.
- ♦ Applicants must be interested in pursuing their music education, performing community outreach, and demonstrate:
 - ♦ Exceptional musical talent
 - ♦ Unmet financial need
 - ♦ Solid academic achievement
 - ♦ Discipline in their music education
 - ♦ Strength of character

IMPORTANT INFORMATION! PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.

- ♦ Applicants must submit complete applications with **all** required documents and audition CD. The CD must be no more than 10 minutes in length.
- ♦ The Audition CD must be clearly labeled with the applicant's name, repertoire, and date.

An **application fee of \$5** must be submitted by check or money order to EPSMF and Notate: *Instruments for Young Lives Application* on the memo line. Be sure to include the number of the check or money order on the application form. This fee is due at the time of application.

- ♦ In a single envelope, include this application form, all required documents, the audition CD, a current photograph, and the application fee. **Remember to include all required recommendations.** Please do not use folders or binders.
- ♦ Mail to: EPSMF Instruments for Young Lives Program
701 Waltham Court

- ♦ **Applications must be postmarked no later than January 15, 2015**
- ♦ Incomplete or late applications will be returned to the sender.

The Instruments for Young Lives Application includes the following forms:

- ♦ Student Information Form
- ♦ Student Essay
- ♦ School Report Form
- ♦ Audition CD Form
- ♦ Certification Form
- ♦ Music Teacher Recommendation Form
- ♦ School /Guidance Counselor Form
- ♦ Community Professional Recommendation Form
- ♦ Family Financial Information Form

Other required documents and materials:

- ♦ Audition Recording (DVD or CD)
- ♦ Copies of 2013 Federal Tax Form(s) and W-2 Form(s)
- ♦ Copies of schedule and attachments to 2013 Federal Tax Form(s)
- ♦ Alternate documentation of income if Federal Tax Forms/W-2 Forms are not available
- ♦ Official School Transcript or a copy of the most recent school report card
- ♦ Applicant current photograph
- ♦ Application Fee

All materials submitted for the *Instruments for Young Lives* program become the property of The El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future and cannot be returned.



APPLICATION: Instruments for Young Lives Program 2015
STUDENT INFORMATION FORM

Name: _____ Date of Birth ___/___/___ Age _____
(First, Middle Initial, Last) (Month/Day/Year)

Gender (Circle one): M F Grade Level _____ Expected HS Graduation Date _____
(Junior /Seniors Only)

Music Instrument: _____ Years of Study _____

What other Music Instruments do you play?
_____ Years of Study _____

Current Address:

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

Parent/Guardian Contact Information:

Name _____ Relationship _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

Name _____ Relationship _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

Music Teacher Information:

Name _____

Address _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Email Address _____

Music School/Program (s):

List current school music programs in which you participate. (List: Name of program, school, dates attended)

List current music programs outside of your school(s) in which you participate. (List: Name of program, school, dates attended)

Academic School: _____

Address _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

What type of school do you attend (Circle)? a) Public b) Private c) Home school

Awards and Activities:

List any musical, academic or community awards received. List these in order of importance.

What music instrument do you wish to be awarded? _____

1) How did you become interested and involved in music?

2) Do you have a website or any online videos showcasing your music? (You Tube, Facebook) URL:

3) Do you play in an ensemble or youth orchestra? If so, please list:

4) Have you participated in summer music festivals, special programs, or master classes? If so, please list highlights:

5) Other than music, what commitments or passions fill your time?

6) Beyond achievement, what is really fun for you? What do you look forward to?

7) What volunteer work do you do in your community?

8) Describe two (2) of your favorite musical moments. Explain how these have influenced or inspired you?

a) _____

b) _____

9) What are your hopes, dreams, and future aspirations (musical or non-musical)? What do you want to be when you “grow up”?

10) Who has been the greatest influence and inspiration to you in your musical studies?

APPLICATION: Instruments for Young Lives Program 2015
STUDENT ESSAY (500 Words)



(You may handwrite this essay on this form or submit a typewritten paper.)

Tell us why you should be selected to receive a new instrument. How would a new musical instrument help you achieve your artistic goals?

Lined area for writing an essay response.

APPLICATION: Instruments for Young Lives Program 2015
AUDITION CD FORM



Applicants: You are required to submit 2 selections from your repertoire. Choose what you perform best. Limit your selections to a total of 10 minutes.

1) Please list the selections recorded on your audition CD.

a) _____

b) _____

2) Why have you chosen to study and perform these pieces?

a) _____

b) _____

Your audition CD must be clearly labeled. Please DO NOT attach any adhesive labels to the CD. Write the following information on the CD:

- ♦ Name
- ♦ Repertoire
- ♦ Date

**APPLICATION: Instruments for Young Lives Program 2015
CERTIFICATION FORM**

Are you a U.S. Citizen? Yes No



How did you first hear about the EPMSF *Instruments for Young Lives* program?

- Teacher or Counselor
- Friend or Family Member
- School
- Youth Orchestra
- Music Teacher
- Flyer
- Radio
- EPSMF Website
- Facebook
- Other _____

Please check all statements that are correct.

- I have attached an EPSMF 2015 *Instruments for Young Lives* application and recording.
- I certify that all my application answers and essay response are accurate.
- I certify that all my responses are my own work, not the work of my parents, and generated solely for the purpose of applying to the EPSMF 2015 *Instruments for Young Lives* program.
- I understand that any work submitted that is not accurate, original, and honest may result in the dismissal of this application.

Student's Signature (required) Date

Parent's Signature (required) Date

Music Teacher Signature (required) Date

Please write the number of the check or money order for the payment of the \$5 application fee: _____

**APPLICATION: Instruments for Young Lives Program 2015
SCHOOL/GUIDANCE COUNSELOR FORM**

To the Applicant:

Give this form to your School Guidance Counselor to fill out. Once your guidance counselor has completed this form, he/she will return the form to you in a sealed, signed envelope to return to the El Paso Society for



Musicians of the Future (EPSMF) with your application and materials. If you are home-schooled, your home-schooling parent may fill this out.

To the Guidance Counselor:

The El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future supports exceptional young people in reaching their potential in all areas of their lives. The goal of the *Instruments for Young Lives* program is to identify and assist talented young musicians with unmet financial need. Selected students receive a new musical instrument to further their music education and abilities. These students are also required to perform community outreach under the guidance of EPSMF for two years following receipt of the award.

Selection Criteria includes: exceptional musical talent, unmet financial need, solid academic achievement, discipline in their music education, and strength of character.

Your cooperation in completing this form is appreciated. Your observations are an important part of the student's application. **Please return this School Report to the applicant in a sealed envelope with your signature along the seal.** Your comments will be read only by the EPSMF panel and will not be shared with the student or his/her parent(s)/guardian(s).

Student's Name _____

School _____ Grade _____

Student's GPA (out of 4.0) _____ Student's Class Rank (out of how many students?) _____

Has the student taken any recent standardized tests (e.g. PSAT, SAT, ACT, etc.)? If so, please ensure that the student has a photocopy of the score report(s) to include with this application, and please list the scores here:

PSAT date taken ___/___/___ PSAT Critical Reading score _____ PSAT Math score _____ PSAT Writing score _____

SAT date taken ___/___/___ SAT Critical Reading score _____ SAT Math score _____ SAT Writing score _____

ACT date taken ___/___/___ ACT English score _____ ACT Math score _____ ACT Reading score _____

ACT Science score ___/___/___ ACT Composite score _____

OVERALL EVALUATION

Please make overall assessments of this student's academic achievement, musicianship, and strength of character. (Circle the appropriate response).

Please rate these on a scale of 1 to 10. 0 = no basis for judgment 1 = below average 10 = excellence

Academic Achievement 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



Musicianship	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Strength of Character	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

How long have you known this student? _____

Describe this student in three (3) words. 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

What are this student's strengths and weaknesses?

Strengths: _____

Weaknesses: _____

What is your assessment of this student's academic talent and music potential?

Please describe this student's character, citizenship, and contributions to the community?

Please add any additional information that will give a more complete picture of this student?

I certify that all information provided on this School Report is accurate.

Signature (required) _____ Date _____

Name _____

(Please print first, middle initial, and last name.)

Position/Title _____ School _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

School Address _____

Contact Information: For more information about the El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future and the *Instruments for Young Lives* program, visit www.epsmf.org or call Lynn Provenzano at 915-449-0619.

APPLICATION: Instruments for Young Lives Program 2015

MUSIC TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM

To the Applicant:

Give this form to your Music Teacher to fill out. Once your Music Teacher has completed this form, he/she will return the form to you in a sealed, signed envelope to return to the El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future with your application and materials.

To the Music Teacher:



The El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future supports exceptional young people in reaching their potential in all areas of their lives. The goal of the *Instruments for Young Lives* program is to identify and assist talented young musicians with unmet financial need. Selected students receive a new musical instrument to further their music education and abilities. These students are also required to perform community outreach under the guidance of EPSMF for two years following receipt of the award.

Selection Criteria includes: exceptional musical talent, unmet financial need, solid academic achievement, discipline in their music education, and strength of character.

Your cooperation in completing this form is appreciated. Your observations are an important part of the student's application. **Please return this Recommendation to the applicant in a sealed envelope with your signature along the seal.** Your comments will be read only by the EPSMF staff and will not be shared with the student or his/her parent(s)/guardian(s).

Student's Name _____

School _____ Grade _____

How long have you known this student? _____

In what capacity have you known this student? _____

Describe this student in three (3) words. 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

What are this student's strengths and weaknesses?

Strengths: _____

Weaknesses: _____

What is your assessment of this student's academic talent and music potential?



What makes this student special?

Please add any comments or thoughts that would be helpful in understanding this student's potential and commitment to his/her artistic ability?

OVERALL EVALUATION

Please make overall assessments of this student's academic achievement, musicianship, and strength of character. (Circle the appropriate response).

Please rate these on a scale of 1 to 10. 0 = no basis for judgment 1 = below average 10 = excellence

Academic Achievement	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Musicianship	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Strength of Character	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Musical Discipline	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

I certify that all information provided on this Reference is accurate.

Signature (required) _____ Date _____

Name _____

(Please print first, middle initial, and last name.)

Position/Title _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

Contact Information: For more information about the El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future and the *Instruments for Young Lives* program, please visit www.epsmf.org or call Lynn Provenzano at 915-449-0619.



APPLICATION: Instruments for Young Lives Program 2015 COMMUNITY PROFESSIONAL RECOMMENDATION FORM

To the Applicant:

Give this form to a non-family member of your community to fill out. Once this form is completed, he/she will return the form to you in a sealed, signed envelope to return to the El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future with your application and materials.

To the Professional:

The El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future supports exceptional young people in reaching their potential in all areas of their lives. The goal of the *Instruments for Young Lives* program is to identify and assist talented young musicians with unmet financial need. Selected students receive a new musical instrument to further their music education and abilities. These students are also required to perform community outreach under the guidance of EPSMF for two years following receipt of the award.

Selection Criteria includes: exceptional musical talent, unmet financial need, solid academic achievement, discipline in their music education, and strength of character.

Your cooperation in completing this form is appreciated. Your observations are an important part of the student's application. **Please return this Recommendation to the applicant in a sealed envelope with your signature along the seal.** Your comments will be read only by the EPSMF staff and will not be shared with the student or his/her parent(s)/guardian(s).

Student's Name _____

School _____ Grade _____

How long have you known this student? _____

In what capacity have you known this student? _____

Describe this student in three (3) words. 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

What are this student's strengths and weaknesses?

Strengths: _____

Weaknesses: _____

What is your assessment of this student's academic talent and music potential?

What makes this student special?

Please add any comments or thoughts that would be helpful in understanding this student's potential and commitment to his/her artistic ability?

OVERALL EVALUATION

Please make overall assessments of this student's academic achievement, musicianship, and strength of character. (Circle the appropriate response).

Please rate these on a scale of 1 to 10. 0 = no basis for judgment 1 = below average 10 = excellence

Academic Achievement	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Musicianship	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Strength of Character	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Musical Discipline	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

I certify that all information provided on this Reference is accurate.

Signature (required) _____ Date _____

Name _____

(Please print first, middle initial, and last name.)

Position/Title _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

Contact Information: For more information about the El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future and the *Instruments for Young Lives* program, please visit www.epsmf.org or call Lynn Provenzano at 915-449-0619.

APPLICATION: Instruments for Young Lives Program 2015
FAMILY FINANCIAL INFORMATION FORM



Please attach a copy of the parent(s)/guardian(s)' 2013 federal tax form(s), including W-2 forms, schedules, and attachments. Alternate documentation of income is required if Federal Tax Forms and W-2 Forms are not available.

If the student applicant was required to file a 2013 federal tax return, also attach a copy of his/her tax forms, including W-2 forms, schedules, and attachments. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) living abroad and not filing U.S. taxes must submit a statement (in English or a certified translation into English) from each parent's employer, listing all income benefits for the prior year.

Please fill in the table below. Do not leave fields blank. If the value is zero, enter "0". Round all figures to the nearest dollar.

Income and Expenses in 2013	Mother/Guardian	Father/Guardian	Stepparent	Student
Wages, Salaries, Tips, etc.				
Taxable Interest				
Ordinary Dividends				
Adjusted Gross Income (AG)				
Alimony Received				
Child Support Received by Parent(s)				
Child Support Paid by Parent (s)				
Federal Income tax Paid				
Tuition Paid on Behalf of Dependents in College Full-time				
Housing Rent Paid (if not a home owner)				

I certify that all information provided on this Family Financial Form is accurate.

Parent or Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____

(Please print first, middle initial, and last name.)