

Instruments for Young Lives Program 2024

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, 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. Students will be selected to receive step-up musical instruments 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 are obligated to participate in the EPSMF Ambassador Leadership Program (ALPs) and community outreach for two consecutive years.

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 2023-2024. 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/or number of dependents, will also be considered.

Solid Academic Achievement: Applicants should demonstrate strong scholastic achievement indicated by good grades (GPA of 3.0 or above), academic awards and/or 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 demonstrate 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 minimum 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 as a participant of the Ambassador Leadership Program.

Community outreach with EPSMF may consist of music education events where young musicians interact with the community (all ages) through informal presentations and/or performances. This can include both virtual and face-to-face activities. Recipients are guided to share their music experiences, to gain new insights, explore collaborative opportunities, 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 responses if appropriate). Please write in legible handwriting in blue or black ink. Responses may be handwritten or typewritten.

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
- Audition Recording (DVD, CD, USB drive, or email mp3 files to IYL@epsmf.org)
- Applicant's current photograph
- Application Fee

This application includes:

- Student Information Form
- Student Essay
- Audition Recording 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 2022 Federal Tax Form(s) and W-2 Form(s)
- Copies of schedule and attachments to 2022 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 31, 2024 deadline (notified by March 31, 2024)

Receipt of completed applications and materials will be confirmed by email or by the U.S. Postal Service.

Applications must be postmarked no later than January 31, 2024. Applications postmarked after this date will be returned to the sender.

SELECTION PROCESS

All applications and submitted materials will be assessed by the EPSMF Board of Directors. Each will be evaluated based on the IYL selection criteria and reviewed for completeness.

Recommendations for the awards will be approved by the EPSMF Board of Directors.

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, gender identity, or national origin.

The EPSMF Board of Directors, affiliates, and their families are not eligible to apply.

CONTACT INFORMATION

More information about the *Instruments for Young Lives* program may be found on the El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future website: www.epsmf.org. You may also contact EPSMF by emailing IYL@epsmf.org.

ABOUT 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. Past events have included an Annual Concerts featuring national artists, live tapings of NPR's *From the Top*, and exceptional local musicians, including EPSMF Competition winners.

EPSMF's Ambassador Leadership Program (ALPs) promotes outreach to the community (including underserved populations) where music adds insight, education, or comfort to lives. It also includes master classes on general musicianship and workshops to assist students in preparation for auditions, scholarships, performance, and competitions. Competition finalists and instrument recipients all participate in ALPs activities to build engagement and leadership skills. The EPSMF Awards programs include: *OM/NI*-original music/new ideas- for young composers, the *Competition for Young Musicians*, and *Instruments for Young Lives*. The high standards of each program support the continued education of young musicians as they strive for musical excellence.

APPLICATION: Instruments for Young Lives Program 2024

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 2023-2024.
- 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 an audition recording.
- **The audition recordings may be submitted as a CD, USB drive, or via email as mp3 files.** The audition recordings must be no longer than a total of 10 minutes and contain two selections of contrasting content from standard classical repertory from any musical period. Your audition recording must be of high quality.
- For a CD: Write your name and date on the CD. Please do not place any adhesive labels on the CD. The CD must be burned as *audio*, not data.
- For USB: Write your name or initials on the outside of the USB. Files should be named in the following format: **last name_ first name_ repertory title.mp3**
- For email: IYL@epsmf.org The subject line must include "IYL 2024" and your name. Files should be named in the following format:
last name_ first name_ repertory title.mp3

An **application fee of \$5** must be submitted by check or money order payable to EPSMF. Write *IYL Application* on the memo line. Be sure to include the number of the check or money order on the application form. Include the fee with the application.

- In a single envelope, include this application form, all required documents, the audition recording (if applicable), 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
El Paso, TX 79922
- **Applications must be postmarked no later than January 31, 2024**
- 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: Repertory 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, CD, USB or via email)
- Copies of 2022 Federal Tax Form(s) and W-2 Form(s)
- Copies of schedule and attachments to 2022 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 2024

STUDENT INFORMATION FORM

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

Grade Level _____ Expected HS Graduation Date _____

Musical Instrument: _____ Years of Study _____

What other Musical 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):

School music programs in which you currently participate.
(List: name of program(s), school(s), and dates attended.)

Music programs outside of your school(s) in which you currently participate.
(List: name of program(s), school(s), and dates attended.)

Academic School: _____

Address _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Awards and Activities:

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

What musical instrument do you wish to be awarded?

Please do not request specific models or manufacturers.

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

2) Do you have a website or any online videos showcasing your music?
(*YouTube, Instagram, Twitter*) Please list your handle, channel name, or other information that you would like to share.

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

4) Have you participated in 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 (if any) 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)?

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

APPLICATION: Instruments for Young Lives Program 2024

AUDITION: REPERTORY FORM

Applicants:

You are required to submit two (2) selections from your repertory. Choose what you perform best. Limit your selections to no more than ten (10) minutes total.

1) Please list the selections on your audition recording.

a) _____

b) _____

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

a) _____

b) _____

**The audition recordings may be submitted as a CD, USB drive, or via email.
Your audition recording must be of high quality.**

APPLICATION: Instruments for Young Lives Program 2024 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 the EPSMF 2024 *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 and generated for the purpose of applying to the EPSMF 2024 *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 2024 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, they 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. 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 2024 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, they 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 musical 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 2024 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, they 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 musical 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 2024
FAMILY FINANCIAL INFORMATION FORM

Please attach a copy of the parent(s)/guardian(s)' 2022 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 2022 federal tax return, also attach a copy of this 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 2021	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 homeowner)				

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.)

CHECK LIST

EPSMF reserves the right to reject incomplete applications. Please review your checklist to be sure you include all requested information.

**Include all of the following and this checklist in your application packet.
Please do not use folders or binders.**

- EPSMF Instruments for Young Lives complete application
- Audition Recording (include DVD, CD, USB or email mp3 to IYL@epsmf.org)
- Applicant's current photograph
- Application Fee

Completed application forms:

- Student Information Form
- Student Essay
- Audition: Repertory Form
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- 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 2022 Federal Tax Form(s) and W-2 Form(s)
- Copies of schedule and attachments to 2022 Federal Tax Form(s)
- Alternate documentation of income if Federal Tax Forms/W-2 Forms are not available

_____initials