



Robert B. Merten “Circle of Fifths” Music Scholarship Application

This scholarship was set up in memory of Robert B. Merten, a Presbyterian minister, teacher and musician. Throughout his life he took a strong interest in the young, senior citizens and those in need. He was an active volunteer and thoughtful commentator on significant issues. He composed and performed music for several community organizations and functions and was a member of a local band. This award is open to a Potter County senior graduating from a public, private, or home school in Potter County and Port Allegany High School and accepted into college or conservatory in the field of music.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Full-time resident of Potter County, graduating senior from a public, private or home-school student in Potter County and Port Allegany High School.
- Accepted into a college or conservatory in the field of music.
- Essay (200-250 words doubled spaced) on “What music means to me and how I plan to make it my career”.
- Must be a Music Major – can include Music Education or Music performance.
- Must be available to meet selection committee via Zoom and to be evaluated and score a minimum of 190 points.
- A confirmation of date, time and place will be issued to you.

Please email your application in Word or PDF format to **jallenelford@twintierscf.org** no later than **Tuesday, March 31, 2026, by 5:00 p.m.**, or mail it to:

Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers
104 W. Lockhart Street
Sayre, PA 18840

Mailed applications must be **postmarked no later than Tuesday, March 31, 2026**.



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Type or print neatly in black or blue ink. Only complete applications will be considered.

Personal Information:

Last Name	First Name	MI		
Street Address	Apt. /Unit Number			
City	State	Zip Code	Home Phone	Cell Phone
Sex: M F	Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____ MM/DD/YYYY	Name of High School	Date of Graduation	
E-mail Address				

Parental Information:

Father's Last Name	First Name	MI	
(If different) Street Address	Apt. /Unit Number	Email Address	
City	State	Zip Code	Best Available Phone Number
Name of Employer	Employed Since		
Mother's Last Name	First Name	MI	
(If different) Street Address	Apt. /Unit Number	Email Address	
City	State	Zip Code	Best Available Phone Number
Name of Employer	Employed Since		

Employment Information:

Do you currently have a part-time job? Y N If yes: _____
Position

Name of Employer Employer's Phone Number



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School-Based Information:

Major Field of study in college: _____

Name of the college or university you will attend:

G.P.A. _____ SAT Score _____ or ACT Score _____

Class Rank _____ of _____ # students.

I attest that all personal data included within this application is truthful and in no way misleading. All contents have been completed entirely by me (the applicant) to the best of my knowledge.

If I am selected as a recipient of a Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers scholarship, I agree to permit the Foundation to confer with my school to verify my continuing enrollment during the term of my scholarship.

I also agree that my name and photograph can be used in announcements made by the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers regarding the particular scholarship (s) for which I have been awarded.

I also agree that by signing this I permit my school to give the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers information regarding my SAT scores, current GPA and class rank.

Awards may be used at any accredited, nonprofit college or university within the United States.

Signature of Applicant

Date of Signature



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Someone will contact you to set up testing, which will include the following areas:

A) Performance

Student must demonstrate proficiency in any or all of the following categories: playing an instrument, singing, or arranging/composition abilities (1-60 points)

B) Aural Skills

Ear-training skills. Ability to recognize intervals and basic chords and demonstrate the ability to write out, in music notations, upon hearing performed, basic melodies and/or chord progressions (1-30 points)

C) Theory

Knowledge of harmony: chords, notation, etc. Determined by a basic music theory test (1-60 points)

D) Dedication

Motivation and involvement with music, on their own and/or in school, and/or in community programs and events. Self-generated involvement outweighs organized programs. - (5-points for each organized ensemble & 10-points for each self-generated ensemble) *Ensembles must be verified as performing regularly. Maximum of 20 points.

E) Essay

Your written essay with the theme of “What music means to me and how I plan to make it my career.” (1-30 points)

F) Classical and Jazz Appreciation

Upon hearing recordings, students will be asked to name and/or describe stylistically (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, etc.) select pieces by prominent composers like Bach, Beethoven, Mozart, Wagner, Stravinsky, etc. (up to 15 points)

And Jazz composers such as Stan Kenton, Dave Brubeck, John Coltrane, Duke Ellington, Art Tatum, etc. (up to 15 points)

Total possible points – 260



104 W. Lockhart Street | Sayre, PA 18840 | 570.888.4759 | www.twintierscf.org