

# Alumni Musical Excellence Scholarship

Tarpon Springs High School Leadership Conservatory for the Arts

## Overview:

The Alumni Musical Excellence Scholarship is awarded to a senior band student in the Tarpon Springs High School Leadership Conservatory for the Arts. Applicants for this scholarship must continue their study as a music major at a college or music conservatory. The scholarship will be presented at the annual Conservatory Banquet, and is intended to fund the winners musical pursuits, to include tuition, books, music instruments and/or equipment. The Alumni Musical Excellence Scholarship award amount for the 2017-2018 school year is **\$2,500**.

This scholarship is funded by Tarpon Springs High School Band alumni who work professionally as musicians, music educators, and/or music industry professionals. Contributors to the scholarship will serve as the selection committee. Scholarship contributors for 2018 are:

John Banther, class of 2005  
Tubist, Radio Host, Producer  
Classical WETA  
Damascus, MD

Kristin Hecht, class of 1998  
Music Educator  
Oldsmar Elementary School  
Oldsmar, FL

Jonathan Casarow, class of 2011  
Sales Engineer  
Sweetwater Sound Inc.  
Fort Wayne, IN

Adrian Holton, class of 2002  
Trumpet  
USAF Band, Ceremonial Brass  
Washington, DC

Derek Chaisson, class of 1998  
Music Director  
Tarpon Springs Elementary School  
Tarpon Springs, FL

Todd Leighton, class of 2014  
Horn  
Les Miserables, North American Tour  
New York, NY

Christina Cruder, class of 2005  
Woodwind & Piano Performer/Educator  
Freelance/Touring Musician  
Cleveland, OH

Tim May, class of 2001  
Elementary Music Teacher  
Brockton Public Schools  
Brockton, MA

Justin Ebach, class of 2006  
Songwriter, Music Producer  
Word/Curb Entertainment  
Nashville, TN

Joey Velez, class of 2011  
Clarinet  
USAF Band, Concert Band  
Washington, DC

Emily Fredrickson, class of 2009  
Artistic Coordinator, Trombonist/Composer  
Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra  
New Orleans, LA

Levin Vinson, class of 2000  
Bassist, Audio Engineer  
Freelance  
Tarpon Springs, FL

## **Requirements:**

**Audition Recording** - Applicants must record and submit a 10-15 minute audition recording that highlights their musical strengths. This recording can be unaccompanied or accompanied, from a single work or multiple selections, a standard orchestral or band excerpt, a live performance or recorded in studio environment. The selections must demonstrate the ability to perform in contrasting styles. While high quality recordings are encouraged, most cell phones have the ability to capture adequate recordings. Applicants should not be discouraged from applying if they lack access to expensive recording equipment.

**Audition Track List** - Applicants must provide a track list that will accompany their audio submissions. The list shall include selection name, composer, and arranger, if applicable. If a track is from a live performance, please specify the date and event where the selection was performed.

**Essay** - The essay should not exceed two pages, and should answer the following questions:

- What college or music conservatory will you attend to pursue your undergraduate music degree, and what will be your major?
- Where do you see yourself in 10 years, both personally and professionally?
- What will it take to get there and/or what are some logical steps you may take along the way?
- How will you spend this scholarship money?

## **Submission:**

Audition recordings, audition track list, and essay should be submitted to Adrian Holton at [adrianholton@mac.com](mailto:adrianholton@mac.com) by **May 6th, 2018**. Applicants may also post submissions to an online drive (e.g. google drive, Dropbox, Soundcloud, etc.), as long as the links are supplied by the deadline. If the candidate does not receive a confirmation of receipt within two (2) days of submission, please attempt again and contact Mrs. Jeannine Ford.

## **Follow up:**

Only one applicant will be selected as the scholarship winner. However, all applicants will be provided contact information for all scholarship contributors for mentorship purposes. Contributors to this scholarship have gained an immense knowledge of the music world since attending Tarpon Springs High School. The alumni wish to help interested students pursue their music careers. Applicants may have a question about a specific career path, networking tips in a new city where they live, or are looking for a musical mentor to advise them throughout their careers. The intent is to provide financial assistance to the scholarship winner while also creating a network of career advice to all applicants, built upon the experiences of TSHS alumnae.