



*This is a worksheet for your use only and does not need to be submitted.*

## STUDENT APPLICATION CHECKLIST: INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL MUSIC

**STUDENT APPLICATION DUE DATE: Friday, January 9, 2026**

### WHO IS NOMINATING YOU?

- High School Teacher -- OR --  After School Teacher (ex: studio teacher, private instructor)

### INFO FOR THE ONLINE APPLICATION

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- Provide student and teacher **CONTACT INFORMATION**.
- Provide link(s) to performance video(s) and if applicable, a website with composition/arranging links.

### DOCUMENTS

- Upload a resume (*jpg or pdf*)
- Upload a photo (*jpg only*)
- Upload a photo release (*jpg or pdf*)
- Upload a signed Nomination Agreement (*jpg or pdf*) :: ONLY if you and/or your parent/guardian cannot e-sign this document in the online application.

### WRITTEN STATEMENTS

#### **REQUIRED QUESTION** (min. 500 – max. 1500 characters)

- In your opinion, what does it mean to be an ARTIST?** We are not interested in how others have defined what it means to be an artist. This question is designed to help you develop and explain YOUR PERSONAL UNDERSTANDING of what it means to be an artist.

#### **PLUS TWO MORE: Provide the answers to TWO (2) of these prompts – your choice.**

(min. 500 – max. 1500 characters for each prompt)

- YOUR WORK:** Tell us about the pieces you submitted and why you think they reflect who you are as an artist. Why did you choose these pieces? What do you want people to see/feel/understand as a result of interacting with your work?
- BEGINNINGS AND TURNING POINTS:** How did you get started in music? And/or describe an experience you had that helped you to develop a passion for what you do. What was it about that experience that was impactful?
- BREADTH AND DEPTH:** Beyond your specialty, are you involved in other aspects of music? What else do you do in this art form? What do you want us to know about your involvement in this art form?
- BEYOND MUSIC:** Tell us about how your work in music has influenced the other non-music parts of your life.
- THE FUTURE:** Looking ahead, what do you want to do as an artist? Generally, what kind of impact do you want to have on the world? Specifically, what kind of work do you want to do in the future?

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**CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS – [artistoftheyear.org](http://artistoftheyear.org)**

**QUESTIONS? Contact Heide Janssen: [ocartistoftheyear@aoy.scng.com](mailto:ocartistoftheyear@aoy.scng.com) | (949) 288-3662 (# does not accept texts)**