



# *Belmont Academy*

## Merit Scholarship Program Application Packet 2009-2010

The Belmont Academy Merit Scholarship Program encourages students of all ages, abilities, and musical disciplines to pursue their studies on a more serious and diligent level and provides financial support for one year of study within the Academy. The scholarship amount can only be applied to Belmont Academy Tuition. The Merit Scholarship is open to all students and all levels of study.

Merit Scholarships are open to all students for all levels of study. Applicants will be informed of results via email within one week of the auditions. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of the instructor letter of recommendation, the audition, and the application responses.

In addition to excellent preparation for lessons, recipients of the Belmont Academy Merit Scholarship are expected to perform on a Belmont Academy Recital. If the student fails to meet the above-mentioned criteria or has missed more than one unexcused lesson, the student becomes ineligible the following year, and may be asked to repay the scholarship amount. Merit Scholarships are *not* automatically renewable to anyone. Applicants must apply each year for consideration.

### **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE**

Materials must be received to the Belmont Academy office *no later* than **Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009**. Auditions will be held **May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009** in Wilson School of Music, Room 121. Applicants will be assigned an audition time by the office **AFTER** the completed application is received.

*10:00 a.m. -12:00p.m. - Strings Auditions (cello, viola, and violin)*

*12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. - Piano Auditions*

*3:00 p.m.-5:15 p.m. – Instrumental/Guitar Auditions (woodwinds, brass, percussion, guitar, banjo, mandolin and dobro)*

*5:30 p.m.-6:45 p.m. - Voice Auditions*

**Belmont Academy, Belmont University C.V.P.A, 1900 Belmont Blvd., Nashville, TN, 37212**  
Ph. (615) 460-6346, fax. (615) 460-6606, e-mail: [belmontacademy@mail.belmont.edu](mailto:belmontacademy@mail.belmont.edu)

# Belmont Academy



## Scholarship Program Application

**Deadline: Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Current Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Current Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Instrument \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor's Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ Years of total Study \_\_\_\_\_

Please list where and Instructor's names: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1. **On a separate sheet, please explain your interest in pursuing musical studies.** What are your aspirations in music and how will you reach your musical goals? Answers should be at least two complete paragraphs. Thoughtful, type written responses are given strong consideration
2. **Please ask your music instructor to write a recommendation.** If you are currently taking lessons, this should be your private lesson teacher. Please see the recommendation requirements on the following pages.

**\*\* If the application is being submitted by a young child, drawings or a hand-written explanation may be alternatively submitted in lieu of the essay questions.**

**Submit application by May 1, 2009 to:**  
Belmont Academy  
Belmont University C.V.P.A.  
1900 Belmont Blvd.  
Nashville, Tennessee 37212  
Ph. (615) 460-6346 Fax. (615) 460-6606  
Email: [BelmontAcademy@mail.belmont.edu](mailto:BelmontAcademy@mail.belmont.edu)

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## Guidelines for Scholarship Auditions

***\*PLEASE NOTE: Auditions MUST NOT last more than a total of 10 minutes (this includes scales, etc.). Judges have the discretion to stop the audition at any time or shorten selections as needed. Multiple movements of musical selections will not be accepted.***

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### *The Audition Process*

1. Voice Students must be ready to perform two pieces of contrasting styles from memory. Piano, String and Instrumental Students must be ready to perform one piece from memory. If applicable, please consult your teacher for advice on repertoire selections. Depending on time constraints, instrumental students may be asked to shorten their piece, or be asked to stop before your piece is completed.
  2. Piano, String, and Instrumental students will be asked to play scales. **Instructors and students should prepare a list of scales that students can play.** Judges will select two scales from the prepared list. The submitted list of scales should match the student's current level, and should be honestly prepared.
  3. Students may be asked questions regarding their application essay or other related questions asked by the judges.
  4. Students should observe appropriate stage etiquette and attire for professional auditions. Students who do not dress appropriately for the audition may not receive full consideration.
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### *The Adjudicating Process*

1. Auditions will be judged on preparation, technical facility, musicianship and stage presence.
2. The audition will be weighted in conjunction with the essay questions and teacher recommendation letters.
3. Each Division of the Academy (Instrumental, Piano, Strings, and Vocal) are made at the discretion of the judges.
4. General comments from the adjudicating panel regarding technical facility, quality of sound, musical interpretation, appearance, and stage etiquette will be available to the applicants and their instructors at a later date.

***\*\*Scholarships are not automatically renewable\*\****

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## Merit Scholarship Reference Form

**Instructors:**

- 1) Use the reverse side or a separate sheet to evaluate candidates according to the recommendation letter requirements.
- 2) Work with the applicant to prepare a list of scales appropriate to their current level and submit this list with the recommendation. Instructors should submit this recommendation, not the applicant. Recommendations may be faxed, emailed or mailed by the instructor.

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age of Student \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument \_\_\_\_\_

Current Level of Ability    Beginner \_\_\_    Intermediate \_\_\_    Advanced \_\_\_

Years of Study in the instrument area in which student is applying \_\_\_\_\_

Name of instructor \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Recommendation letter and scale requirements:**

- Discuss the student's attendance record, practice regimen, attitude, focus of attention, and progress.
- Discuss your assessment of the student's skill level specifically in respect to beginner, intermediate, or advanced.
- List and/or discuss any outstanding musical and non-musical achievements that would make the student an outstanding consideration for a scholarship.
- Discuss more personal opinions and views on why this student should be considered for an Academy Scholarship.
- Submit a list of appropriate scales (not applicable to voice students).

***Please forward reference directly to the Belmont Academy Office. Applicants should not include this in the scholarship packet.***

**Belmont Academy**  
**Belmont University C.V.P.A., 1900 Belmont Blvd., Nashville, TN, 37212**  
**Ph. (615) 460-6346 Fax. (615) 460-6606**  
**Email: [belmontacademy@mail.belmont.edu](mailto:belmontacademy@mail.belmont.edu)**

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## Merit Scholarship Frequently Asked Questions

***Q: What if I do not complete the application process on time?***

A: Unfortunately, you will not be eligible for an award for this year. We must have an application and an audition from every applicant, and it must be turned in on time.

***Q: I am not comfortable with auditioning. Is this is necessary?***

A: An audition is necessary from every applicant. While we do expect for everyone to do their best, it is not our intention to make the auditioning process negative. Therefore, do not let nerves get the best of you! This is an excellent opportunity to practice recital and auditioning etiquette in front of a friendly judge and professional panel.

***Q: My son/daughter is just a beginner, and is not old enough to write responses for himself. Should we bother?***

A: Yes! We award scholarships to all ages and all levels. If your son/daughter is not old enough to respond through essays, please note that drawings may be submitted or you may ask them the questions and write down their responses. We expect the responses to match the age level of each student, and we will not penalize for differences in age or level of study.

***Q: Do I need to type my responses to the essays?***

A: We prefer type written responses, but it is not required. We do require that all responses be returned neatly, and clearly legible. Neatness and accuracy is definitely considered in the application process.

***Q: I may not have time to do the audition process on the audition day. What should I do?***

A: Everyone who applies must make time to audition. Please make plans to set aside an audition time. The total audition time should be no more than 10 minutes in length (though sometimes the audition process can run a few minutes behind). Also, please dress appropriately and professionally for your audition.

***Q: How many recipients are chosen for scholarships? If I am chosen, how much money will I receive?***

A: The amount of each scholarship depends on the amount of applicants, as well as the quality of the applications and auditions. We will not “give away” scholarship money for any reason. The average scholarship amount for the 2008-2009 year was \$220.00 per recipient (\$110.00 per semester of study).

**If you have any other questions, please contact the Belmont Academy Office at (615) 460.6346 or email us at [belmontacademy@mail.belmont.edu](mailto:belmontacademy@mail.belmont.edu).**