



2023 Bursary Program Guidelines

The Vernon & District Performing Arts Centre (VDPAC) Society's annual Bursary Program is part of the Society's continuing "Youth Engagement Program (YEP)" to promote and assist students in their pursuit of post-secondary education and careers in the Performing Arts or Performing Arts Management.

1. Application Guidelines for Bursary Awards are as follows:

Bursary applicants must:

- Submit a completed application form, including all required supporting documentation as listed, c/o the VDPAC Administration Office, received by the application deadline.
- Have a family home address within the boundaries served by the City of Vernon, the District of Coldstream, or Electoral Areas B or C.
- Be accepted to, or currently enrolled in an accredited program at a university, college or technical school, majoring in Performing Arts or Performing Arts Management programs; or in a recognized apprenticeship program in the Performing Arts.
- Demonstrate a commitment to a career in the Performing Arts.

Applicants may not receive more than two VDPAC bursaries over the course of their post-secondary studies.

Selected applicants will be directly notified in confidence in advance of the VDPAC's formal public announcement of all VDPAC Performing Arts Bursary recipients.

2. Categories to be Considered for Bursaries:

- A. Grade 12 students accepted into a recognized university or college Performing Arts program or technical theatre school.
- B. Students enrolled in 1st, 2nd or 3rd year university, college or technical theatre school.
- C. Students enrolled in a recognized apprenticeship program in the Performing Arts.

3. Bursary Program Committee:

Each year, the Society's Board of Directors will identify the number of bursaries, level of award(s) and strike an ad hoc Bursary Program Committee to review applications and make award selections for approval by the Board as a whole.

The Bursary Program Committee, in conjunction with the Society's executive director, will set each year's application deadline with the goal to make a public announcement of bursary recipients, and if possible, as part of the Society's annual, public Birthday Bash celebration (traditionally each September).

The Bursary Program Committee may award fewer bursaries than first identified by the Board, but not more without the expressed approval of the Board of Directors, subject to the number and quality of applications.

4. Funding Sources:

Funding for the Society's Bursaries typically comes from tips collected at the Vernon and District Performing Arts Centre Coatcheck Gallery and the Bar & Concession. Individuals may also make tax deductible personal donations or bequests to the Society specifically for the Bursary Program. Organizations, foundations, businesses and corporate entities may also make donations to the Society expressly for this purpose. Corporate and/or private (ie. legacy) sponsorships of annual bursaries may also be considered.

At its discretion, the Board of Directors may top up or match funding from the Society's funds.

The VDPAC staff may also make specific application(s) to external funding sources that may endow or otherwise financially support bursary award programs. All funds received for the purpose of awarding bursaries are held in a restricted "Usher Fund" reserve.

The Bursary Program Committee, from time to time, may make recommendations to the Board of Directors for approval, updates or revisions to the VDPAC Society's Bursary Program guidelines and/or application format.

Updated: June 2023.

See also "VDPAC Bursary Application Form"