

Inherit the Music Scholarship

David E. Ballard Scholarship

Award Amount: **\$10,000**

Established in the memory of David E. Ballard, with the support of Inherit the Music, this \$10,000 scholarship supports youth who have experienced homelessness and/or been part of the foster care system pursuing a career in live entertainment. Field of study may include but is not limited to live event operations, production, music engineering, music business management, customer service, hospitality and/or other related fields.

Eligibility and Guidelines:

- Applicant must be a full-time undergraduate student with a minimum of 60 credits earned, enrolled at an accredited college or university at the time of award in the fall semester
- Applicant must be pursuing a career in live entertainment. Field of study may include but is not limited to: live event operations, production, music engineering, music business management, customer service, hospitality and/or other related fields
- Applicants who have experienced homelessness within the last four years, and/or been part of the foster care system any time after the age of sixteen, are eligible to apply
- Applicant must be permanently residing in the U.S.
- Applicant must have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher
- This award will be paid directly to a qualified educational *institution in two equal payments of \$5000, distributed across at least two academic semesters*

Application Guidelines:

- Complete the Scholarship Application Form
- Provide a student copy of their college transcript to confirm GPA
- Submit a resume or CV
- Provide proof of enrollment from the educational institution
- Provide two (2) letters of recommendation from industry professionals and/or instructor(s)
- Provide either a proof of dependency letter or an [Independent Student Status Form](#) completed by one of the following: school liaison, caseworker, social services provider, or campus financial aid administrator
- Write an essay on how your experiences with homelessness and/or foster care have shaped your goals related to pursuing a career in live entertainment. The essay should not exceed 500 words and should include the student's long-term professional goals within the entertainment industry
- In addition to the application essay, the scholarship recipient will be required to write a final impact essay at the end of the school year updating Music Forward on how the funds supported their scholastic journey and progress towards their long-term career goals