

Undergraduate Research Funding in the College of Music

The College of Music has funding available for undergraduate music students to support special projects that make a creative and/or scholarly contribution and enhance the development of students as scholars, artists, composers, and teachers.

These projects would culminate in such outcomes as: performances or presentations at local schools or regional/state/national/international/virtual conferences and festivals, outreach to various communities, eventual publications in suitable outlets, educational materials for elementary/secondary school music education classes, enhanced marketability of MSU music students, and to enhance the values of DEIB.

Eligibility

All undergraduate students in the College of Music are eligible to apply. Students must be enrolled full-time in a College of Music program at the time of application. Students eligible for summer support must have been enrolled as a full-time student during the prior Spring semester and will complete the project prior to their graduation.

Examples of projects that undergraduate research funds may be used to support:

- Commissioning of new music for solo instruments or chamber works
- Student travel for research
- Independent research projects
- Assisting a professor in the completion of a book or other research project
- Incorporating research into elementary or secondary school music curricula
- Development of educational projects for young music students
- Preparation and travel for performers to perform at competitions, conferences, and festivals
- Preparation and travel for presenters/researchers to present at conferences
- Attendance at virtual conferences or workshops
- Enhancing the chamber music experiences of student ensembles
- Development of internships (arts management, working with established ensembles)
- Development of pedagogical and outreach initiatives
- Fostering involvement/interaction with local/regional cultural organizations
- Research into musical health (hearing, vocal health, stress reduction)
- Promotion of musical health through education and research (mentioned above)
- Development and implementation of concert programs to off-campus entities
- Development of entrepreneurial skills for musicians
- Development of recordings or other media projects that will enhance the student's public profile or professional development.



Application Process

To apply for funding from the College of Music Undergraduate Research Fund, please submit **one application packet** electronically to the Office of Undergraduate Studies, (kroth@msu.edu) **including all the following information:**

1. **Completed application form.**
2. **A 350-750 word proposal that includes:**
 - a. A description of the research/creative activity for which you are applying for funding, including a description of the expected outcome
 - b. An explanation of the importance of this activity to your development as a scholar, artist, and/or teacher
 - c. A budget breakdown explaining how the funds will be used. Include any other funds that you have received for this project
 - d. A brief description of your qualifications relevant to this project. You may also attach additional supporting documentation to your proposal
3. **A letter of support from your faculty sponsor.** *Before submitting your application, be sure your sponsoring faculty is willing to sponsor your project. At the conclusion of the project, faculty sponsors are responsible for submitting a brief (maximum one page) report to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies on how the student project made a creative and/or scholarly contribution (i.e. performance, presentation, or publication).*

Deadlines for Applications

April 21 of each academic year.

The College of Music Undergraduate Committee will, based on the information provided by applicants for funding, review the applications and make recommendations to the Associate Dean. Ordinarily, funding will be limited to a maximum of \$500, although additional funding may be available in extraordinary cases. Students should expect to hear from the committee within one month of the application deadline.

Required Presentation of Work

At the conclusion of the project, **students are required to submit a brief research report to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies** describing the outcome of the project. Faculty sponsors are responsible for submitting a brief (maximum one page) report to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies on how the student project made a creative and/or scholarly contribution (i.e., performance, presentation, or publication).

Students who receive funds are expected to present their research results or an artistic performance at a local, regional, state, national or international conference/meeting. This could include presenting research results at the Michigan State University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum (UURAF). Students who author or co-author any publication as a result of this research project should provide the name of the publication/journal.

