



Ruth Stenson MusicLink Award

The Minnesota MusicLink program has established a scholarship award for a Minnesota MusicLink student who is a graduating high school senior and taking music lessons through the MusicLink program. This award recognizes a MusicLink student who has shown ongoing commitment to lessons and has made significant progress. The student must demonstrate outstanding achievement in music and a willingness to share their musical talent with others through service.

The award in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded to one Minnesota MusicLink student for use towards further study in music.

Application deadline: May 20, 2026

A student eligible for this award must meet the following criteria:

- Completion of at least three years of lessons through MusicLink
- Evidence of outstanding achievement in music (teacher nomination, awards, school & community involvement, etc.)
- Attainment of an advanced level of performance (audio submission)
- Commitment to continue musical study/personal involvement with music in the future
- Plans to attend college (does not need to be majoring in music)

Ruth Stenson was a MusicLink teacher for many years in the Thief River Falls, MN area. She taught many MusicLink students during her career and touched many young lives with her gift of music.

Ruth Stenson MusicLink Award
2026 Application

Personal Contact Information

NAME: _____

AGE: _____ GRADE: _____ Email: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN _____

Musical Background/History

YRS OF STUDY W/ MUSICLINK: _____ INSTRUMENT(s): _____

MUSICLINK TEACHER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Educational Experience

SCHOOL NAME: _____

CITY _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

STUDENT'S GRADE POINT AVERAGE: _____ as of _____ (date)

Musical Outreach Experience

ORGANIZATION NAME: _____

SUPERVISOR'S NAME: _____

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE: _____

ORGANIZATION NAME: _____

SUPERVISOR'S NAME: _____

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE: _____

PART II. PERSONAL ESSAY

Please submit an essay no longer than 2 pages that explains what musical study means to you, how music has affected your life and how you plan to continue music in the future. Expand on your future goals and interests beyond music as well.

PART III. EXAMPLE OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Please submit an audio or video that demonstrates your performance abilities on your instrument. Include at least 4 different types of performance styles (different composers, musical styles, periods of music, etc.) to allow us to hear the full range of your musical performance capabilities.

PART IV. TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

Each application should include a typed recommendation from your MusicLink teacher(s) describing your personal, musical, and academic accomplishments. A recommendation from another teacher affiliated with the applicant's school may also be included.

***Please send completed application by mail or e-mail to arrive no later than
May 20, 2026 to:***

**Minnesota MusicLink
RE: Ruth Stenson Memorial MusicLink Award
8811 Hillside Trail S.
Cottage Grove, MN 55016
651-458-0143**

swege71@comcast.net