



SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP RULES 2026

The Northern San Diego County Branch of MTAC shall give an annual scholarship to qualified candidates. The Board shall determine the amount of the scholarship.

1. Instrumental and vocal candidates must be capable of performing music at a level comparable to the most advanced levels in the Certificate of Merit® (CM) Syllabus (Level 9-Advanced in instrumental; Level 7-Advanced for vocal candidates). It is not necessary for the candidate to be registered in CM®.
2. Applications for the scholarship must be mailed and postmarked or emailed to Scholarship Chair Alyze Dreiling by **5/8/26**. The application fee is \$35.00. Payment can be made via Zelle Northern San Diego County Music Teacher, crp2174@tc.columbia.edu, or a check payable to Northern San Diego MTAC, and is nonrefundable. The Parent Consent form (if not already on file for 2025/26) needs to be emailed to nsdmtac@gmail.com by **5/11/26**.
3. Applications are accepted from members who have been Active Members of the Northern San Diego County Branch of MTAC since August 1, 2025. A candidate must be a current student of an Active Northern San Diego County Branch member for at least six months prior to the audition.
4. A candidate must be a graduating high school senior and not over 19 years of age. Exceptions can be made in considering a candidate who has accelerated schooling and enrolled in college without high school graduation, providing he/she would normally graduate the year of the application.
5. Instrumental candidates should perform a program which includes at least 3 contrasting selections from different periods of literature. Vocal students should have at least 3 contrasting selections, one of which should be in a foreign language. Student's original compositions and non-published pieces are NOT accepted. **Students need to bring an original score for the judges and play from an original score if the music is not memorized.** There is no time limit on the pieces but the audition time is 15 minutes long. There can be cuts in piano accompaniments but not in the soloist's part. It will be at the discretion of the judge to stop a piece before it is complete.
6. Pianists and vocalists-all music must be memorized. Strings-concertos and solo works must be memorized; sonatas do not need to be memorized. Winds-only one piece must be memorized. **Other than for unaccompanied works, an accompanist is required for non-pianists. Strings and Winds – only one unaccompanied piece can be performed.**
7. A candidate for the scholarship must be planning to continue his/her musical education beyond high school. A student applying as a Music Major or Minor or continuing private study in his/her instrument can be considered for a scholarship.
8. **Auditions will take place in person on Saturday, May 16** in the early afternoon. Students will be given their audition time after they apply. Auditions will be held at a private home at 16064 Lofty Trail Dr., San Diego, CA 92127. There is no warm up room.
9. It will be the responsibility of the Scholarship Chair, with any assistance needed from the Board, to select the judges necessary for the adjudication. Judges used for the scholarship adjudication cannot be members of the Northern San Diego County Branch. Scholarship auditions shall be closed.

10. The winner(s) of the scholarship competition will be notified by email and will receive their check by mail. The winners must upload a video of the piece the judges choose on YouTube by **June 1** and the YouTube link emailed to the Scholarship Chair, Alyze Dreiling as well by **June 1**. These videos will be shared on the Northern San Diego County Branch website for the members to watch.

11. In the event of extenuating circumstances, the Board has the final ruling on Scholarship decisions. Judges are not obligated to choose a winner. The scholarship chair, along with the Board, will decide on monies to be distributed to the winner(s). Judges may only determine the winner(s) of the scholarship.