



Dr. Scott H. Smith Award of Excellence Scholarship

2026 Eligibility Criteria

The mission of the LaGrange Symphony Orchestra is to enrich our community through music, connecting with audiences, creating memorable experiences, education programs and performance opportunities. Providing education through musical opportunities is one of the important ways the LaGrange Symphony Orchestra fulfills the mission of enriching our community through music. Our organization provides a wide range of programs for youth, including the Youth Orchestras, the Strings Project, the Young Artists Competition, and the Ovation Music Camp. In 2024, the LaGrange Symphony Orchestra proudly announced the first Dr. Scott H. Smith Award of Excellence Scholarship.

The award is named in honor of Dr. Scott H. Smith. Dr. Smith joined the LSO Board of Directors in June of 1992 and retired in June of 2021, as the longest serving board member in LSO history with 29 years of active board membership. Dr. Smith served in many roles during his tenure, most notable as LSO's 11th President from July 2008 – June 2010. Dr. Smith served in several other officer and committee roles. He provided leadership as chair of development, personally managing the advertising function for concert programs for many years.

Dr. Smith was a Professor of English at LaGrange College. The LSO Board of Directors named the Dr. Scott H. Smith Scholarship to honor this man who spent his life's work in the education of bright and inquisitive minds and worked many years to help develop and grow the many programs offered by the LaGrange Symphony Orchestra.

Who is eligible to apply?

The Dr. Scott H. Smith Award of Excellence Scholarship is open to any high school senior currently enrolled in public, private or home school and who has at any time, past or present, participated in one or more of the LaGrange Symphony Orchestra's programs. These programs include the Youth Orchestra, the Strings Ensemble, the Young Artists Competition, and/or the Ovation Music Camp.

The scholarship will be given annually to a qualified candidate which will be determined by the LSO scholarship committee. The scholarship may not be awarded in years when no qualified candidate is identified.

Application
Dr. Scott H. Smith Award of Excellence Scholarship
2026 Scholarship Award is \$500

Please complete the following questions and return this application to LaGrange Symphony Orchestra (LSO). Applications may be hand delivered or submitted by first-class mail to Mrs. Raylene M. Carter, Executive Director, LaGrange Symphony Orchestra, Inc. The physical location is 301 Church Street – 2nd Floor of Truist Bank, LaGrange, Georgia. The mailing address is P.O. Box 2321, LaGrange, Georgia 30241. **All applications must be received no later than March 15.** A committee of LSO will review applications.

1. Name _____

2. Address _____

3. Telephone Number _____ Email _____

4. Parents' or Guardians' Names _____

5. Have you applied to a technical, community, or 4-year college or university? _____

Have you been accepted? _____

If yes, please list the name of the college _____

6. List school, community, and music activities (including activities with the LaGrange Symphony Orchestra) and honors. Please include any volunteer work.

Your completed application package must include the following:

- An official high school transcript, including first semester grades. Your transcript must include your GPA.
- One letter of recommendation describing why you should receive this award.
- An ESSAY. Your essay should tell the story of your musical journey, including what music means to you.