

Merit Scholarships

2024–2025 Season



Each year, the Board of Directors of the Pensacola Children's Chorus honors outstanding members with merit-based financial scholarships which help offset the cost of tuition. Awards are selected annually and distributed monthly during the course of a singer's membership. Applications are blindly reviewed by a special committee made up of board, staff, and community members.

In order to qualify for a merit-based scholarship, a singer must:

- Have been a member of the Pensacola Children's Chorus for at least one contiguous season, AND;
- Have had no exceptional attendance issues during the 2023-2024 season.

For the 2024-2025 season, the Pensacola Children's Chorus will award 8 awards valued at \$500 each.

AWARDS

The Betty Berling Award

The Betty Berling Award was established in July 2023 to honor the generous service provided by Betty Berling as a 16-year member of the Board of Directors of the Pensacola Children's Chorus. In the spirit of Ms. Berling's passion for the Chorus's mission and dedication to volunteerism, this scholarship will be awarded annually to a singer who shows promising musical potential who has been a member of PCC for at least 3 years and who has a laudable attendance record. The inaugural award will be presented to a deserving member at the start of the 2024–2025 season.

Ashley Brown Award*

The Ashley Brown Scholarship was established by Dr. and Mrs. Jim Brown and Mr. and Mrs. W.T. Creel in honor of former PCC member, Ashley Brown, who is a musical theatre graduate of the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. Ashley Brown, an esteemed alumna of PCC, premiered the role of Mary Poppins on Broadway and continues to sing with symphonies across the country. This scholarship is given to recognize a student who demonstrates exceptional talent and enjoys a passion for musical performance. (This award has a **performance component**.)

Barbara Adriance Award*

Barbara Adriance, mother of founding director Susan Pote, inspired Susan to excel and to use her musical gifts with children. Mrs. Adriance loved and supported the Pensacola Children's Chorus. In her memory, Susan and Allen Pote reward a member of the Pensacola Children's Chorus with exceptional musical ability who also demonstrates commitment and leadership. (This award has a **performance component**.)

Donald Lindsey Service Award

The Donald Lindsey Service Award was established in recognition of Donald Lindsey, technical director and longtime board member, for his extraordinary service and dedication to the Pensacola Children's Chorus. His daughter, Laura, was a member for ten years. This award is given to students who demonstrate exemplary leadership amongst their peers. This student's positive leadership and integrity reflects the extraordinary leadership and service of Donald to PCC.

Esther Pote Stump Award*

Esther Pote Stump, mother of founding director Allen Pote, dedicated her life to teaching and was loved by generations of children in her hometown of Cushing, Oklahoma. Her grandchildren, David Pote and Amy Pote Watson, honor her with this yearly award for students who exemplify leadership, exceptional talent, and love of music. (This award has a **performance component**.)

Grier Williams Spirit Award

The Grier Williams Merit Award honors the memory of the late maestro Dr. Grier Williams, who gathered a group of children together to sing with the Pensacola Symphony at its Christmas concert in 1989. That Christmas concert was such a success that a permanent children's chorus was organized, which today is known as the Pensacola Children's Chorus. Recipients of this award exemplify the spirit and essence of PCC both in performance and in their daily life.

Kendra Wilkerson Fendt Memorial Award*

The Kendra Wilkerson Fendt Memorial Award honors the memory of Kendra, a cheerful and caring personality whose character encouraged those with whom she came in contact. Kendra's faith was part of what gave her singing and expression—a sensitivity beyond her years. Chosen recipients exemplify Kendra's spirit as well as high levels of dedication, talent, and sacrifice. (This award has a **performance component**.)

Sandy Sansing Leadership Award

The Sandy Sansing Leadership Award is given annually to a talented chorus member who demonstrates exceptional leadership within the Pensacola Children's Chorus. The recipient is a positive leader with exemplary work ethic and a strong sense of commitment.

* AWARDS WITH PERFORMANCE COMPONENT

The first and foremost criteria for all PCC scholarship awards are the contents of one's character. However, true to the organization's musical mission, some awards require an additional performance component. Parties interested in this type of award should submit a video recording which demonstrates their best vocal talent along with their online application.

Visit www.pensacolasing.org/scholarships to apply by April 1.