

# Music Awards

## 2025-2026

Kingston Symphony Volunteers, the volunteer fundraising committee for the Kingston Symphony Association, invites applications for the 2025-2026 Music Awards. The awards program recognizes and encourages the development of excellence in performance among young musicians studying orchestral instruments.

*Note: Applicants do not apply for specific awards. All awards and amounts are assigned at the judges' discretion.*

## The Awards

### Allan-Jack Memorial Award \$2,000

The Allan-Jack Memorial Award is named in honour of Helen Allan and Mary Jack, who helped to establish the Music Awards fund. Mary Jack was president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Kingston Symphony Association from 1962-1964. (The Women's Auxiliary, later renamed the Volunteer Committee, is now called Kingston Symphony Volunteers.)

The Allan-Jack Award is given to the applicant or applicants judged as the overall best performer(s). Previous recipients of the full or partial Allan-Jack Memorial Award are not eligible to apply for future Kingston Symphony Volunteers Music Awards.

### Hannah Robertson Memorial Award \$1,200

The Hannah Robertson Memorial Award is named in honour of Dr. Hannah Robertson, the founding president of the Women's Auxiliary, who was instrumental in establishing awards for promising young musicians.

This award consists of two prizes of \$600. One award is given to an applicant age 5 to 11 and the other to an applicant age 12 to 18.

### Harriet Scott Memorial Award \$700

The Harriet Scott Memorial Award is named in honour of Harriet Scott, president of the Volunteer Committee from 1960-1962 and a member of the Kingston Symphony Association's Board of Directors.

The Harriet Scott Memorial Award is available to applicants from Kingston Symphony Association and other youth ensembles, with all funds allocated at the judges' discretion.

### Bonnie J. Thomas Memorial Award \$600

The Bonnie J. Thomas Memorial Award is named in honour of Bonnie Thomas, who was treasurer of the Volunteer Committee in the late 1990s and early 2000s.

The award is given to an outstanding string player.

## Application Details

- Applicants must be 5 to 18 years of age and residents of Kingston or the surrounding community (a radius of up to 85 km). Applicants must be registered in an elementary or high school, private school, or home-schooled, and play an orchestral instrument. Piano is included. (Post-secondary music students are not eligible to apply.)
- Applicants may only apply on one instrument.
- Previous recipients of the full or partial Allan-Jack Memorial Award are not eligible to apply for future Kingston Symphony Volunteers Music Awards.
- The deadline for applications is Friday, March 13, 2026. Applications must be submitted before midnight on that day.
- To apply, please complete the application form and send it by email as an attachment to [volunteers@kingstonsymphony.ca](mailto:volunteers@kingstonsymphony.ca).

## Performance Details

- All applicants will be expected to perform two contrasting pieces, either by the same composer or different composers, and without accompaniment. The contrasting pieces should be solo repertoire, not orchestral music.
- Individual performances should be roughly 7-8 minutes in length and no longer than 15 minutes. Applicants may add a third piece if they are concerned about meeting the minimum performance time, but please note that the suggested time is merely a guideline and will be considered flexible.
- Please bring three copies of the music you will be performing for the judges. Photocopies are acceptable. The judges for this year's competition are: Evan Mitchell, Music Director of the Kingston Symphony; Julia McFarlane, Principal Second Violin with the Kingston Symphony; Meg Freer, General Manager of Orchestra Kingston and Past President of the Kingston branch of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association (ORMTA).
- The performances will be held in Room 124 in the lower level of Harrison-LeCaine Hall, 39 Bader Lane, Queen's University, on Sunday, April 19, 2026. The performance schedule and other information will be emailed after the application deadline.
- Applicants should plan to arrive 15 minutes before their scheduled performance. Practice rooms will be available. Parents are welcome to observe the performance if they wish. Music teachers will not be permitted in the room.

## More Information

Please contact Ann Lukits, chair of the Music Awards program, at [volunteers@kingstonsymphony.ca](mailto:volunteers@kingstonsymphony.ca) or through the Kingston Symphony Association office at 613-546-9729.