



**JCS Arts, Health and Education Fund  
2024-25 Young People's Music Initiative  
Grant Guidelines**



**Vision & Background**

One of the charitable interests of the *JCS Arts, Health & Education Fund (JCS Fund)* of DuPage Foundation is to encourage classical instrumental music performance and education, as well as general music education for the residents of DuPage County.

The *JCS Fund* believes that young people who play, hear, and appreciate classical instrumental music lead better, more successful, and rewarding lives. To further these beliefs, the *JCS Fund* developed the Young People's Music Initiative (YPMI). The Initiative provides grants in support of DuPage County elementary, middle, and high school instrumental and general music programs.

Since the launch of the YPMI, 12 DuPage high schools, 23 middle and junior high schools, and 77 elementary schools have received grants. The grant program design was developed based on meetings with local educators and organizations. Among the lessons learned was that teachers, administrators, and parent groups view needs differently. Another lesson learned was that while each district strongly supports music education, the needs of districts and schools within a single district may differ. The needs depend on factors such as district funding practices, demographics, local economic factors, grade levels served, and the musical interests of the faculty.

**Eligibility**

Public schools and districts that primarily serve DuPage County students are eligible to apply.

Elementary Schools

- Grants at the elementary school level will be made to support general music and instrumental programs.
- Elementary school applications should be submitted at the district level for projects that benefit all elementary schools in the district.
- Grants will be awarded for up to \$10,000.

Middle and High Schools

- Grants at the middle or high school level will only be made to support instrumental music programs.
- Grants will be awarded for up to \$10,000.

## Grant Requests

- Requests should be reasonable based on the school or district size.
- While instrument purchases will be considered, the program is not intended to be an instrument repair or replacement fund.
- Requests should prioritize the involvement of mentoring or imaginative/creative learning experiences.
- Requests for field trips, uniforms, or choral programs will not be considered.

### Examples of past grants:

- Artist or composer-in-residence programs
- Full band/orchestra clinicians
- Instrument-specific masterclasses
- Composition software programs
- Music education professional development
- Orff instruments or other curriculum material
- Assemblies featuring a professional guest performer or group
- Instrument purchases or repairs that would not otherwise be funded

## Review Criteria

Priority will be given to schools or districts that have not received YPMI funding in the last three years.

Other criteria for consideration include:

- Program outcomes
- Creativity and feasibility of the request
- Number of students impacted

## Application Process

The online application is available on the [DuPage Foundation online portal](#). All applications must be received by **Friday, May 17, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.**

DuPage Foundation and JCS Fund representatives review each application. Grant award notifications will be emailed to applicants by mid-July and grants will be distributed in mid-August.

## Questions

Please contact Laura Ernst at [laura@dupagefoundation.org](mailto:laura@dupagefoundation.org) or 630.598.5295.