

# THE STEVE MANDELL MEMORIAL MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND



## 2026 APPLICATION

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Steve Mandell (1941-2018). You may not know the name, but you certainly knew his music. Winning a Grammy Award in 1973 and subsequent Gold Record, Gold and Platinum Albums as the guitarist on the infamous tune "Dueling Banjos" from the soundtrack of the movie Deliverance, that was only a small part of his musical background. Steve's musical history started in the early 1960's, playing in Washington Square, NYC, with folk artists Judy Collins, blues legend Maria Muldaur and bluegrass mandolinist David Grisman. He continued working in the studio, on Broadway and touring into the 70's with Oscar Brand, actor/singers Ronny Cox and Theodore Bikel, country legend John Denver, banjo masters Tony Trischka and Eric Weissberg (fellow Grammy winner for Dueling Banjos), and many more. Steve had made his mark in folk and bluegrass in New York, then in the late 1980's he took his talents into Maryland and beyond. His love for the music led him to initiating a concert series at his congregation in Reisterstown, MD, judging numerous contests in MD and VA, and attending festivals and jams throughout the region.

This Scholarship Fund is intended to honor Steve's memory and benefit those who want to learn/develop/enhance their music education in folk, bluegrass, old timey and other acoustic Americana styles. Awards for instruction generally between \$500-\$1,000 will begin in April 2020, annually or more frequently depending on fund income and based on need and intention. Applications will be reviewed and awarded by a board of knowledgeable musicians and others in the industry.

APPLICANT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

If you are awarded a scholarship would you use it for

\_\_\_\_ Music Camp / Kids Academy (name of camp) \_\_\_\_\_ Entry fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Private Lessons (name of instructor) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Group Lessons (name of instructor/school) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ College music course at \_\_\_\_\_ during \_\_\_\_\_ school year

\_\_\_\_\_ My primary instrument is \_\_\_\_\_ (Beginner / Intermediate / Advanced)

\_\_\_\_\_ My secondary instrument is \_\_\_\_\_ (Beginner / Intermediate / Advanced)

I heard about this scholarship from / through \_\_\_\_\_

To Apply:

Using 50-150 words, please explain your financial need in applying for this scholarship. What scholarship amount would help further your training or abilities in Americana acoustic music?

Using 200-400 words, please describe your current ability and involvement in Americana acoustic music. Use appropriate examples, anecdotes, history and details. This will be important in determining who receives scholarships.

Rules:

Scholarship preference will be given to need and abilities but are open to any interested acoustic music enthusiast in the DelMarVaPa region and beyond. All ages are eligible. Awards are based on need and intention. Individual funding will vary and could be up to the amount of complete tuition depending on the decision of the selection board. Maximum awards are \$500 for a week-long music camp or individual lessons and \$1,000 for college tuition, \$500 per semester, upon confirmation of class registration. Payment will be made directly to the instructor, kids academy, camp or college. Multiple scholarships to a single family may be limited.

Winners are requested to submit a brief written report of their experiences and evidence of completion within 30 days after completion of the event. The report may be shared (named or anonymously) in a poster, blog or newsletter to be determined as the annual scholarship continues.

Decisions by the selection board are final.

Return completed application **by December 31, 2026.**

Mail to:

**Steve Mandell Memorial Music Scholarship Fund**

**c/o Terry Mandell**

**4 Greenshire Lane**

**Owings Mills, MD 21117-4819**

or via email [mandellmusic2019@gmail.com](mailto:mandellmusic2019@gmail.com)



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