



Edwardsville High School Band Boosters

PO Box 7, Edwardsville, IL 62025

bandboosters.ehs@gmail.com

To: All EHS Band, Orchestra, & Choir Seniors

Cc: EHS Guidance Office

Date: January 23, 2026

Oliver Knapp Memorial Scholarship

The Oliver Knapp Memorial Scholarship is offered to EHS music performance students (currently enrolled in band, orchestra, or choir) in memory of former EHS student Oliver Knapp. This year we will be awarding two (2) \$1,500 scholarships to EHS seniors.

Oliver Knapp graduated from Edwardsville High School with the Class of 2017. He was a dedicated percussionist in the EHS band program, including the Marching Tigers, until he was diagnosed with osteosarcoma – an aggressive form of cancer – midway through his junior year.

Music was essential to Oliver. Even when feeling weak or recovering from surgery, he continued to play music. Music wasn't just revitalizing for Oliver; it brought normalcy and joy to his life.

Oliver passed away on May 30, 2017, just three days after the Class of 2017 commencement ceremony.

This scholarship, provided by the EHS Band Boosters in Oliver's memory, recognizes the profound value and impact of music in our lives. All music performing arts students (band, orchestra, and choir) are invited to apply for this scholarship. Detailed eligibility and application instructions can be found in the following pages.

Please feel free to reach out with questions.

In music,

Dr. Rob Kirbach
President, EHS Band Boosters

OLIVER KNAPP MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Oliver Knapp Memorial Scholarship is offered by the Edwardsville High School Band Boosters in memory of Oliver Knapp. This scholarship is available to all EHS music performing arts students (band, orchestra, and choir).

SCHOLARSHIP OBJECTIVES:

1. To recognize two (2) graduating Edwardsville High School students who plan to participate in a collegiate level music performance group or activity (credit or non-credit), during post-high school continuing education at a 2 or 4 year college or university. **A total of two (2) \$1,500 scholarships are available for the upcoming 2026-2027 academic year.**
2. To encourage ongoing interest and growth of the graduate's musical abilities into the future.

ELIGIBILITY:

1. An applicant must be in their senior year of study at Edwardsville High School (EHS), currently enrolled in a music performing arts class (band, orchestra, or choir), and meet graduation requirements as set forth in the Edwardsville High School Course Handbook and Edwardsville Community Unit District #7 Handbook.
2. Scholarship must be used for the academic year for which it is awarded.
3. Applicant fully completes and provides the following application materials:
 - a. Fully completed application form (see page 3).
 - b. Essay about how music has made a difference in your life (500 words maximum length, typed).
 - c. Applicant resume, listing achievements, accomplishments, honors, activities, community service, and name of 3 references including their email address and phone number(s).
 - d. Edwardsville High School transcript - minimum GPA requirement of 3.0/4
 - e. Letter of recommendation from an EHS faculty member or other music instructor/director outside of EHS (cannot be from any performing arts directors at the high school).

All application materials must be submitted by email to bandboosters.ehs@gmail.com. Submission deadline is **11:59 PM on Friday, April 3, 2026**. Late submissions will not be accepted under any circumstances.

AWARDING OF SCHOLARSHIPS:

An ad hoc scholarship selection committee will consist of at-large members of the Edwardsville High School Band Boosters. The goal is to select only quality applicants. In determining quality, the following will be considered: the level of an applicant's overall achievements, the quantity and quality of the applicant's music-related accomplishments, amount of community service, and the level of applicant's commitment to future music-related performance and/or activity.

The scholarship recipients will be notified by mail and will be honored at the annual EHS Senior Awards ceremony in May.

REVENUE SOURCE:

The scholarship will be funded from donations made to the Edwardsville High School Band Boosters. The award amounts each year will be pre-determined by the EHS Band Boosters Executive Board based on the amount of funds available as of the January booster meeting.

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

Scholarship payments will be made payable to the receiving educational institution. Proof of enrollment, including proof of participation in credit or non-credit music performance ensemble, is required before check(s) will be issued.

One check for 50% of the award will be issued at the start of the fall semester, and a second check will be issued for the balance of the award at the beginning of the spring semester; with proof of enrollment (as stated above) at the beginning of each semester provided by the recipient.

OLIVER KNAPP MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete ALL of the below information, including signatures. Completed form, accompanied by all other application materials, must be submitted by email to **bandboosters.ehs@gmail.com by 11:59 PM on Friday, April 3, 2026.**

STUDENT'S NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) _____

ADDRESS (# & Street Name) _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S NAME(S) _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER(s) (if different from above)

NAME & LOCATION OF COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY (2026 FALL SEMESTER ENROLLMENT):

DESCRIPTION/NAME OF COLLEGIATE LEVEL MUSIC PERFORMANCE GROUP OR ACTIVITY (CREDIT OR NON-CREDIT) AT ABOVE INSTITUTION YOU PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN:

ALSO ENCLOSED:

- Essay about how music has made a difference in your life (500 words maximum length, typed).
- Applicant resume listing achievements, accomplishments, honors, activities, community service, and name 3 references including their email address and phone number(s).
- Edwardsville High School (EHS) transcript
- Letter of recommendation from an EHS faculty member or music instructor/director outside of EHS (cannot be from any performing arts directors at the high school).

We certify that all the statements contained in this scholarship packet are true and correct.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____