

# AHS Choir Booster Financial Assistance/Scholarship Policy

The Armstrong Choir Boosters offer Financial Assistance and Scholarships to families in need to support the participation and activities of students involved in the Choral Program. Financial Assistance and Scholarships are offered to cover any choir-related expenses. The Scholarship Fund is maintained by the Boosters through a variety of annual activities (ex. Concert Choir Benefit, Cantori Breakfast, Restaurant Nights Out, redirecting student account balances following graduation or departure from the Choral Program). Scholarships are designed to help families get through short-term periods of financial stress. They are not designed as renewable annual subsidies. Preference will be given to applicants whose families qualify for public assistance programs such as food subsidies, medical assistance, and unemployment insurance. Distribution of Financial Assistance and Scholarships is provided at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee of the AHS Choir Boosters. All Information is kept confidential.

## Opportunity:

1. A student receives **Financial Assistance** as a loan from the AHS choir boosters to delay payment for invoice or to create an extended payment plan.
2. A student receives a **Scholarship Gift** from the AHS choir boosters in response to need.

## Eligibility:

1. A student must complete an AHS Choir Financial Assistance Application Form for each school year when funds are requested.
2. All families requesting a Scholarship must complete the Scholarship Application prior to posted deadlines. Incomplete and late applications will be returned.
3. A student must demonstrate financial need by being enrolled in Robbinsdale #281 AFDC or Free or Reduced Lunch Programs or provide explanation of critical family need or crisis situation.
4. A student must demonstrate willingness/history of participating in fundraising activities that benefit **both** the individual student and the AHS Choir Booster Scholarship Fund. This requires annual fundraising financial goals as a part of the Financial Assistance/Scholarship Application. (see application question #5)

## Distribution Guidelines:

1. A student must be approved for assistance **before** the requested fees will be paid.
2. Scholarship gifts are not to exceed **50%** of the total invoice.
3. A student may receive both financial assistance and scholarship gift in the same academic year.
4. Financial assistance/Scholarships may be revoked under the following circumstances:
  - a. Voice Lessons: high number of lessons missed, lack of diligence in voice study
    - If a student is a receiving scholarship gift for voice lessons, financial aid will not be distributed for a "no show" lesson. In these cases, the full lesson fee will be the responsibility of the student as determined by the individual instructor
  - b. Tour: cancellation, forfeit (academics, conflicts, MSHSL violations, etc.)
  - c. Apparel: student does not participate in choir throughout the school year
  - d. No fundraising opportunities were taken in the current school year
5. When all Scholarship applications have been submitted and reviewed, each applicant shall be notified of the Scholarship offer.
6. Scholarship applicants/families may be required to fulfill volunteer hours. This will be determined annually by the Choir Booster Executive Committee.

## Deadlines:

Voice Lessons: floating deadlines to allow students to start lessons throughout the year  
Performance Tours: deadlines indicated in tour information specific to each touring choir  
Performance Attire: October 16, 2012