

ACO BNP Paribas Pathway Scholarship 2021 Information Sheet

The Australian Chamber Orchestra is committed to sharing our talent, knowledge, and resources to offer opportunities for the next generation of musicians to learn and engage with us through our Talent Development programs. Supported by BNP Paribas, the ACO has created this scholarship as an accessible pathway to specialist string training and development for promising school aged musicians.

The ACO BNP Paribas Pathway Scholarship is an annual scholarship that will enable a student to receive financial and other support with activities associated with reaching a high level of string playing. Support will be assessed on a needs basis but will cover such things as:

- purchasing or hiring a musical instrument
- attending regular private instrumental lessons with a local string teacher
- attending a local community music ensemble (if available)
- assistance with auditioning for and attending the ACO Academy program (as appropriate)
- accessing mentoring sessions with an ACO musician.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the Scholarship, applicants must be:

- Aged between 10 and 18 in 2021;
- Able to demonstrate proficiency in their chosen string instrument (violin, viola, cello or double bass) via a video audition; and
- Be able to commit to attending weekly private music lessons and local training ensemble activities as agreed.

Preference will be given to applicants who:

- identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person; and / or
- identify as a person with disability*; and / or
- are experiencing financial need and or other hardship.

How to Apply

1. Prepare a short video of yourself (up to 5 minutes) performing one or two pieces that demonstrate your skills (piano accompaniment not mandatory).
2. Write a short piece (200-250 words) about yourself and why this scholarship is important to your development as a string musician.
3. With the help of a parent or guardian, complete the online form, attaching the video and written piece at the end.

If you have any concerns or require assistance with making a video or any of the application process, please get in touch with the ACO Learning & Engagement team and we can offer assistance.

Deadline for 2021 Scholarship applications is Friday 30 April 2021.

The Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by the ACO's Scholarship Review Panel. Shortlisted applicants and their parent / guardian may be required to:

- participate in an online interview with a member of the ACO's Learning & Engagement Team; and/or
- submit proof of family income and/or Centrelink benefit records as appropriate.

Key Dates – 2021 Scholarship

24 March 2021	Applications open
30 April 2021	Applications close
7 May 2021	Applicants will be notified of outcome

The 2021 Scholarship will run from **Term 2, 2021 – end of Term 1, 2022.**

Enquiries

If you have any questions about the scholarship or the application process, please contact the Learning & Engagement Team on education@aco.com.au.

** As outlined in the NSW Disability Inclusion Act 2014, ACO defines disability as a long-term physical, psychiatric, intellectual, or sensory impairment that, in interaction with various barriers, may hinder the person's full and effective participation in the community on an equal basis with others.*