Music Participation Awards

What are they? A limited number of talent awards are available to non-music majors who would like to continue playing or singing while at Otterbein. Awards may range from $2,000-$4,500 per year and are renewable for up to four years; special participation awards at higher levels are available to qualified string players. Recipients are required to participate in appropriate University ensembles and to study applied music through “applied” lessons. (Applied lessons are private lessons that incur an additional expense.)

Who is eligible? All instrumentalists and vocalists may audition. Priority will be given to fill critical needs as determined by the Department of Music. We anticipate the need for most instruments and in particular, strings, double reeds, French Horns, low brass and bass voices.

How are the awards given? Students should arrange an audition with the Department of Music after being accepted to the University. Auditions for Participation Awards for the entering class of 2014 will take place on Saturday, March 8, 2014. To arrange an audition for a Participation Award, contact Claire Brock in the Department of Music at cbrock@otterbein.edu or 614-823-1504.

If you are an instrumentalist, be prepared to play scales, an etude, and a solo musical selection from the Class A list of the OMEA Solo and Ensemble Contest List or the equivalent. To request a copy of the list for your instrument, contact Claire Brock.

If you are a pianist, be prepared to play two musical selections in contrasting styles. Scales and arpeggios will be a part of the audition. It is recommended that you play from memory. Sight-reading may be requested.

If you are a vocalist, be prepared to sing two memorized songs in contrasting styles. One selection should be performed in a foreign language; show music, operatic, or art song repertories may be considered for your second piece. An accompanist will be provided.

I am interested in becoming a Music minor. Am I required to audition? Not necessarily. Auditions are only required for prospective students who wish to receive a Participation Award. It is possible to complete coursework toward a Music minor without a Participation Award. However, applied lessons and ensemble participation are required of Music minors – most ensembles require an audition prior to the start of classes in the fall. Incoming freshmen will receive information at summer orientation regarding fall ensemble auditions.

If you have any questions, please call the Office of Admission at 1-800-488-8144 or the Department of Music at 614-823-1504