

**Southwest Florida Symphony Society  
Scholarship Program  
Sample Interview Questions for Scholarship Applicants**

**A. Program for which funds requested**

1. Please describe the program for which the scholarship monies are to be used.
2. Why are you focusing on attending this particular music program (i.e. Specific area of musical interest, specific teachers, reputation of program, friends also attending, location, cost, etc.?)
3. What other programs did you research? Why did you choose this program as opposed to others?
4. What is the status of your acceptance into the program?
5. What do you understand to be the criteria for acceptance into the program?
6. How will you pay for the fees and other costs associated with attending the program?

**B. General interest in music and future goals.**

1. How did you first get interested in music (i.e. parents, family members, school teacher, someone you admired, etc.)?
2. Do you have any longer term goals in the music field? Are you also interested in other academic areas as a possible career?
3. What setting do you most enjoy (i.e. solo, ensemble, larger group, etc.)?
4. Is finding time to practice a chore because of other demands on your time (i.e. family responsibilities, other competing activities, etc.)
5. Are there family members who are also musicians and, if so, how have they been able to help you develop your own musical interests?
6. Do you enjoy specific areas of music? Beyond the selections you have presented to us, are there other kinds of music you enjoy?
7. Were there particular reasons for your selection of the pieces presented to us (i.e. showcased particular techniques, person favorites, etc.)?

**C. Personal strengths and outside interests**

- 1. Do you enjoy playing in public?**
- 2. Have you been in other competitive music events, how do you think that you benefited from the experience?**
- 3. Do you have interests outside of music? Community projects? Work experiences?**
- 4. What have been your greatest challenges in your musical studies?**
- 5. Other than music, what do you consider as fun activities?**

**D. Closing Questions**

- 1. Why would you be an excellent recipient of this scholarship?**
- 2. What is the one thing you would like us to know/remember about you?**
- 3. If you are awarded this scholarship, would you be willing to perform at a Society function? (this is mandatory – invitation)**