

## The Connor Donohue Music Fellowship



The Connor Donohue Music Fellowship is a memorial program designed to provide up to four years of private music instruction and performance opportunities for Ridgewood High School students from each grade level. The Fellows demonstrate a love for music, motivation to study music seriously, the desire to perform publicly, and a willingness to serve as mentors and role models to other students within the Fellowship and music community.

Connor Donohue graduated from Ridgewood High School in 2003. His love of music wasn't a very well kept secret. In classes, during meals, on the street, and at work, he could be found constantly tapping, banging, and singing his way through the day. The world was his drum - literally. Connor was a performer and leader in the wind ensemble, marching band, percussion ensemble, jazz band, and pit orchestra, as well as a participant in Maroon and White recitals and Celebration of the Arts. He took every opportunity to share his passion for music with family, friends, faculty, and anyone else who would listen.

Connor graduated from Connecticut College as a music performance major and founded the "New London Music Tutoring" program to help underprivileged youth in local schools. After graduation, Connor brought his talents to New York City to work as Dean of Students for an organization that assists inner-city students in gaining acceptance to New York's most prestigious high schools.

As a section leader, Frisbee team captain, camp counselor, mentor, and teacher, Connor exhibited humility and gusto that drew others in and made them want to follow his lead. It was with these qualities in mind that *The Connor Donohue Music Fellowship* was brought to life in memory of an exceptional human being.

**SPECIAL NOTICE COVID-19**

As we start the school year, due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, all fellowship interviews and activities will be conducted virtually under guidance from the Governor and Board of Education. In person activities will resume when it is safe for all Fellowship members.

**Instructions:** Please complete and submit the following application along with your recorded selection (if you choose) to [info@donohuefellowship.org](mailto:info@donohuefellowship.org) by **September 25, 2020 at 5:00pm**. **Applicants must be available for interviews between 6-10pm on September 29, 2020.**

**Part One: Applicant Information**

<b>Full Name</b>	
<b>Grade Level</b>	
<b>Street Address</b>	
<b>Phone Number</b>	
<b>Email Address</b>	
<b>Parent/Guardian Name(s)</b>	

1. What is your primary instrument of study? Do you play any other instruments?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How long have you been playing your primary instrument?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Are you currently studying privately/ Have you studied privately in the past? Please explain.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. If you are currently studying privately, please provide the name and contact information for your instructor.

## Part Two: Applicant Essay Question

In approximately 300 words, please share what being a part of this Fellowship would mean to you.

## Part Three: Additional Information About You

We'd like to learn more about you! Please choose one of the options below to share more about your passion for music:

Option 1: In 500 words, please share how music has affected your life.

Option 2: Choose a piece of music to record and share with the committee using the following guidelines:

- One continuous piece of music
- Up to two minutes in length
- Recorded and submitted as a video or audio recording

**Part Four: Parent/Guardian Application** (Please submit via email to [info@donohuefellowship.org](mailto:info@donohuefellowship.org) separately and confidentially from the student's application)

Why would you like to see the applicant become a member of this Fellowship?

## Part Five: Fellowship Meetings

Accepted Fellow must be available for all future group events listed below. Should you be unable to attend any future event please provide an explanation of your reason with this application.

Fellows coordinate schedules quarterly and times for the following events to be announced shortly:

**1<sup>st</sup> Event:** Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> - General Welcome Meeting

**2<sup>nd</sup> Event:** Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> – Fellowship Meeting

**3<sup>rd</sup> Event:** Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> - Fellowship Meeting

Please provide an explanation in your application should you be unable to attend any of the events listed above.

## **Requirements for Application and Continued Participation in the Fellowship**

The Fellowship is a program designed to offer four years of music and team-building experiences to four students who demonstrate a love for music, motivation to study seriously, a desire to perform publicly, and a willingness to serve as a mentor or role model for younger, less experienced musicians.

- Students must attend Ridgewood High School, be in grade 9 (during the application year) and be registered for a curricular band course every semester.
- Students must participate in at least two co-curricular music activities each year, playing their primary instrument of study in at least one of those activities.
- Students must maintain a 4.0 GPA in all music classes and must maintain at least a 3.0 GPA in all academic classes.
- All fellowship participants are encouraged to audition for all honors bands, including those at the Bergen County, Regional and All State levels as determined by the Director of Bands. If accepted, participants must participate in the ensembles for which they are selected.
- All application, registration and acceptance fees will be paid through the Fellowship.
- Fellowship members must perform on community outreach performances as determined by the Director of the Fellowship.