



## Vera Piano Scholarship

### General Information:

Dr. Vera Oussetskaia Watanabe, co-founder of the Gifted Music School, has generously offered to grant a scholarship award to select serious and dedicated GMS piano students for their weekly private lessons. The scholarship will cover tuition for lessons with Dr. Watanabe, during the academic year between September-May. The scholarship is renewable annually, contingent on the recipients meeting the specifications for renewal as outlined below.

### Scholarship Details:

The Vera Piano Scholarship covers tuition costs of a weekly 1-hour lesson with Dr. Vera Oussetskaia Watanabe between September-May of a given academic year. At the discretion of the scholarship committee, the scholarship also may be awarded to a current student to add a second lesson every week, and reduce their current private tuition by 50%.

### Qualifications and Rubric:

- A. Studying piano is **the** primary focus of study for the student. Piano will take precedence over other activities.
- B. Minimum 4h of daily practicing. Strongest applicants will show level of playing that will reflect and/or suggest this level of consistent work for an appreciable period of time.
- C. Achievements that would suggest a path to a possible performance career in piano.
- D. Students who have a demonstrated history of working these hours will be given higher consideration for this award.
- E. Fix comments, positive attitude, willingness to learn and try new ideas, and be consistently prepared for each lesson is a prerequisite.
- F. Consistent work ethic that will allow the student to learn, assimilate, and memorize repertoire quickly.
- G. Every year, learn, memorize, and perform a program consisting of:
  - 1. Baroque piece (Prelude and & Fugue is a minimum)
  - 2. Entire classical Sonata (Three or Four movements depending on Sonata)
  - 3. Romantic work
  - 4. Chopin Etude

5. Any Etude by another composer
  6. Impressionistic or contemporary work
  7. Entire Concerto (or one movement depending on the age of the student)
- H. Punctuality: come to lessons on time.
- I. Being available to receive lessons at the hours the lessons are available.
- J. Student/parents expected to have a respectful attitude toward teacher and supportive of studio classmates.
- K. Parent/guardian is required at lessons to take thorough notes of comments

**Other Details:**

- The scholarship is for study with Dr. Vera Oussetskaia Watanabe
- The scholarship can be used to add an additional lesson per week if the student is already enrolled in weekly lessons w/Dr. Watanabe.
- In certain cases, studying with 2 teachers (if you are already studying with a different primary teacher, and they are supportive of this agreement) could be permitted. This will be considered on a case by case basis.
- The scholarship is renewable annually at the end of May. Each renewal request will be reviewed by the scholarship committee and evaluated with the rubric as a reference. ***Preference will be giving to a student who can have 2 lessons per week, as that allows for a more serious training.***

**Application:**

Please fill out the application form below and submit required materials.

Scholarship applications will be reviewed by the Vera Piano Scholarship Committee and decision letters will be sent out via email.

*Gifted Music School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, or sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, and gender identity). GMS does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, or sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, and gender identity).*

# Vera Piano Scholarship

## VERA PIANO SCHOLARSHIP

**Gifted Music School is proud to have received a generous grant from GMS Co-founder, Dr. Vera Oussetskaia-Watanabe. Please read the scholarship description to ascertain eligibility.**

To apply, please submit this form and supporting documentation electronically to [scholarships@giftedmusicschool.org](mailto:scholarships@giftedmusicschool.org).

Applicants may be asked to submit a piano performance video and/or come to a live audition.

### STEP 1

STUDENT NAME

STUDENT AGE

EMAIL (optional)

PARENT NAME(S)

PHONE

EMAIL

ADDRESS

### STEP 2

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION/MATERIALS

Please attach a personal statement describing the following:

1. How you meet each of the selection criteria (address each point).
2. Explain your background (incl. past teachers) and long-term career goals.
3. What your previous experience at GMS has meant to you (if applicable).

The personal statement should consist of several paragraphs. This is an opportunity to let the scholarship committee get to know you and the impact this award might have on you.

\*Please attach a recommendation letter from a current or past teacher.

\*Please also include a separate list of accomplishments in piano, music, or any other area that you'd like to highlight to the scholarship committee.