

WAYTCO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM | GUIDELINES 2023

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The WAYTCO Scholarship Program ('the Program') has two main objectives:

1. Provide financial support to young people of WAYTCO priority demographics wishing to access our fee-for-service programs, such as our [Ensemble Program](#) and [Masterclasses](#), but for whom fees are prohibitive.
2. Support the efforts of WAYTCO to ensure the make-up of participant groups is truly inclusive and diverse.

The total of the available scholarship fund for 2023 is \$5,000.

WHO IS IT FOR? (ELIGIBILITY)

WAYTCO **priority demographics** are:

- First Nations Youth aged 11-26;
- Young people with disability or chronic illness aged 11-26;
- Young people of Culturally & Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) background aged 11-26;
- Youth who live in low socio-economic areas, either as independent young adults, or as minors under the care of a parent/Guardian;
- 11-26 year old youth who are socio-culturally disadvantaged due to gender identification.

The Program **two-part eligibility criteria** is: *Membership of one of the above-listed groups AND financial hardship.*

WHAT IS IT FOR?

The Program provides a limited number of **partial scholarships** to eligible young people who are offered a place in any one of the following ensemble programs:

- Beginners Ensemble, for youth aged 11-14;
- Junior Ensemble, for youth aged 15-17;
- Senior Ensemble, for young adults aged 18-26.

Or who seek to attend another of our fee-for-service programs, such as a Masterclass.

The fee schedule for WAYTCO ensembles is as follows:

2023 Fee Schedule				
Payment Plan	Acceptance Fee	1x Upfront Fee	3x Quarterly Instalments	Total
BEGINNERS: \$500.00				
Early Bird	\$125.00	\$325.00	N/A	\$450.00
Standard Plan	\$125.00		\$125.00	\$500.00
JUNIORS: \$650.00				
Early Bird	\$170.00	\$430.00	N/A	\$600.00
Standard Plan	\$170.00		\$160.00	\$650.00
SENIORS: \$850.00				
Early Bird	\$212.50	\$587.50	N/A	\$800.00
Standard Plan	\$212.50		\$212.50	\$850.00

A two-day Masterclass is generally priced in the \$220-\$230 range.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Short Form Programs

For access to a price reduction on passes to 'short form' fee-for-service programs, such as our Masterclasses, please simply email us at info@waytco.com requesting consideration of your financial support needs. Your appeal for support will be considered on a case-by-case basis and with consideration to how much of the annual scholarship fund has been dispensed on Ensemble Scholarship.

Please note, the company needs to cover basic program operating costs, so a \$225 two-day Masterclass Pass might be reduced to \$180 for members and \$140 for scholarship recipients. It is rare for the full cost of a program to be covered.

Also note, whilst you do not need to be a member of the company to appeal for a reduced price on short form programs, it is worth noting that a 1-year WAYTCO youth membership subscription is a gateway to discounts on **ALL** training program passes and show tickets. WAYTCO offers a limited number of 50%-discounted and fully sponsored youth memberships each year, so this is a way to access reduced fees across the board. Simply check the relevant box in the [Youth Membership Sign-Up](#) form.

Ensembles

For access to a scholarship for WAYTCO's Ensemble Program, a 'long form' or year-round program, a young person who meets the two-part eligibility criteria must first **audition** at WAYTCO's annual General Auditions AND **receive an Ensemble Place Offer**, before applying for a scholarship.

To sign up for General Auditions, young people aged 11-26 must head to the General Auditions page of WAYTCO's website, located here:

<https://waytco.com/training/opportunities>

Once you have submitted a General Audition Sign Up form, you must:

- Await confirmation of audition workshop date and time;
- Turn up to your nominated audition workshop prepared (2min monologue);
- Participate in the full 2hour workshop;
- Wait up to 14days for your Offer of Place.

Note: Selection for Ensembles and casting opportunities is not guaranteed as an outcome of WAYTCO's General Auditions. If you miss out, you can still join us for other programs for which you can enquire about financial support, if needed.

With issue of a Place Offer, you will be asked to pay an Acceptance Fee to secure your place. The Place Offer email will also notify recipients about WAYTCO's Scholarship Program. A link to the web-platformed Expression of Interest (EOI) form for the Program will also be included: <https://waytco.com/get-involved/scholarships>

Eligible youth who receive a Place Offer should complete and submit a scholarship EOI form as soon as possible and by no later than the due date of the Acceptance Fee.

The form asks for the following information:

- Applicant full name, phone number, p/code, age;
- Ensemble program (i.e. Beginner, Junior or Senior);
- A statement of need/ A statement of what qualifies the applicant for a scholarship (250words max)*;
- Personal referee details (i.e. name, phone number & email of a family member/support person/teacher/mentor).

Please refrain from giving personal detail. Speak as objectively as possible to **fitting one of WAYTCo's priority groups AND experiencing financial hardship. If you do not meet the two-part eligibility criteria, you may still complete and return an EOI and your appeal for financial assistance will be considered on a case-by-case basis.*

HOW WILL YOUR E.O.I. BE ASSESSED?

WAYTCo's approach to scholarship dispensation emphasises award of partial-scholarship, or co-contribution, wherever possible, to ensure youth commitment to attendance.

There are four main criteria by which WAYTCo staff will assess scholarship EOIs:

1. The applicant's statement of need speaks to meeting the two-part eligibility criteria, i.e. they clearly claim membership of a WAYTCo priority group AND financial hardship;
2. Referee check: The nominated referee backs up the young person's claim and the staff member is thereby reassured that the request is genuine*.
3. The request is weighed up against number and quality of other scholarship EOIs in the round and - where annual \$5K limit is due to be reached - the applicant is shortlisted on the basis of 'most-in-need';
4. Extending from 3., the staff member considers the upper cap on scholarship dispensation and the intent of the fund to be allocated to assist as many eligible young people as possible**.

Where the applicant is, for some good reason, unable to provide the contact details for a referee check, the assessing staff member may make a determination about **genuineness of need. If the staff member is unsure about making such a determination, they may - in order to arrive at a reasonable determination - seek to discuss the matter discretely with a senior staff member or member of the board executive.*

***To ensure the scholarship fund helps as many young people as possible, the assessing staff may need to make a determination about **degree of need**. This situation calls for comparison between applications in the round and application of a three-tier categorisation of 'need level'.*

SCHOLARSHIP TIERS

There need level tiers are:

- Mild financial need = 25% scholarship
- Moderate financial need = 50% scholarship
- High financial need = 75% scholarship

We emphasise dispensation of 25% and 50% scholarships. Occasionally, when an applicant makes a case for significant hardship, and where the fund for the year allows, a 75% or full scholarship may be awarded.

RECIPIENT FEE SCHEDULE

2023 Fee Schedule				
Scholarship %	Acceptance Fee	Additional Instalment	# Additional Instalments	Total
BEGINNERS: \$500.00				
25%	\$125.00	\$125.00	2	\$375.00
50%	\$125.00	\$125.00	1 only	\$250.00
75%	\$125.00	N/A	N/A	\$125.00
JUNIORS: \$650.00				
25%	\$170.00	\$160.00	2	\$500.00
50%	\$170.00	\$160.00	1 only	\$340.00
75%	\$170.00	N/A	N/A	\$170.00
SENIORS: \$850.00				
25%	\$212.50	\$212.50	2	\$637.50
50%	\$212.50	\$212.50	1 only	\$425.00
75%	\$212.50	N/A	N/A	\$212.50

WHAT WILL HAPPEN WITH CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION IN YOUR EOI?

The Statement of Need that you provide with your EOI form will remain confidential and will only be used for scholarship qualification purposes. If you would like, after your request has been processed, you may ask WAYTCO to delete the EOI form from its records. Otherwise, WAYTCO regularly conducts a review of the personal information it holds on participants, deleting or destroying information dates back more than three years and that is no longer required.

If you have any questions or concerns about the process for applying for WAYTCO scholarships, please contact: artisticdirector@waytco.com

Last updated: 19/03/2023

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