



## **2023 Music Teacher of the Year General Information**

In recognition of the fact that elementary music teachers make an important and positive difference in young people's lives, the Dallas Symphony will be honoring these teachers and the impactful work they do by presenting a Music Teacher of the Year Award.

Submitting an application is more than a chance to win an award. Each teacher that invests time into this process also strengthens the DSO's voice in advocating for music education in North Texas. We appreciate your support and dedication in this regard.

### **Who is eligible?**

Current, full-time elementary music teachers in Dallas ISD, with a tenure of at least 3 years. Former winners are not eligible to apply.

If chosen as a finalist, nominee will schedule an in-person observation of their chosen class with members from our DSO education committee attending. Finalists will be invited to attend a DSO concert in April for the award ceremony. Complimentary tickets will be provided for finalists (friends & family will be offered substantial discounts).

### **Who can nominate?**

Anyone with first-hand knowledge of the teacher and his or her work may nominate. Self-nominations are highly encouraged and will be accepted.

### **Judging Criteria:**

- A successful track record of measurable program growth
- Demonstrated student achievement in instrumental or vocal performance
- Strong cultural leadership and influence in the community

### **Awards**

**Finalists:** All finalists will receive two free tickets to the concert in April, recognition from the stage before the concert, a finalist's certificate, and a collection of valuable items from the Williamson Music Company.

**Winner:** The Music Teacher of the Year will be invited onto the Meyerson stage to be honored before the concert in April and will receive a check for \$500. They will also receive an engraved plaque from the Dallas Symphony, to be presented to them at the concert.

### **Deadlines & Announcements**

All applications and supporting materials must be submitted by Sunday, January 15th, 2023. Please submit applications and all supporting materials as attachments to a single email to [s.hatler@dalsym.com](mailto:s.hatler@dalsym.com), with the subject line "MTOY 2023."

Five finalists will be announced by February 14, 2023, and will then schedule their in-person observation. The winner will be notified on March 31st, 2023.

**Application and Nomination Form**

**Nominee Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School (if nominee teaches at multiple schools, please name all of them):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Principal's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

How long has nominee been an elementary music teacher in Dallas ISD? \_\_\_\_\_

**Over the past year, how has the nominee exhibited the following?**

A successful track record of measurable program growth:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Student achievement and/or progress in instrumental or vocal performance:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Strong cultural leadership and influence in the community:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything else the panel should know about the nominee that would be helpful in its decision-making process?

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**References**

A complete application must include at least **2 names of references**, one from the nominee’s Principal (listed above) and one from a peer (either a fellow teacher on the nominee’s campus or a fellow music teacher at another Dallas ISD elementary school) or parent of student.

If you wish to submit letters of support from either parents, peers, current students, or former student, please send via email to Sarah Hatler at [s.hatler@dalsym.com](mailto:s.hatler@dalsym.com).

Note: to the extent possible, all letters of recommendation and supporting materials will be kept confidential and be reviewed only by members of the judging panel.

Reference’s name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference’s name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Teaching Sample**

Please submit a short video of the nominee teaching a class (please do not include any faces of students), a lesson plan, or a recent online lesson of your choosing. This may include a virtual lesson on Google classroom, Google slides, YouTube video, PowerPoint presentation etc. You are welcome to attach any additional items you wish to share from your portfolio.

**Nominator Information**

Nominator (if self, please write “Self”): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_