

William & Helen Kempf Music Scholarship

The Helen & Bill Kempf Memorial Scholarship was established in 2009 in memory of Helen and Bill Kempf, strong advocates of music education.

Prior to his death in 1994, Bill Kempf was a professional musician, educator, minister of music and person who touched the lives of many. He was not only a teacher, both privately and in many schools, but was church organist and choir director at St. Mary's Cathedral in Saginaw for over 35 years. He was a graduate of the Gregorian Institute of America. He also was an organist and minister at Case Funeral Home and owner of Whitehead Music with his wife, Helen, and son, Marty.

Bill played and sang in various dance bands, performed in the first Eddy Band Concert in 1926, and also played in the percussion section of the Saginaw Symphony Orchestra. In the early years, Bill and his sister, Dorothy, and his father, Martin, played in vaudeville acts at the Jeffers Strand Theater in Saginaw. Later in life, the Bill Kempf family, including Carol Ann, Nancy and Marty, also entertained at various functions. Helen was the manager and promoter.



Helen Voelker Kempf was a dental assistant, working most of her career for Dr. Richard Whitney in Saginaw. She was not musical herself, but encouraged music education in the lives of her children. She also worked in the office at the family business, Whitehead Music. Helen and Bill were members of the Temple Organ Club and spent much time volunteering at nursing homes and the Millet Center. Helen passed away in 2008.

The Kempf family hopes to continue the legacy of Helen and Bill Kempf by supporting music education for individual students in the Saginaw Area. Music was their life and they loved sharing their music with others.

Applications are due to the Saginaw Community Foundation no later than March 1st. Students will be notified within 3 weeks after due date. Scholarships are available for up to \$500.

William & Helen Kempf Music Scholarship Requirements:

- A student attending a Saginaw County school, entering grades 7 through 11
- Attending a Michigan music camp, such as Camp Timbers Band Camp conducted by Herter Music Center and Saginaw YMCA; Interlochen Center for the Arts; Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp; or participating in a summer music study within Michigan.
- Enrolled in a music class either at school or privately for both the current year and the upcoming year.

William & Helen Kempf Music Scholarship Application

Applicant: _____

Parent/Guardian(s): _____

Address _____

Phone number: _____ Email address: _____

School: _____ Grade entering in
September: _____

Applications are due no later than March 1. If you have questions, please call 989-755-0545.

**Mail application to: Saginaw Community Foundation
Kempf Music Scholarship
1 Tuscola St., Suite 100B
Saginaw, MI 48607**

Submit this information page and the following:

- Applicant letter stating **why** you wish to receive the William & Helen Kempf Music Scholarship (no more than one page). This letter must be written by the applicant, not parents.
- Letter of recommendation from music instructor or band teacher.

Answer the following in your letter of application:

1. What musical talent do you plan to pursue over the summer?
2. Have you ever attended a summer music camp before? If so, where and for how many years?
3. What music camp or summer music study do you plan to apply to and/or enroll? How long is the program?
4. What is the cost to attend the proposed summer program and how much are you requesting through this application to assist in covering these costs? Scholarships available up to \$500.
5. Have you received any scholarships or discounts to attend?