

THE MATTHEW THIBEDEAU MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND 2021 APPLICATION

This scholarship is given annually to students of Trollwood Performing Arts School.

Matthew Thibedeau was a part of the Trollwood Performing Arts School family for 22 years, beginning at age 13 when he took his first class and served as a technician on Trollwood's 1st production of the The Wiz in 1988. He spent the next 4 summers at Trollwood, taking classes and performing on the Mainstage. His memorable roles include Captain Hook in Peter Pan (1990), Curly in Oklahoma (1992), and a leading role in IMAGINE on the 1991 International Friendship Tour. Matthew graduated from Fargo North in 1992, attended Boston Conservatory of Music, and went on to enjoy a professional performing career. He performed in over 30 musicals around the world. Matthew was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis in 2003 and returned to Fargo in 2005 due to his illness. He also returned to Trollwood, this time as a teacher, and for three summers he passed his craft on to a new generation of students.

Matthew lived life to the fullest, found humor and joy in each moment, and was a dear friend to many people. He died of CF on May 20, 2009. This scholarship has been established in his memory to help young people develop their innate talent and pursue their dreams in the performing arts, and recognize a new generation of theatre arts enthusiasts who have the same zeal for life that Matthew exhibited.

There are two scholarship categories available:

1. **High School:** High school student performing in the Mainstage Musical production.
To be used for tuition at Trollwood. Award range: up to \$500
2. **Middle School:** Middle school student aspiring towards performing in a production.
To be used for tuition at Trollwood. Award range: up to \$500

To understand the applicants and their qualifications for these awards, we ask that you **respond in essay format on a separate sheet of paper to the three questions below, and provide two letters of recommendation, one from a teacher and one from a parent or guardian.** The applicant may be contacted for a personal interview to supplement the written information provided.

Please complete and include this sheet as the cover to your scholarship application.

Completed applications must be received at Trollwood Performing Arts School, 801 50th Ave. S, Moorhead, MN 56560, by April 14, 2021, at 5:00pm.

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Date: _____ **Scholarship Category applying for:** _____

Applicant's Name _____ **Birthdate** _____

Applicant's Street Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Applicant's Phone _____ **Email** _____

- (1) Describe your involvement in the performing arts (dance lessons, band, school performances, etc.) over the past four years and include any special performances and honors you have received in the area.
- (2) Describe your aspirations in the performing arts, include your future plans after high school and your dreams regarding a career in the performing arts.
- (3) Explain how this scholarship will ease a financial hardship for you, and how this money will assist with your plans.