



Mary Ridder Cherny Fund

What is the Mary Ridder Cherny Fund?

The fund was established by Mary Agnes Ridder Cherny's family to honor her commitment to her family, vocation, and students. She died November 10, 2005 when the effects of cancer claimed her life.

As a young child, Mary, or Agnes or Aggie to her friends and family, showed signs of talent in music which was greatly encouraged by her parents. Piano was her first love and she started taking private lessons. She blossomed into an accomplished violinist and also learned to play the oboe and cornet. She graduated college with a music education degree. Mary taught private music lessons to youngsters, accompanied her students on piano, and performed in various bands and orchestras. Throughout her life, she never abandoned her love of music.

What is the purpose of the Fund?

The Fund provides financial support to Quincy public and parochial schools, as well as to organizations for kids K-12 who want to participate in the performing arts. Grants from the fund may be used, but are not limited, to provide funding for student talent or merit awards, to help cover costs of lessons, workshops, rental or for purchase of instruments, music, scripts or related items.

How does the fund work?

Grants are made yearly from the fund to provide support that falls within the stated purpose. The advisors to the Mary Ridder Cherny Fund may make written recommendations to the Community Foundation's Board regarding grants from the fund. All grants are made at the discretion of the Board of the Community Foundation.

The Community Foundation reserves the right to require return of grant funding, if it deems that the grantee has not complied with the terms of the grant agreement.

How to apply:

Requests for funding which meet the charitable purpose of the Mary Ridder Cherny Fund should be submitted online through the Community Foundation's website www.mycommunityfoundation.org.

Completed Application Forms must be received by the Community Foundation on or before June 1 each year. While funding is not dependent upon submitting the application form, the application serves as a means of making us aware of deserving programs and students.

To apply online follow these steps:

- Step 1: Click on [Non-Profit Login](#) link in the upper right of mycommunityfoundation.org
- Step 2: Create a New Account for your school or school foundation (first time only), or use your existing credentials to log in.
- Step 3: Click the [Apply](#) link at the top of the Applicant Dashboard.
- Step 4: Scroll to the [Mary Ridder Cherny Grant](#) section and click the **APPLY** button.
- Step 5: Complete the application and click **SUBMIT APPLICATION**.

Please direct questions to Program Officer, Community Foundation, phone: (217) 222-1237 or email: grants@mycommunityfoundation.org.