

Chuck McKissick Memorial Scholarship

Chuck McKissick was born in Florence, South Carolina in 1950. He began playing drums when he was 13 years old and was involved in music in some form for the remainder of his life. He played with the University of South Carolina Marching Band, where he graduated in 1973. He spent 20 years in the US Army Band system, playing drums and percussion at recruiting concerts all over the US and Europe. He continued in his profession after retirement, playing in local bands and orchestras, including The Believers Band, Back In Time, the Gainesville Symphony, the Toccoa Symphony, Northwinds Symphonic Band and many others. He played for presidents, foreign dignitaries, celebrities and famous musicians. He was in a Scottish Pipe and Drum Band who backed up Faith Hill when she sang the National Anthem at the Super Bowl in Atlanta. He also was an adjunct faculty member at both Truett McConnell University and Toccoa Falls College.



Chuck was a talented and well-respected musician in the North Georgia community. Despite this, he never wanted to be in the limelight and was uncomfortable with praise and accolades. He said the best part of being a drummer is that you get to be in a band, but no one pays attention to you unless you make a mistake.

As an educator, it brought Chuck the utmost pride and joy to see his students learn a difficult piece, to grow as a musician, and to share in his love of playing percussion. He remained in contact with many past students, becoming a mentor and friend as they entered into the next phases of their life outside of college.

Chuck's faith was at the forefront of everything he did. It showed in his professionalism, in his compassion, and in his unfailing loyalty. He was very involved with his church, Lakewood Baptist and, of course, he played percussion with the Crosspoint Band.

Chuck loved his family; his wife of 41 years, Kathy and his two children, Casey and Andy. He dedicated his life to God, his family, playing the drums and to his students, bandmates, and friends. He enjoyed history, Disney World, football, and falling asleep in his recliner.

*Chuck McKissick went into the hospital on September 12, 2020 with Covid-19. His spirits were high and his sense of humor intact throughout his hospitalization in the "Covid Zoo."
A good man taken into God's Glory too soon for those left behind.*

August 27, 1950 - October 18, 2020

Chuck McKissick
Memorial Scholarship
Established Spring 2022

1. The Believers Band shall award one or more middle and/or high school recipient(s) this scholarship of up to \$500.00 for summer music-related camps or college.
2. The Believers Concert Band has agreed to fund this scholarship to be awarded annually in memory of Chuck McKissick (dedicated percussion section leader and teacher).
3. The scholarship committee shall consist of the Believers Concert Band Director, the Believers Band Board of Directors and two (2) general members of the Believers Band. (Note: no relatives of the applicants shall serve on this committee.)
4. The amount and name of the recipient(s) will be announced at the Believers Concert Band Spring Concert.
5. The award will be sent directly to the financial aid department of the institution to which the student will attend.



Criteria

1. This scholarship is open to all middle and high school band students.
2. Applicant must have participated in at least two (2) Believers Band major concerts during the period of band membership. (This may increase after the inaugural year.)
3. Applicant must have attended a majority of rehearsals for those Believers Band concerts.
4. Applicants must be on track for graduation and have an overall grade point average (GPA) of no less than 3.0 on a scale of 4.0.
5. Applicants must submit two (2) character references from the current high school band director and either school faculty or a professional in the community (no relatives will be accepted).
6. The applicant is to submit a 1-2 page typed double-spaced essay stating how music has had an impact on his/her life, why he/she should receive the award and how he/she would benefit from it.
7. A copy of the official acceptance from the college, university, or summer music camp is to be submitted with the application.
8. Applications and support materials may be turned into the artistic director of the Believers Band or sent to:

Believers Concert Band
c/o David Arvold, Artistic Director
440 Beaver Creek Way
Cleveland, GA 30528
info@believersband.com

Due on or before April 1

Chuck McKissick
Memorial Scholarship
Application



_____ Date

_____ Applicant's Name

_____ Address

_____ City State Zip

_____ Email address Phone

_____ Parent/Guardian

Overall Band GPA: _____ Overall GPA: _____

College/University/Summer Music Camp: _____

Field of Study (if applicable): _____

Tuition: \$ _____ Room & Board: \$ _____ Extra Expenses: \$ _____

List Music Activities – ie. Current Bands, Solo & Ensemble, Honor Bands, Clinics, Extra Ensembles

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Chuck McKissick
Memorial Scholarship
Application - Page 2

List School Extra-Curricular Activities

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

School Awards and Honors

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Please make any statement(s) you feel would help us in making this decision.



Due on or before April 1