

DEIDRE DOUGLAS LEGACY OF MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

Purpose

The *Deidre Douglas Legacy of Music Scholarship* honors a life dedicated to music, education, and the lasting impact one person can have on generations of students. This scholarship supports a graduating senior who will continue that legacy by pursuing a degree in **music education or vocal performance**. This scholarship is awarded to a student who not only sings with excellence, but who carries forward the spirit, passion, and impact of Deidre Douglas.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must:

- Be a graduating senior
- Plan to major in **Music Education or Vocal Performance**
- Be accepted into or planning to attend an accredited college or university
- Remain academically eligible at the time of award

Application Requirements

1. Essay Submission (Required)

Applicants must read about Deidre Douglas and respond to the following prompt:

After learning about Deidre Douglas and her impact, reflect on how her legacy connects to your own journey in music. How do you plan to carry forward her influence through your future in music education or performance?

2. Vocal Performance Submission (Required)

Applicants must submit a **video recording** that showcases their vocal ability.

Guidelines:

- One solo selection (classical or art song)
- Approximately **2-3 minutes in length**
- Can be accompanied (live or track) or a cappella
- Should reflect musicality, tone, expression, and overall performance ability

3. Recommendation Letter

- **One letter of recommendation** from a choir director (Not Mr. Perez or Mr. Ricci), voice teacher, or music educator
 - They can email their letter of recommendation to Mr. Perez (Matthew.perez@cfisd.net)

You can begin the application process here: <https://forms.gle/63b6P7p6BmnvoZYN9>

DEADLINE IS APRIL 29th

About Deidre Douglas

Deidre Douglas dedicated 37 years to music education in the Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District in Houston, Texas, retiring in 2025 as the head choral director at Cypress Falls High School. Throughout her career, she built a program rooted in excellence, passion, and an unwavering commitment to her students.

Mrs. Douglas earned both her Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Arts degrees from Stephen F. Austin State University, where she was recognized as the Presser Scholar and the Lenvill Martin Outstanding Music Graduate. In 2008, she was named an Outstanding Music Alumna, honoring her continued impact on the field.

Under her leadership, her choirs consistently earned sweepstakes ratings at UIL Concert and Sightreading, along with Best in Class and Outstanding Performance awards at festivals. Her ensembles were selected to perform multiple times at the prestigious Texas Music Educators Association Convention, and her students regularly earned placement in District, Region, and All-State Choirs.

Mrs. Douglas also contributed significantly to music education beyond her classroom. She served on the Prescribed Music List committee and worked with Hal Leonard/Glencoe as part of the choral textbook committee, including serving as an author on a published resource. She was recognized as a “Spotlight Teacher” at Labay Middle School and later at Cypress Falls High School.

In addition to her work as an educator, Mrs. Douglas was a respected adjudicator, clinician, and soloist throughout Texas and surrounding states. She led choirs to perform at TMEA in multiple years and directed the only national American Choral Directors Association choir from CFISD.

More than her accolades, Mrs. Douglas was known for her heart. She was a hardworking, passionate educator who never gave up on her students. She taught with purpose, led with love, and always put students at the center of everything she did.

Her legacy lives on through the countless students she inspired, the program she built, and the standard of excellence she set for future generations.