

# BMI Foundation John Lennon Scholarships

According to the website, the BMI Foundation John Lennon Scholarships “honors the memory of one of the preeminent songwriters of the 20th century: John Lennon. Through the generosity of Ono and Gibson Musical Instruments, three scholarships totaling \$20,000 are presented annually for the best original songs in any musical genre. Over the past twenty years, more than \$400,000 in scholarships has been awarded to talented young musicians from colleges and universities throughout the United States, making this award one of the nation’s most esteemed accolades for emerging songwriters.”

Yoko Ono, in conjunction with the BMI Foundation, established this scholarship program in memory of her beloved husband John Lennon. It honors the memory of one of the prolific songwriters of our time, known for writing “I Want To Hold Your Hand,” “Strawberry Fields,” “Imagine,” “I Am the Walrus,” “All You Need Is Love,” and “Come Together.”

## **Who is eligible to apply for the BMI Foundation Lennon Scholarships?**

### **Eligibility requirements:**

1. Current student or alumnus/alumna at a U.S. college or university
2. Between the ages of 17 and 24 as of time of submission (which is January 15, 2020)
3. No rights to the submitted work may have been assigned to a major music publisher or to a major record label
4. Is not a prior BMI Foundation John Lennon Scholarship winner (excluding Honorable Mentions)

**NOTE:** If you are applying to the John Lennon Scholarship and the Nashville Songwriting Scholarship contest, you must submit different songs for each contest. Remember, you may NOT submit the same original work to both competitions!

## **How much are the BMI Foundation Lennon Scholarships worth?**

Three scholarships totaling \$20,000 are presented annually for the best original songs in any musical genre. The scholarships are made available through the generosity of Ono and Gibson Musical Instruments.

**When is the deadline to apply for the BMI Foundation Lennon Scholarships?**

Applications must be submitted online no later than January 15, 2020 at 11:59pm EST. The winners will be announced in the summer of 2020!

Best of luck to all songwriters!