

St Kilda Brass

Les Green Scholarship 2027

Application Information

Scholarship Background

Les Green QSM has made an extraordinary contribution lasting over 50 years to the Otago Masonic Charitable Trust and the last 70 years to St Kilda Brass Band. Both organisations have decided to recognise this by jointly promoting a Scholarship in his name available to first year students commencing study at Otago University, or Otago Polytechnic. It is open to students from any part of New Zealand. Both the Otago Masonic Charitable trust and the St. Kilda Brass Band are deeply indebted to Les Green for his dedication and long service. It is hoped this will be seen as a fitting tribute to him by both organisations combining to provide the Les Green scholarship.

Communication

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the scholarship, you can contact the Scholarship administrator by email at scholarship@stkildabrass.org.nz or phone/txt on 021540808.

The Scholarship administrator is Damon Thompson.

The Band

The St Kilda Band is Brass band based in Dunedin. It has a 125-year history within the Dunedin community and as a contesting Band. It has won several New Zealand championships while several of its players have had considerable success over the years as soloists and as members of National representative Bands across all age groups.

The Band is currently contesting in the 'B' grade and was the 2025 and 2026 Champion B Grade Band of New Zealand. At this level its repertoire is musically stimulating and challenging but within the reach of young people who are keen to develop in the presence of supportive experienced members.

Terms and Conditions:

1. Eligibility

Applicants must be intending to commence a first-year course of study at Otago University or Otago Polytechnic. Should an applicant be offered the scholarship and not proceed with a course of study the offer will be withdrawn.

Applicants will be accepted from Brass or Percussion players. **Previous experience in a Brass Band is not essential**

2. The Scholarship

The scholarship is valued at \$3000.00. It will be paid in instalments

- \$750.00 on 1 May 2027
- \$750.00 on 1 August 2027
- \$750.00 on 1 August 2028
- \$750.00 on 1 August 2029

3. Scholarship Conditions.

3.1 The Scholarship recipient will be welcomed as a member of St Kilda Brass and will be required to become a registered player for the purposes of participation in BBANZ Brass band contests.

3.2 The scholarship recipient will be expected to participate in the Band rehearsal programme and in the contesting and non-contesting performances of the Band. The Band understands the semester structure of the tertiary year and will not unreasonably expect the recipient to stay in Dunedin on semester breaks except that should these cross over with contest preparation we would expect the recipient to plan around this.

3.3 The Band will not unreasonably restrict the recipient to St Kilda Band activities only but expects band activities to take precedence over others. However, it is important that both the band and the scholarship recipient are flexible when necessary and that our relationship is an open one so that if issues emerge these can be dealt with in a positive manner.

3.4 The band will provide a modern instrument in excellent condition along with accessories such as mutes and uniforms. The recipient is expected to take appropriate care of these.

4. Band Programme.

The Band's programme will vary from year to year but is likely to follow the following pattern.

- One rehearsal per week, commonly held on a Thursday evening.
- Attendance at a National contest (for 2027 this will be 14-17 April in Invercargill) with a preparatory weekend at a time to be arranged prior to this.
- Attendance at a Provincial Contest late August or early September (date to be determined), with up to 3 preparatory weekends prior to this.
- Two or three other engagements spread throughout the year.
- There may be occasional additional rehearsals prior to these other engagements.

5. How we will assess your application

The major points we will consider are:

- Your past experience and playing accomplishments.
- What your past teachers and/or conductors tell us about your progress
- An on-line or in person discussion with our selection panel.

If the Scholarship winner cannot be decided on this basis, we may ask you to provide us with a video recording of a piece of music of your choice. This could be an examination piece, a recording of a solo performance you have done, or just a piece you enjoy.

6. How to apply.

- The application form is attached along with this application information.
- Please complete the application form either:
 - [by using this link](#) or
 - by filling out the attached pdf application form and sending this along with the personal statement we have asked for to scholarship@stkildabrass.org.nz.
- The closing date for applications will be **14 November 2026**
- Our administrator will arrange a time to have a discussion with you **between 14 November and 22 November**.
- If a video recording is required, we will discuss with you what you could most easily prepare and a timeline for this.

7. When you will know if you have been successful

- We expect to be able to announce the successful applicant no later than 19 December 2026.