

Herb Gillen Memorial Instrumental Music Education Scholarship

Herb Gillen was a music educator par excellence who taught and promoted music education for 36 years in the Kansas Public Schools. Twenty six of those years were spent in Ulysses, Kansas, where he developed the music education program for the Grant County School District schools from grade school through high school. He brought innovations to music education that had not been used before and achieved excellence by giving band lessons after school and beginner band lessons in the summer. His students learned the value and joy of music that was often then applied to enrich the worship music in the local churches or to also become music educators. He took great pride in seeing some of his students become top music talents in the various state universities and always appreciated it when they would return to visit and share their college music experiences.

Herb Gillen lived from August 21, 1925 to November 22, 2002 and is survived by his wife of 54 years, Lorina Gillen who continues to reside in Ulysses. He is also survived by seven children who each learned to play a band instrument and continue to enjoy performing in bands and orchestras. Herb received his BA in Music Education for Sterling College in Sterling, Kansas in 1949. By attending summer school Herb completed his Masters Degree in Music Education in 1954 from Colorado State University. Even after receiving his MA, he never really stopped going to school and continued to stay current trends by remaining an active member in the Kansas Music Educators Association (KMEA) and attending summer schools in various universities as far away as Flagstaff, Arizona. Though he retired in 1986, he still remained involved in music education by counseling new band teachers and keeping in touch with his music educator colleagues who sought out his “wise old owl” advice. He even continued to attend the annual KMEA conference just so he could hear the new band talent in the state and meet old teacher friends.

There was not a band room in the Ulysses School system that Herb Gillen had not taught in and there was never a child he turned away who wanted to take band lessons. He also never turned a student away who needed a little bit of help dealing with a troublesome bully or help to improve their reading or singing ability.

A music education scholarship fund has been started to honor Herb Gillen’s contribution to the music programs of the Grant County School District and to encourage new talent to become instrumental instructors and band directors. The Music Booster Club has already demonstrated their recognition of the importance of music education by forming the Booster Club to provide support and resources to the music programs. This scholarship fund is an opportunity to take the Booster Club’s support to a new level by sustaining and growing a scholarship fund for those students who desire to make music education their career of choice and fill the growing demand for instrumental instructors. The scholarship is for a student who plans to enter college and major in music education with an emphasis in instrumental music. The recipient will receive \$200 per year for each year they maintain their music major including the year they graduate. To qualify for the scholarship, the recipient must demonstrate promise and commitment to music education by:

1. Writing a short essay on “why they want to become a music educator” to be reviewed and evaluated by their music teachers.
2. Is recognized by their high school music teachers as having promise as an instrumental music educator.
3. Remains in good standing in their college of choice and reports annually their progress to the President of the Ulysses Music Booster Club.
4. Maintain a 3.0 grade-point average in their college music education course-work.
5. Maintains as their major music education with an emphasis in instrumental music.

Ulysses Music Booster "Herb Gillen" Scholarship Recommendation Form

Directions to the applicant: The person you ask to complete this recommendation should be informed of the general nature of the Ulysses Music Booster "Herb Gillen Memorial Scholarship". Please give this form to the person writing your reference and ask them to return it to the Ulysses High School counselor before May 10, 2012. Please provide them ample time and a stamped addressed envelope. It is your responsibility to follow-up and assure the recommendation has been submitted to complete your application.

Applicant's Name _____ Phone Number _____

Name of Reference _____ Title _____

1. How long and what capacity have you known the applicant?

2. How committed is the applicant to continuing his/her education?

3. In comparison with our students at comparable stages of their careers, how would you rate the applicant in the following areas?

	Excellent	Very Good	Average	Below Average
Leadership				
Initiative				
Focus				
Enthusiasm				
Maturity				
Emotional Stability				
Musical Potential				
Community Service				
Adaptability				
Ethics				

4. Please cite some specific examples of the above qualities. Please use an extra page if necessary.

Please complete this reference and return it to the Ulysses High School counselor's office by May 10th. Thank you for caring enough about this student to complete the reference and return it in a timely manner. Without your recommendation, the applicant cannot succeed.

Ulysses Music Booster "Herb Gillen" Scholarship Evaluation

Ulysses Music Boosters and the Herb Gillen family value students who have proven their interest in the academic and musical arena. We seek students who have demonstrated their commitment to the musical arts, specifically instrumental music education.

Full Name: _____

Permanent Mailing Address

Degree Sought _____

Major Field of Study _____

References: 1. _____

2. _____

Applicant's Signature _____

Date _____

Counselor's Signature _____

Date _____

The following criteria will be used to evaluate applications. On a separate paper, please prepare an essay that supports your qualifications and activities. We are particularly interested in your commitment to instrumental education. We feel that good educator must also exhibit excellence in the following areas:

1. Ethics
2. Leadership
3. Vocation preparation (musical instruments, contests, as well as other vocation preparation)
4. Grade point and class rank
5. Focus
6. Communication skills
7. Maturity
8. Community service
9. Adaptability
10. Emotional stability

<p>Each scholarship applicant should complete this page and turn it into the Ulysses High School counselor's office by May 10, 2012.</p>
