

Karl King Memorial Educational Foundation Scholarship Application Form (To be filled out by applicant)

Please type, write or print legibly.

Name _____ Home Address _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Iowa _____

High School: _____ Email Address _____

Parent/Guardian name(s) _____

If in High School, what college or university do you plan to attend? _____

College attending: _____ College Address _____

College Phone (____) _____ Iowa _____

Major Instrument: _____ Other instruments you play: _____

_____ years on this instrument (indicate years playing experience after each instrument)

Position/place in your band: _____ Total number in your section: _____

Current Solo and study literature on your major instrument. (Title, Composer/Arranger, Publisher)

Festival (Contest) Ratings (if applicable):

Year	Instrument	Name of Composition	Composer/Arranger	Rating
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

All State Band/Orchestra, Honor Band participation (if applicable):

Year	Event Name	Part	Chair
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Describe High School (and College) experiences in music organizations (school, church, community, etc):

Activities that you have been active (include honors and awards you have received):

What are your educational objectives?

What is your professional goal (school band director, professional performer, private teacher, avocation, etc.) as a musician?

Please state in your own words why you desire to be considered as a candidate for the Karl L. King Scholarship Award.

Mail this form to: Karl L. King Scholarship Foundation, Paul Bloomquist
Iowa Central Community College
One Triton Circle, Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501

Office: 515-574-1203

Cell: 515-571-4539

E-mail: bloomquist@iowacentral.edu

Karl King Memorial Educational Foundation Scholarship Recommendation Form

Consider the following people to fill out this recommendation: 1) High School Band Director, 2) Private teacher, 3) High School Counselor, 4) College Band Director, 5) College Advisor, 6) Clergyman, 7) Community Associate (neighbor or business man). At least three (3) of these forms should be submitted. Copy as needed.

Applicants Name _____

Address _____ Iowa _____

To be filled out by High School Counselor/Principal or College Personnel: Grade Point Average (GPA): _____

To be filled out by High School Band Director or College Band Director: Chair Placement _____ out of _____

How long have you known the applicant? _____

How well do you know the applicant?

What do you know about the applicant's plans for the future regarding further music study?

How would you assess the candidate's chances for success in the field of music?

How would you rate the applicant on the following: (Fair, Average, Good, Excellent, Superior, No opportunity to observe)

Technical Facility on Instrument: _____ Musicianship: _____ Attitude: _____

Leadership: _____ Community Service: _____ Character: _____

Please make any additional comments that you feel would be helpful to determining the candidate's worthiness for the Karl L. King Scholarship. Please be as specific as possible. (You may use the reverse side if you wish)

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Relationship to Applicant: _____

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KARL LAWRENCE KING

(1891 – 1971)

Much has been written about Karl L. King – the musician, conductor, and composer. As a young musician, he played both cornet and baritone with the Thayer Military Band of Canton, Ohio, and the Neddermeyer Concert Band of Columbus, Ohio. As a circus musician, he played with Robinson's Famous Shows, the Yankee Robinson Circus, the Sells-Floto Buffalo Bill Combined Shows, and the Barnum and Bailey Circus bands.

In 1914, he was appointed bandmaster of the Sells-Floto Buffalo Bill Combined Shows, a position he held for three years. From there, he became bandmaster of the Barnum and Bailey Circus for two seasons, and then became bandmaster of the Grand Army of the Republic Band of Canton, Ohio in 1919.

As a composer, King published over 200 marches. In addition to this impressive feat, which earned him the title of "America's March King", he also composed waltzes, overtures, intermezzos, dirges, rags, and galops, which totaled almost 100 more selections. He left us a wealth of superb band literature, including some of the most famous and recognizable compositions ever written for band.

Karl King came to Fort Dodge in the fall of 1920, the result of a classified advertisement in a national musician's publication. He was offered, and accepted, the position as conductor of the Fort Dodge Municipal Band, a post he held for more than 50 years. Here, he raised his family, established a successful music publishing business, composed his music, and directed the municipal band. In addition to local concerts, the band appeared at state and regional fairs, rodeos, and expositions, becoming a popular fixture at those events for 40 years.

The official title of the band was the Fort Dodge Municipal Band until after his death in 1971, at which time it was formally renamed the Karl L. King Municipal Band of Fort Dodge. However, within a short time after he assumed the leadership of the group, it became known simply as "King's Band", and was referred to as such by two generations of band members and the general public alike.

King's influence on the band was immediate and considerable. The older members of the band liked him personally and respected him as a conductor and a musician, and took pride in his national reputation. He quickly established his goals, style, and program repertoire, which was pleasing to the band members and the audiences alike. He was a demanding but patient leader, expecting the very best from each musician within that person's capabilities.

The younger members of the band, usually high school musicians, viewed him with a combination of admiration, total respect bordering on awe, and just a tinge of fear that they could not measure up to his standards. His influence on these younger players had a profound effect on their lives. Many went on to become distinguished musicians, educators, and bandmasters themselves, including two previous conductors, W.B. Green and Reginald R. Schive, as well as the present conductor of the band, Jerrold P. Jimmerson. No one who ever played under the baton of Karl King would ever forget that experience and the pride of having worn the uniform of "King's Band."

King became a beloved and respected citizen and a dominant personality in his new hometown. Everyone who knew him treasured his friendship, and his advice and opinions were sought and respected. He became a quiet but forceful influence with community leaders, local politicians, and the local newspapers and radio stations. He always worked for the betterment of the community with pride, diligence, and care, just as he rehearsed his band.

He became a familiar figure on Fort Dodge's main street, Central Avenue. Most mornings, he could be seen in the barbershop next door to his music store, stretched out in the chair getting his morning shave, which was one of his greatest pleasures. He'd usually have a coffee break at the corner restaurant, visiting with the main street businessmen. His daily walk to the Post Office, a distance of a block and a half, took up a measurable portion of his day. Everyone he met stopped to say "Hello", to visit, to seek advice, or to comment on his latest concert. Karl had time for each of them, including occasionally someone down on their luck seeking a handout. His twice-weekly trips to The Messenger newspaper office with his program for the Sunday or Thursday night concerts always included a few minutes to visit with the editor, a joke with his good friend, the city editor, and a word with the reporter to whom he delivered the program. And often as not, he'd stroll into the galley room next to the newsroom, where one of his young band members would be changing or cleaning type. He'd reflect on his own youth as an apprentice printer, and usually stay long enough to get some printer's ink on his fingers or shirt.

He became a great favorite with the press and radio media. He was always intelligent in his opinion and always quotable, giving pertinent, frequently witty comments. His trips, guest appearances, and honors were always major news items shared with pride by the entire community. In 1956, when he had the moustache that he had worn since 1919 shaved off, it was dutifully featured in the local paper under the caption, "Fort Dodge Loses Another Famous Landmark".

King belonged to the First Congregational Church, the Masonic Lodge, Commandery, Shrine, High Twelve Service Club, Rotary Club, and Elks Club, and was named an honorary member of the Chamber of Commerce.

During his lifetime, King received the highest honors and awards of his profession. These included: President of the American Bandmasters Association, President of the Iowa Bandmasters Association, Honorary Doctor of Music degree from Phillips University in Enid Oklahoma, National Band Association's AWAPA Award, and the American School Band Directors Association's Edwin Franko Goldman Award.

But his greatest tributes came from his adopted hometown and state. Signs at the major highways leading into Fort Dodge proudly proclaimed, "Welcome to Fort Dodge – Home of Karl L. King". In 1951, some 250 friends from Fort Dodge, the state of Iowa, and the nation honored him at a testimonial dinner in Des Moines, attended by then Governor of Iowa, William Beardsley. The largest of several gifts presented was a new Buick Roadmaster sedan. He was named Elk of the Year by the local Elk's Lodge, and received the Lions Club Community Service Award. In 1962, King and his band dutifully appeared at the dedication of a new, two million dollar viaduct spanning the Des Moines River.

When the plaque was unveiled, it bore the name of Karl L. King, which until that moment had been a well-kept secret. In 1975, Karl L. King posthumously received the Iowa Award, the highest honor the state can bestow on an individual. This award was presented by then Governor Robert D. Ray to King's widow, Ruth, during ceremonies at the All-State Music Festival in Ames.

Karl L. King was a giant in the world of band music, and was also a loved, respected, and admired citizen of a grateful and appreciative community and state. He once said: *"I've sung my song. It was a rather simple one; it wasn't too involved; I'm happy about it"*

