



The **ALICE DOWNS SCHOLARSHIP FOR YOUNG VIOLINISTS** was established in 2010 in honor of Valma Hunter on the occasion of her 90th birthday. Born in Brisbane, Australia, on November 4, 1920 to Joseph and Catherine Lock,

Valma travelled frequently to her father's cattle station, "Alice Downs," 470 miles (17 hours by train) west of Brisbane, in the Queensland outback.

Valma's mother was a cultured English lady who wanted her son George and daughter Valma to be accomplished in the arts. To that end, she arranged for her children to study violin and elocution. Valma also took lessons in piano and ballet (her real love).



At age six, Valma watched the famed Russian ballerina Anna Pavlova dance at His Majesty's Theatre in Brisbane. At nine, she herself danced on that stage as a member of the city's premier dance academy. In her late teens she was appointed to the studio's faculty. She also taught under her own name and was the first teacher of four-year-old Garth Welch, a natural talent who became the principal male dancer for The Australian Ballet, and a noted choreographer.

Arrangements had been made for Valma to continue her ballet studies and career in London, but those plans were dashed by the death of her mother and, in 1939, the outbreak of World War II. She married Colin Hunter in 1942 and gave birth to daughter Diane in 1943 while her husband was serving in England with the Royal Australian Air Force. Son David was born after the war – a baby boomer.

Valma's keen interest in the world of ballet and music never wavered. She arranged for her children to take lessons and although neither of them excelled – David preferred wielding a cricket bat to a violin bow – they both credit their mother with instilling in them a deep appreciation for music and the arts.

This scholarship is funded by The Gumnut Group LLC (Media & More) of Haddonfield NJ. David Hunter, president. admin@gumnutgroup.com. The photograph (above) of Valma and George Lock with their mother, Catherine, was taken in the early 1920s.

The Alice Downs Scholarship for Young Violinists 2020

Philadelphia International Music Festival at Bryn Mawr College,
featuring members of The Philadelphia Orchestra



Deadline: April 30



Presented by the
Rotary Club of Haddonfield
Foundation



The **ALICE DOWNS SCHOLARSHIP FOR YOUNG VIOLINISTS** is intended to enable a promising student of the violin or viola – a resident of Camden County NJ, age 11 to 19 – to enroll as a Day Participant at the Philadelphia International Music Festival’s two-week summer program at Bryn Mawr College in Philadelphia, PA.

The **PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL** (formerly the Strings International Music Festival) is a summer music program offering students from the U.S. and abroad an opportunity to spend 14 days immersed in classical music education and performance with members of The Philadelphia Orchestra.



Open to students of all ages and skill levels, the Festival offers private lessons, daily orchestra rehearsals, daily music education courses, optional chamber music rehearsals, solo performance and competition opportunities, daily private practice time, faculty recitals, and master classes featuring principal players and other members of The Philadelphia

Orchestra ... and more.

Festival dates for 2020: First Session June 20 to July 3;
Second Session July 18 to 31.

The **ROTARY CLUB OF HADDONFIELD FOUNDATION** is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that provides financial assistance to students in Haddonfield and nearby communities who are furthering their education in a college, vocational, or other educational setting. Since 2001, the Foundation has awarded scholarships valued in total at more than \$175,000.

Awards will be presented during a Rotary dinner meeting at the Tavistock Country Club on Wednesday, May 20. The recipient of the Alice Downs Scholarship for Young Violinists is expected to attend that meeting to receive his/her award.



As a **DAY PARTICIPANT** (9am to 5:15pm), the student will participate with members of the Festival’s world-class faculty in music education classes, master classes, daily orchestra rehearsals, solo performances, competitions, faculty recitals, Philadelphia

Orchestra concerts, student concerts, and other regularly scheduled activities, as applicable.

Visit the Festival’s website – pimf.org – for details.

The scholarship is valued at \$2,650 and covers tuition, lunch, Festival tee-shirt, and four tickets to the Festival’s Music for Healing concert – featuring members of The Philadelphia Orchestra and other world-class musicians – in June or July 2020.

At his/her own option and cost, the student also may enrol in other programs offered by the Festival, including the Extended Day and Residential programs and private lessons.

Visit the Festival’s website – pimf.org – for details.

HOW AND WHEN TO APPLY

The application deadline is **April 30, 2020**.

All students of violin or viola, 11 to 19 years of age as of June 30, 2020, and residing in Camden County, New Jersey, may apply.

Applicants must:

- Compose a 200 to 250-word essay on “Why Violin (or Viola) is the Coolest Instrument in the Orchestra.”
- E-mail the essay to scholarships@pimf.org.
- Visit pimf.org and complete the online Scholarship Application Registration Form. (No deposit is required for scholarship applicants.)

The winner will be notified by May 15, 2020.