

**OUIDA KECK AWARD****CA 13-2****Annual Award: \$2,000****Professional Development for the Independent Piano Teacher****Dr. Elaine Brady, Chair - E-mail: [pe973@aol.com](mailto:pe973@aol.com)****APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

The Professional Development for the Independent Piano Teacher Award is named for Past National President *Dr. Ouida Keck* (1999-2003). It provides financial assistance annually to an independent piano teacher who demonstrates superior teaching in the private studio and wishes to further enhance teaching skills.

Funds are to be used for advanced training through piano pedagogy classes; private piano lessons; attendance at pedagogy conferences and conventions featuring pedagogy in the area of piano; purchase of new piano literature, method books, computer software, instruments, or other equipment needed to enhance the teaching environment. Funds are not available for scholarly research.

Previous recipients of this award are not eligible to apply. Entrants cannot enter NFMC Competitions in the Student/Collegiate Division if entering this competition even if entrant holds memberships in both Sr. and Student/Collegiate Divisions.

**Requirements:**

- Membership in NFMC is required as a senior individual member or federated club member. **If you are not a member, visit [www.NFMC-music.org/payment](http://www.NFMC-music.org/payment) to pay senior individual dues of \$70.**
- Must submit a \$10 entry fee with application plus materials listed below.
- Must be a U.S. citizen. Include statement of citizenship.
- Minimum age requirement of 21
- Must have at least three years of private piano studio teaching experience and must teach a minimum of 10 hours per week in the private studio.
- Applicants must not hold a full-time college teaching position.
- Applicants may incorporate group lessons or classes into their teaching, but the majority of their teaching must be individual instruction.
- All required materials and application must be submitted April 1 to the NFMC site - <https://forms.nfmc-music.org/forms/>:
  1. A complete resume indicating all previous piano study, teaching experience and degree(s).
  2. Three letters of recommendation from former piano teachers and/or colleagues in the field of piano who can testify to applicant's contributions to piano teaching.
  3. Recital programs from student recitals or festivals demonstrating excellence in choice of repertoire and programming.
  4. Letter from the applicant stating why funding is needed and a budget indicating how it is to be used.
- Applications will be judged by a panel of qualified judges in the area of piano pedagogy, and winners will be announced by *May 1*.
- Winners must agree to submit a written summary of how the funds were used within one year after receiving the award.

Winners will be asked to submit their social security numbers and a W-9 form to the NFMC treasurer (IRS requirement).