

Jim Casey Music Memorial Scholarship

Jim Casey was a nationally known entertainer and songwriter born in Norfolk, Nebraska. He was a professional songwriter and a member of the Nebraska rock band The Smoke Ring. His songs have been recorded by Country, Pop, & Folk artists.

Jim Casey is an eclectic mix of the different styles of music he was exposed to, growing up in Nebraska. He played and wrote Country from the heart, and he knew how to Rock 'n' Roll. Jim Casey's experience led him to a spot in a local group, the Smoke Ring, which found success on the Billboard Charts, and with national television appearances on shows like ABC's American Bandstand with Dick Clark.

Jim Casey's guitar playing, and songwriting talent led him to a contract with Gold Dust Music and a move to Nashville, Tennessee. "My dream was to come to Nashville to become a record producer, but somewhere in the course of performing and just hanging out, I got turned on to a lot of great writers and started co-writing more and more." recalls Casey. He was finally getting cuts on other artist's recordings, and he discovered he had a talent for songwriting that has panned out for him over the course of his career.

Jim is the founder of the Nebraska Music Hall of Fame and helped establish a permanent "Nebraska Rocks" exhibit at the Elkhorn Valley Museum in Norfolk.

Jim Casey had a stage presence that is undeniable. He relates to his audience and gets them involved. He fires up a crowd, and his band rocks! With his diverse background in all types of music and his ability to relate to the audience, it is easy to see why this great musician is timeless. A talented writer and performer, Jim Casey did what he loved to do, and what he does best... entertain!

The family of Jim Casey wishes to honor his life and his love of music. Jim Casey used music to bring joy to others. The recipient of the scholarship will have demonstrated using music to help bring joy to others.

Scholarship must be used for the remission of tuition, fees, room or board. This scholarship will be awarded upon the notification of acceptance prior to the beginning of the first semester of the academic year.

Selection Criteria:

1. A minimum college enrollment of 12 hours per semester
2. Awarded to a graduating senior that must have participated in at least one year in NHS extra-curricular music activities; including all bands, choirs, and orchestra.
3. Must write a personal essay - How can music be used to help bring joy to one person; many people; the world?
4. Selection will be made by the NPSF Scholarship Committee