



2019 McKnight Visiting Composer Residency Program

GUIDELINE INFORMATION

The American Composers Forum is pleased to announce the 2019 McKnight Visiting Composers Residency Program. This program is made possible by the generous support of The McKnight Foundation.

ONLINE APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, March 22, 2019 (11:59 PM Central)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- The American Composers Forum will select up to two composers to design and produce their own residencies in Minnesota.
- Visiting composers should expect to spend approximately 40 days in Minnesota, working on projects with a Minnesota ensemble and/or community—or communities—of their choosing.
- Visiting composers are expected to complete their projects within 18 months of receiving the award.
- This is not a commissioning program, although new work may be part of the residency. In keeping with the Forum's commitment to promoting awareness and understanding of living composers, this program encourages interaction with a variety of venues which will help promote composers' role in society.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The American Composers Forum encourages applicants from the full range of musical styles, and is committed to supporting a diverse pool of artists whose work demonstrates strong artistic merit. Accordingly, awards for our programs will represent, as far as possible, artists and projects that are diverse in genre, gender, race, ethnicity and geography.

Panelists will assess the:

- Creative potential, imagination, and effectiveness of the proposed project.
- Consistent high quality of applicant's previous work.
- Anticipated value of the residency project for the composer's career and ensemble and/or designated community.

Specific partner organizations do not have to be identified at the time of application, although that is strongly encouraged. The panel is more interested in project designs that are promising while still being feasible. Selected composers will be asked to develop their plans prior to beginning the residency.

AWARDS

Up to two residencies of \$10,000 will be awarded. All funds are distributed directly to the selected composer across four installments. Awards are subject to state and federal income tax guidelines.

ELIGIBILITY

- Composers working in any style are encouraged to apply.
- You must be living outside Minnesota.
- You must have a US Social Security Number or US Tax ID.
- You are not staff, board, or immediate family of the McKnight Foundation or the American Composers Forum.
- You may not be enrolled full-time in an academic program.
- Recipients of 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 McKnight Visiting Composer Residency and/or McKnight Fellowships *in any discipline* are not eligible.
- Composers do not have to be members of the American Composers Forum to apply.

SELECTION PROCESS

A panel of three composers from outside Minnesota chosen for their familiarity with diverse genres of new music will review applications and, in consultation with ACF staff, will select residency recipients.

NOTIFICATION

The panel's decision will be announced in mid June, 2019. Results will be posted on ACF's website and applicants will be notified by email. After the 2019 McKnight Fellowships for Composers and Visiting Composer Residencies are announced, all applicants will have the opportunity to setup a phone appointment with ACF's vice president of programs for feedback from the panelists.

HOW TO APPLY

Complete the online application form, located here:

<https://composersforum.org/program/mcknight-visiting-composer-residencies>

1. Composer's Personal Information (Questions 1 - 12):

Name, Address, Phone, Email Address, Website

2. Questions Regarding Eligibility (Questions 13 - 14):

Questions to confirm your eligibility for this program.

3. Project proposal (Questions 15: 6,000-character limit including spaces)

The project proposal should include a detailed description of your proposed residency activities while you are in Minnesota, including your interaction with the community you've chosen, and an explanation of the anticipated value of the residency for that community.

4. Artist's statement (Questions 16: 4,000-character limit including spaces)

A statement explaining the development of your work, your interests as an artist or your aesthetic position, why the residency you've designed would be valuable to you, and any other information you would like to present to the panel.

5. Insights into your artistic experiences (Questions 17: 4,000-character limit including spaces) This can be a biography or a list of 10 artistic experiences that have shaped you as a musician. We would like this document to enhance your artistic statement and provide further insights into your creation of music. If you chose to list a set of 10 artistic experiences, please go deeper into details on two of the most important experiences out of the ten experiences.

6. Support materials (Question 18: Web link to materials)

Other relevant support materials, such as letter(s) of commitment from individuals and organizations involved in your proposed project (optional, but preferred when the proposal requires the involvement of specialized communities).

7. Three Work Samples (Questions: 19 – 42)

Provide three audio/and or video work samples totaling no more than 30-minutes of your original music. At least one of your work samples should be of a work you composed in the last three years. Keep in mind that work samples should support the criteria of the program and your project proposal. For each sample you will have the ability to list cue start and end times so that you can provide a complete work but point the panelists to specific areas of a longer work that you would like for them to review.

Provide three scores for the corresponding audio/video via web links. Written scores are required unless they are inappropriate to your compositional style. For improvised performance, please clearly describe the nature of your involvement as the composer in the creation of the piece in a document uploaded or hosted in the link provided.

Provide web links to your samples (SoundCloud, YouTube, Vimeo, Google Drive, etc.). Make sure web links you provide in this application remain active and unchanged until June 30, 2019. If you do not wish for your work samples to be public please make them unlisted so the committee will still have access.

- i. Work Sample 1 makes the most critical impression on the panelists, and should represent your most distinctive and compelling musical example. Panelists will listen up to five-minutes of this work in the first round. If you wish them to start at a cue point other than the beginning, please indicate the start time for the cue in Question 21 Work Sample 1 – Cue Start Time. If no cue is provided the panelists will start at the beginning of the sample.
- ii. Work Samples 2 & 3 should be complementary works you created

For each work sample you will be asked to provide the Title, Duration, Year of Completion, Ensemble/Name(s) of Performer(s), and Instrumentation. You may also give other pertinent information you feel would be helpful to the panel, such as how why you chose to submit this particular sample (3000-character limit including spaces).

8. Composer's Demographic Information (Questions 43 - 44)

Providing this information is optional. The American Composers Forum strives to include applicants from the full range of musical styles, and is committed to supporting a diverse pool of artists in genre, gender identity, race, ethnicity, and geography. Sharing your information helps us know how we are doing and where we might improve our efforts.

9. Questions regarding social media, information sessions, and how you learned about this opportunity. (Questions 45 – 47)

10. Acknowledgement of Terms and Conditions (Questions 48)

By applying, you attest:

- to the accuracy of the information supplied in the application
- application materials submitted is the applicants sole and original work
- understand the purpose and conditions of the McKnight Compo program and to your acceptance to them should you be selected as a fellow
- you are eligible for the competition, and that you will notify the American Composers Forum’s Vice President of Programs if you become ineligible prior to the conclusion of the competition
- Providing false or misleading information on this application, or failing in any other way to comply with the rules will subject you to disqualification and forfeiture of the fellowship.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Entries must be submitted electronically via the link below on or before 11:59 PM Central on Friday, March 22, 2019. SlideRoom Application Link:
- <https://composersforum.org/program/mcknight-visiting-composer-residencies>
- Late applications will not be considered.
- Entries submitted by mail or means other than the provided online application process will not be eligible for consideration.

2019 MCKNIGHT VISITING COMPOSER INFORMATION SESSIONS

William Lackey, ACF VP of Programs, will conduct seven 60-minute 2019 McKnight Visiting Composers Residency Application Workshops online to go over the application process. These sessions will be offered online via Zoom. Zoom video tutorials can be found here: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206618765-Zoom-Video-Tutorials>

Information Session Dates and Times

Tuesday, January 29:	10:30 – 11:30 AM CST	Register HERE for this date.
Thursday, February 7:	3:30 – 4:30 PM CST	Register HERE for this date.
Saturday, February 16:	9:30 – 10:30 AM CST	Register HERE for this date.
Monday, February 25:	1:30 – 2:30 PM CST	Register HERE for this date.
Saturday, March 9:	4:00 – 5:00 PM CST	Register HERE for this date.

If you are not able to participate in one of the online session you are welcome to schedule one-on-one meeting in person at the ACF office or over the phone, with William Lackey about their application before completing it online. To schedule a meeting, please call 651.251.2833 or e-mail wlackey@composersforum.org

RESOURCES FOR UNLISTED LINKS:

SoundCloud:

<http://shareandembed.help.soundcloud.com/customer/portal/articles/2167144-sharing-a-private-track-or-playlist-within-soundcloud>

YouTube:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/157177?hl=en>

Google Drive:

<https://support.google.com/drive/answer/2494822?hl=en>

QUESTIONS

William J. Lackey, Vice President of Programs

at 651.251.2833 or e-mail wlackey@composersforum.org