

Juilliard



Composing Inclusion

American Composers Forum (ACF), in partnership with The Juilliard School's Preparatory Division and the New York Philharmonic, is pleased to announce a new commissioning collaboration that brings together multiple generations, musical levels, perspectives, and community members in the creation and performance of new music. With funding from the Sphinx Venture Fund, nine (9) music creators who identify as Black and/or Latinx will be commissioned to create "flexible" or adaptable scores* for different musical levels. The nine commissioned works will be developed in collaboration with Juilliard students and Philharmonic artists over the course of several months; all will receive New York side-by-side premieres. Composers are invited to apply for both/either orchestra or chamber commissions. The final nine commissions will include five works for orchestra and four for chamber ensembles (woodwind chamber ensemble, brass chamber ensemble, and string chamber ensemble). A consideration will be an applicant's connection to the New York City area.

ONLINE APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 24, 2022 (11:59PM Central)

Eligibility

- Music creators working in any methodology/approach are encouraged to apply. (Please note: we are unfortunately unable to accommodate the use of electronics.)
- You have five years of experience creating notated music, including orchestral instruments.
- You have demonstrated experience collaborating with young people (middle/high school ages).

- If applying for an orchestra commission, you have experience creating music for a group of 6 or more musicians.
- You are eligible to receive taxable income in the United States.
- It is not necessary that you have prior experience creating “flexible” or adaptable scores. Resources and guidance will be provided as part of the commissionee’s experience.
- You are not an employee, contractor, board member, or an immediate family member of the American Composers Forum, The Juilliard School, or the New York Philharmonic. Current ACF awardees in other programs are not considered contractors.

Commission

Nine music creators will be selected: five for orchestral commissions and four for chamber ensemble commissions (1 for each of the 4 ensembles listed above). Applicants can apply for more than one instrumentation, but will only be selected for one commission. Further details regarding the commissions:

- Music creators selected for orchestral commissions will receive \$10,000 total for the commission, workshops/promotion events, rehearsal, and performance attendance. Music creators selected for a chamber ensemble commission will receive \$5,000 total for the commission, workshops/promotion events, rehearsal and performance attendance.
- Each music creator must commit to participating in 4 workshops/promotion events with at least 2 in person, select rehearsals of the commissioned work, and the premiere performance.
- Commissioning collaborators are seeking commissioned works to be between 7 - 8 minutes in duration.
- Selected artists will be expected to meet as a cohort and individually with composer and artistic advisor Trevor Weston plus administration from the collaborating partners.
- Due to access to minors in this program, each selected artist must agree to a background check.
- Artists who reside outside of the NY/NJ/CT area will receive \$1500 for travel and lodging expenses for the above requirement.
- Funds for a copyist and/or score/part printing will be provided.
- Archival recordings will be provided by the New York Philharmonic or The Juilliard School (whoever is hosting the performance).
- ACF will work with composer, publishers, or additional third parties to publish and promote the final work.

Key Evaluation Criteria

We encourage applicants who represent the full range of musical methodologies and are committed to supporting a diverse pool of artists who demonstrate compelling artistic work. Accordingly, selected artists for our programs will represent, as far as possible, artists and projects that are diverse in musical approaches, gender, race, ethnicity, and geography. This opportunity follows the scope of the underwriting grantor, Sphinx Venture Fund, and their focus on individuals who identify as part of the Black and Latinx communities. Read more at: <https://www.sphinxmusic.org/our-work>.

Curators will assess the:

- Consistent quality of applicant's previous creative work
- Demonstrated experience collaborating with young people (middle/high school ages)
- Express enthusiasm in participating in this pilot intergenerational program
- Connection to/interest in the greater NYC community

Selection Process

ACF staff review all applicants for eligibility and applications for completeness. A curatorial committee will select the nine commissioned music creators. Members of the curatorial committee include: Gary A. Padmore, Director of Education and Community Engagement at New York Philharmonic; Vanessa Rose, President of the American Composers Forum; Weston Sprott, Dean of Preparatory Division The Juilliard School, Trevor Weston, Composer and Artistic Advisor; New York Philharmonic Musicians, New York Philharmonic Teaching Artists, and leaders from The Juilliard School Preparatory Division.

There will be two rounds to the selection process. The first round will include the review of all application materials submitted via SlideRoom. Finalists will be invited to have a conversation with the collaborating commissioners in the second round to make the final selection of the nine commissioned music creators.

Notification

All applicants will be notified via email regarding the status of their application after the first round in May, 2022. The second round will take place in mid/late May, 2022. The curators' decision will be announced in late May, 2022. Results will be posted on ACF's website and applicants will be notified by email. After the Composing Inclusion Commissioned Artists are announced, all applicants will have the opportunity to set up a phone appointment for comments from the curators.

How to Apply

Acknowledgement of Composing Inclusion Commission Application Guidelines

Composer's Personal Information (Questions 1 - 15):

Name, Pronouns, Address, Phone, Email Address, Webpage

Questions Regarding Eligibility (Questions 16 - 19):

A series of questions to confirm your eligibility for this program

Statement of Interest (Question 20 or 21) (Link to 2 – 3-minute video (Q 20) OR typed answer (Q 21) of maximum 3,000 characters, including spaces)

Why are you interested in this project? How do you develop a method that engages people in creative processes? What is your connection to/interest in the greater NY community? Why does being involved in this community matter to you? What does it mean to you to be working in this community?

Statement of Previous Work with Young People (Question 22 or 23) (Link to 2 – 3-minute video (Q 22) OR typed answer (Q 23) of maximum 3,000 characters, including spaces)

How have you collaborated with young people in the past as part of your creative process?

Sample of work created in collaboration with young people (Questions 24 – 25)

If available, provide an audio/and or video work sample totaling no more than 5-minutes of your collaborative work with young people.

Two Work Samples (Questions 26 – 45)

Provide two audio/and or video work samples totaling no more than 10-minutes of your original music. At least one of your work samples should be of a work you created in the last five years. Keep in mind that work samples should support the criteria of the program. For each sample list cue start and end times. You can provide a complete work but point the curators to specific areas of a longer work that you would like for them to review.

For each audio/and or video work sample please submit any accompanying documentation/materials that will provide further insights into your creative process. Either clearly describe the nature of your involvement in the creation of the piece in a document uploaded or if notated scores are part of your creative process, provide PDFs of scores (up to 10MB each) corresponding to the audio or video samples you submitted. If the PDF is larger than 10 MB, a space is given for you to provide a web link to the larger file. Curators will not have access to music notation, electronic music, graphic, video, or other specialized software.

Provide web links to your music samples (SoundCloud, YouTube, Vimeo, Google Drive, etc.). Make sure web links you provide in this application remain active and unchanged until July 31, 2022. If you do not wish for your work samples to be public, please make them unlisted so the committee will still have access.

- a. Work Sample 1 makes the most critical impression on the curators, and should represent your most distinctive and compelling musical example.
- b. Work Sample 2

For each work sample you will be asked to provide the Cue Start and End Times, Title, Duration, Year of Completion, Ensemble/Name(s) of Performer(s), Instrumentation. You may also give other pertinent information you feel will be helpful to the panel, such as how it fits into your body of work and why you chose to submit this particular sample (3000 characters with spaces).

Artist’s statement (Question 46 or 47) (Link to 2 – 3-minute video (Q 46) OR typed answer (Q 47) of maximum 3,000 characters, including spaces)

The artist statement may take any of several directions, at your discretion: information about your background, the development of your work, your interests as an artist or your aesthetic position, your future artistic direction, or any other information you would like to present to the curators.

Questions regarding social media, how you learned about this opportunity, and the number of years you have been creating original music. (Question 48 – 50)

Providing this information is optional.

Music creator’s Demographic Information (Question 51 – 52)

We frame our work with a focus on racial equity and include within that scope, but not limited to, diverse gender identities, musical approaches and perspectives, religions, ages, (dis)abilities, cultures, backgrounds, sexual orientations, and broad definitions of being “American.”

This opportunity follows the scope of the underwriting grantor, Sphinx Venture Fund, and their focus on individuals who identify as part of the Black and Latinx communities. Read more at: <https://www.sphinxmusic.org/our-work>.

We request information about your identity to help us know more about the artists we are reaching. **Open fields** are provided so you can share how you self-identify. We understand that this data can in no way fully reflect the richness of who you are.

Providing this information is optional.

Acknowledgement of Terms and Conditions (Questions 53)

By applying, you attest:

- you have carefully reviewed the Composing Inclusion Commissioning application guidelines.
- to the accuracy of the information supplied in the application.
- application materials submitted are the applicant’s sole and original work.
- understand the purpose and conditions of the Composing Inclusion Commissioning program and to your acceptance to them should you be selected as a commissioned artist.
- you are eligible for the competition, and that you will notify the ACF Director of Artist Services if you become ineligible prior to the conclusion of this program.

- 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 any awarded commission.
- I know if awarded a Composing Inclusion commission I will be required to sign an agreement, submit a W9, and be responsible for all taxes pertaining to payments to me as part of the Composing Inclusion program.
- you understand that your application must be completed by the online application deadline of Thursday, March 24, 2022 11:59 PM (Central). ACF/ The Juilliard School/ New York Philharmonic take no responsibility for applications that are not in Submitted status at the deadline.

Resources for Unlisted Links

SoundCloud:

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

Vimeo: <https://help.vimeo.com/hc/en-us/articles/224818307-Basic-membership>

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

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

Questions

We encourage applicants to contact ACF staff to ask questions and discuss potential applications. For questions regarding the Composing Inclusion commissioning program, contact Billy Lackey, Vice President of Artist Services, at 651.317.9441 or e-mail wlackey@composersforum.org.