

## Young Musicians Innovation Challenge 2021



**for high school musicians in the tri-state area and cities of Miami, FL and Philadelphia, PA**

The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center is excited to launch the first-ever Young Musicians Innovation Challenge! This new competition challenges teams of 2-5 high school-age students to launch innovative projects which would benefit the chamber music world. Projects may focus on areas like performance, pedagogy, access, social impact. Proposals will be adjudicated on creativity, viability, sustainability, and ways in which projects address diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Sample proposals could include: curation and presentation of a live or online concert around a theme related to the cultural heritages represented in the team; or creation of new tools for online learning which address internet access inequity which may benefit their own schools.

Each team is asked to prepare a pre-recorded "pitch" outlining their program and its merits and will be adjudicated in a Preliminary Round and Final Round via Zoom webinars. Teams selected from the Preliminary Round will receive a coaching session with a CMS artist or staff member on strategies for refining their proposals and submitting a second video to compete in the Final Round.

**Up to 5 teams** will be selected as finalists and will receive a scholarship of \$1000 paid to their school to implement their proposed project by the end of the 2020-21 school year.

## ELIGIBILITY

All students must attend a public or private school, home school consortium, or after-school music programs (where schools do not have a full-time music program) in the tri-state area or the cities of Miami, FL or Philadelphia, PA to be eligible for the competition. Applications must be submitted *by a teacher from the department or after-school music program* on behalf of the students who agrees to serve as the point of contact for each submitted group.

Each school, homeschool consortium, or after-school program may submit **no more than three (3) teams of 2 to 5 students** for consideration. To best support chamber music instruction in school music programs, the Young Musicians Innovation Challenge is only for groups meeting the following guidelines:

- ❖ All students in the ensemble must attend the same school, home-school consortium, or after-school program at the time of application.
- ❖ All students in the team must actively participate in their school/after-school music program (eg. orchestra, band, chamber ensemble, chamber music club).
- ❖ The application must be submitted by the school music teacher on behalf of their students.
- ❖ The program is not open to community music schools.

## PROJECT PITCH VIDEO

Each project application should provide a video no longer than 2 minutes in duration describing the project, how it will contribute to the world of chamber music, and how the project would be implemented if selected for support. The video should include all members of the team speaking to these points.

Videos may be filmed with a smartphone and should be uploaded to YouTube as a “private video” via a Gmail or YouTube account (available for free). The link to the video should be provided in the online application form detailed below. For instructions on how to upload a private video, click [here](#).

**Instructions for how to upload a private video to YouTube may be accessed [here](#).**

## PROJECT SUMMARY AND BUDGET

Each project application should include a written short description, impact summary, projected timeline, and budget (including secured sources of funding if total project budget exceeds \$1000).

## APPLICATION

Click [here](#) to access the online application form. The form will allow you to save your progress and return to the form before submission. An email will be sent to you with a link to return to your partially completed form once you click “Save” on the bottom of each application page.

The application requests the following information:

- School/homeschool consortium/after-school music program name, address, phone
- Principal/homeschool consortium administrator name
- Teacher name, phone, email address
- Student personnel names and grades for each team submitted and indicate the team leader for each team

To assist us in the application process, please name YouTube video with the following format:

**School Name\_Project Title**

Example: Pleasantville\_A\_New\_Approach\_to\_Repertoire\_Guides

If submitting more than one project, please complete a separate online form for each project (you will be able to make multiple submissions on the online form with a single e-mail address).

### **PRELIMINARY ROUND**

Each team selected for the Preliminary Round will be asked to present their projects for the Preliminary Round Panel in the form of a Zoom webinar session. At this round, the original video submission for each team will be screened to the panel and members of the team will be asked questions about their projects by the Panel.

Families of the participating teams and students from their schools will be able to attend the Preliminary Round webinar.

### **COACHING SESSION**

Each team selected for the Final Round will receive a one-hour, online coaching session with a CMS mentor at a time convenient for all team members and leading coaches. Each team will be required to submit a revised "pitch" video reflecting the input from the coaching session to be screened during the Final Round Panel.

### **FINAL ROUND**

The Final Round will be held in the form of a Zoom webinar open to attendees from the general public. Each team selected for the Final Round will have their second video screened for the Panel and answer questions of that Panel.

The Panel will take a short pause for deliberation and return to announce the final teams during the same webinar session.

### **AWARD**

Up to 5 groups will be selected as finalists and will each receive a scholarship paid to their school/after school program in the amount of \$1000 to implement their projects.

A **final report** must be submitted to CMS following the implementation of each finalist project assessing how the project's stated goals were achieved with tracking of their overall effectiveness.

### **CREDITS AND PERMISSIONS**

All selected teams will be asked to credit CMS in any publicity materials related to their projects and permit CMS to use any content generated from the project for promotional purposes. Teams and participating Schools will be permitted to share their projects or content generated from the projects with other parties.

## IMPORTANT DATES

5:00pm EST Tuesday, January 12, 2021:

Materials must be **received** via the submission link

Wednesday, January 20, 2021:

Music teachers will be notified of the results of the selection process for the Preliminary Round by this date

7:30pm EST Monday, February 8, 2021:

**Preliminary Round** (via Zoom webinar)

TBC:

Coaching sessions with each group selected for the Final Round (via Zoom meeting)

5:00pm EST Thursday, March 11, 2021:

Deadline for Team Finalists to submit their revised pitch videos

7:30pm EST Tuesday, March 16, 2021:

**Final Round** (via Zoom webinar)

Friday, July 9, 2021:

Deadline to submit final report for projects selected for support

## QUESTIONS?

Contact:

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