

THE BOWERS PROGRAM 2024-27

INDIVIDUAL ARTIST APPLICATION GUIDELINES

(if applying as an Ensemble, please refer to the Ensembles Application Guidelines)

The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center invites INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS to apply for the Bowers Program 2024-27 residency.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Bowers Program identifies and nourishes a select number of individuals and ensembles chosen from an international pool of candidates through highly competitive auditions. Dedicated to developing the chamber music leaders of the future, The Bowers Program is a rigorous three-season residency, fully integrating Bowers artists into every facet of CMS activities in New York and on tour nationally and internationally.

The alumni of CMS's Bowers Program (formerly CMS Two) constitute a who's who list of today's renowned chamber musicians. From early members such as clarinetist **Anthony McGill** and pianist **Jonathan Biss**, to more recent alumni such as pianist **Inon Barnatan** and violinist **Benjamin Beilman**, to ensembles such as the **Escher**, **Calidore**, and **Danish String Quartets**, the musicians of the Bowers Program form an international network of collaborative artists performing chamber music at the highest level of artistic excellence anywhere.

The accolades, accomplishments and activities of Bowers Program graduates include, among others: 50 artists who have received **Avery Fisher Career Grants**; more than 7 graduates occupying **principal chair positions** in major symphony orchestras; over one dozen **artistic directorships** of leading festivals and chamber music series, both in the United States and abroad. Alumni of the Bowers Program are increasingly visible not only as the most sought-after chamber musicians, but also as artistic leaders of the future.

Membership in the Bowers Program affords immediate inclusion in all activities of the Chamber Music Society, including appearances in **Alice Tully Hall** and **on tour**, as an equal member among CMS's legendary, multi-generational and multi-national roster of artists. More than half the number of performers regularly appearing at CMS are current, incoming or former Bowers artists.

Acceptance into the Bowers Program, by audition only, requires musical and instrumental preparation of the highest level and a dedication to pursuing chamber music as a life-long study. The Bowers Program jury, composed of chamber artists and distinguished artistic administrators, is headed by CMS Artistic Directors **David Finckel** and **Wu Han**, who personally oversee the CMS activities of all Bowers artists for the duration of their residencies.

Professional opportunities in which Bowers artists have traditionally participated include:

- Alice Tully Hall subscription concerts
- Rose Studio subscription concerts
- National and international touring
- Lecture/demonstrations
- CMS education and community engagement programs
- Radio, television, and web live stream broadcast
- Leading workshops and coaching sessions for young musicians

Individuals and ensembles selected for the program will be compensated for all activities. Specific schedules are developed each season by mutual agreement between CMS and the artists.

IMPORTANT DATES

- September 16, 2022 (5:00pm ET): Application Deadline
- By September 30, 2022: Notification that all application requirements have been met
- By November 22, 2022: Applicants invited to live auditions receive notification
- January 7-9, 2023: Live auditions to take place at Lincoln Center in New York City; applicants invited to live auditions are asked to hold January 6, 2023 for rehearsal with CMS artists

*Under exceptional circumstances, private live auditions may be arranged for applicants passing the submitted materials round. All applicants are encouraged to participate in the standard auditions, but if circumstances warrant, please indicate on the application form that you would like to request a private audition.

ELIGIBILITY

All applicants must have at least two years of substantial performing experience demonstrating prominence in the early stages of a professional career.

LIVE PERFORMANCE ROUND

Based on application materials and submitted recordings, selected individuals will be invited to audition live before a panel of judges in collaboration with CMS artists in chamber works. Live auditions will be held in two rounds, with selected applicants called back for the second round.. Applicants **must be available for all three days** of the live auditions and one day of rehearsal with CMS artists to be considered for the program. Auditions will take place at Lincoln Center **on January 7-9, 2023**. Rehearsal with CMS artists will take place on **January 6, 2023**.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

All materials must be submitted online:

[Individuals Application form](#)

Personal Information and Professional History

- Personal information including permanent address, email, phone number, date of birth, and country of birth
- Education background including school(s) attended, degree(s) earned, date of graduation, and principal teachers
- List of recent significant chamber music performances – list of all chamber music performances **for the past 3 years** including venue, collaborators, repertoire and dates (we understand the challenges presented over the past 2 years as a result of the pandemic, so please submit the best representation of your work)
- Professional references
 - Three references required, including name, email address, and phone number
 - **Letters are not required**; CMS will contact your references directly
- Information on the recordings you will submit including name of composer, title of work, collaborating artists (if applicable, e.g. string quartet collaborates with pianist in string quintet), and date of recording

Artist Biography and Headshot

Please include a:

- Biography, as would be printed in a concert program, uploaded as a PDF or Word doc
- Headshot (photo) is also required to be uploaded in JPEG file format

Career Goal Statement

Your goal statement should address the following questions:

- What kind of musical career are you seeking?
- How do you plan to get there?
- Tell us about your most memorable chamber music performance.
- What part has chamber music played in your life?
- What do you expect to gain from The Bowers Program?
- Tell us more about yourself.

Video Recordings

- Applicants must submit video recordings of at least two chamber music works via YouTube links:
 - A representative work from the Classical period (Baroque not accepted)
 - A representative work from the Romantic period
 - One recording must be a duo sonata; both must be chamber music
- **Up to two additional** recordings may be submitted. These may be of chamber music, solo, and/or concerto performances, from any period of music
- Recordings must be of complete works (no single movements)
- High quality video recording is preferred; cell phone videos are not recommended



- Works must be submitted as YouTube video links and **must remain active until at least January 31, 2023**
- Instructions on how to upload a video to YouTube may be found [here](#); instructions on changing an uploaded video's privacy setting to "unlisted" may be found [here](#)

Please use the following format to title content:

Recordings via unlisted YouTube video:
Last Name_Compiler_Piece_Movement

Example: Smith_Brahms_Trio in A minor_01

For non-music files
Last Name_Item Description

Example: Smith_Biography; Smith_Headshot

For questions regarding the audition process, please contact:

Matthew Tommasini

Director of Education and Community Engagement
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