

Chamber Music America

2010 NEW JAZZ WORKS: COMMISSIONING AND ENSEMBLE DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

Grant Period: July 1, 2010–June 30, 2013
In-Office Application Deadline: Friday, March 12, 2010, 5:00 P.M.
Grant Notification: June 2010

*A component of the Doris Duke Jazz Ensembles Project,
the New Jazz Works Program is made possible by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.*

OVERVIEW

Chamber Music America's *New Jazz Works* program provides support to professional U.S. ensembles for the creation and performance of new work in the jazz idiom. The program also funds activities that extend the life of the work, and allow the ensemble leader to acquire or increase career-related business skills. This program is designed for ensembles that want to explore new creative territory. A *New Jazz Works* project is directed by the leader of the ensemble, who is named in the application.

A *New Jazz Works* grant begins with up to \$16,000 for the creation and two performances of a new composition. This portion of the grant is called Core.

New Jazz Works also offers three additional components: Continued Life (up to \$7,500); Better Business (up to \$3,000), and CMA Conference (complimentary registration with a limited travel/hotel subsidy). CMA encourages, but does not require, an ensemble to participate in the additional funding opportunities. *New Jazz Works* provides up to three years for the grantee to complete these three components, and two additional months for final reporting.

A. THE ENSEMBLE

An ensemble is eligible if it:

- has performed together as a professional composer-led or collective jazz ensemble for a minimum of 2 years;
- has 2-10 members and is based in the U.S.;
- is a group with an ongoing, stable core of musicians;
- includes improvisation as an integral part of its composition and performance;
- is able to document a minimum of 10 public performances within the past 5 years;
- has waited 12 months from the date it completed a previous CMA commissioning grant;
- is a CMA Organization-level member;
- has no overdue reports or financial obligations to CMA; and

- can verify the U.S. citizenship or permanent residency status of the ensemble leader listed in the application by providing one of the following:
 - a copy of a valid U.S. passport
 - a certified U.S. birth certificate
 - a report of birth abroad form FS-240
 - a USCIS certificate of citizenship or naturalization
 - permanent resident/green card

If the ensemble has 501(c)(3) status, a copy of the IRS Tax-exempt Determination Letter may be used for verification.

Grant funds are taxable income. Grantees must comply with all applicable city, state, and federal laws, ordinances, codes, and regulations affecting the project. Please be aware of tax and compliance implications before submitting an application.

An ensemble may submit only one application for the March 12, 2010 deadline and can receive only one CMA commissioning grant for the grant period beginning July 1, 2010.

In the written application, the ensemble will be asked to:

- list the ensemble's public performances in the past 5 years with accompanying documentation;
- indicate the year of the ensemble's first public concert;
- indicate whether the ensemble is a not-for-profit organization;
- list personnel, instrumentation, and the status of the ensemble members
- provide background information about the ensemble (topics can include, but are not limited to, its history, creative goals, and key projects).

B. THE COMPOSER

The ensemble may choose to work with a composer who is a performing member of its group or a composer who is not a regular member of the ensemble. The guest composer may, but is not required, to perform the new work with the ensemble. An ensemble applying with a guest composer must provide a Letter of Intent signed by the ensemble leader and the composer (see sample Letter of Intent).

A composer is understood to be a single individual. S/he may appear on only one application in either the *New Jazz Works* or *Classical Commissioning* program in one year. A composer must have no outstanding obligations to any CMA commissioning programs.

In the written application, the ensemble will be asked to:

- provide the name of the composer for the proposed new work;
- describe the composer and his/her previous work for the ensemble, if applicable;
- explain why this particular composer was selected, and—if the composer is not a member of the group—how the ensemble will benefit from working with him/her;
- provide a copy of the composer's résumé as a supplement to the application.

C. THE PROJECT

A *New Jazz Works* project consists of four components and can take place over a three year period as described below.

CORE: CREATION AND PRESENTATION

UP TO \$16,000; GRANT PERIOD: 7/1/2010-12/31/2011

The program supports an ensemble's commission of a new work in the jazz idiom by a composer member of the group or a guest composer; the work's World Premiere in the United States; and one additional U.S. performance. The two performances must not be in the same venue.

The work must be of substantial length, comprise multiple sections or movements, and feature improvisation.

Once an application has been approved for funding, any changes in personnel and/or instrumentation described in the application must be approved in advance by CMA.

In the written application, the applicant will be asked to:

- describe the new work, including its musical structure, improvisational elements, instrumentation, and what inspired the work;
- indicate the working title and proposed length; and
- explain why the ensemble is planning to work with guest musicians, if applicable.

Creation and Presentation support includes:

- a fixed composer honorarium of \$6,000 for writing the work, rehearsing, and performing the World Premiere and the second concert, which are required as part of the Core component of the grant. If the composer is not a member of the ensemble, s/he will receive the \$6,000 commissioning fee whether or not s/he performs with group.
- an ensemble honorarium of \$1,000 per musician, excluding the composer, for rehearsing and performing as part of the two concerts in Creation and Presentation.

In the written application, the ensemble will be asked to add the:

- composer honorarium (fixed cost of \$6,000, including performance, if applicable); and the
- ensemble honorarium (\$1,000 x number of musicians in ensemble excluding the composer).

CONTINUED LIFE

UP TO \$7,500; GRANT PERIOD: FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE CORE COMPONENT - 6/30/2013

This component offers flexible support for the ensemble to promote and/or extend the life of the proposed new work once the Core Component is complete. Activities may include, but are not limited to, additional concerts, touring, open rehearsals, master classes, clinics, school and community visits, residencies, conference showcasing, promotion, self-presenting, and distribution-quality recording. All activities must be executed within the grant period and may take place in the U.S. and abroad.

In the written application, the ensemble will be asked to:

- indicate its interest in accessing this funding if awarded a *New Jazz Works* grant.

The application does not require the ensemble to describe its plan for Continued Life. If awarded a grant, the ensemble will develop the plan with the assistance and approval of CMA.

BETTER BUSINESS

UP TO \$3,000; GRANT PERIOD: 7/1/2010-6/30/2013

This component offers flexible support for the ensemble leader to acquire or improve business-related skills to benefit both his/her career and that of the ensemble. These funds can be accessed throughout the grant period.

Activities may include, but are not limited to, attending booking conferences; meeting with prospective presenters; participating in other conferences and events (service organization, academic, or education); taking classes; and working with mentors and consultants. All activities must be executed within the grant period and may take place in the U.S. and abroad.

In the written application, the ensemble will be asked to:

- indicate its interest in accessing this funding if awarded a *New Jazz Works* grant.

As above, the application does not require the ensemble to detail its Better Business plan. If awarded a grant, the ensemble leader will develop these activities with the assistance and approval of CMA.

CMA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

FREE REGISTRATION PLUS TRAVEL/HOTEL SUBSIDY; GRANT PERIOD: 7/1/2010-6/30/2013

This component offers a complimentary registration for the ensemble leader to attend one CMA national conference. Travel/hotel subsidy will be available, on a limited basis, for ensemble leaders that reside at least 200 miles outside of New York City. Held each January in Manhattan, the event brings together musicians, presenters, educators, managers, and others interested in small ensemble music, and features speakers, small group sessions, concerts, showcases, exhibits, and networking opportunities.

In the written application, the ensemble leader will be asked to:

- indicate interest in attending the CMA conference

Please note: if an applicant indicates that s/he would like to access the Continued Life, Better Business and CMA Conference support, CMA will reserve the related funding should the applicant receive a grant. If the applicant indicates that s/he would not like to access the additional funding and is later awarded a *New Jazz Works* grant, the additional funding will not be available to that grantee at a later date.

D. THE CD-R WORK SAMPLE

The listening sample should demonstrate the highest quality of the ensemble's playing and help the panel understand the potential fit between the ensemble and the proposed composer. Feature your best scored and improvised music within the first three minutes of each track. Typically the panel listens to 5-8 minutes of each applicant's work sample. The CD-R work sample can feature edited tracks of recorded, published and/or commercially released music.

The ensemble's CD-R work sample must:

- feature selections of music that were recorded within the past five years;
- provide track titles, lengths and name of composer on both CD-R face;
- Track 1: applicant ensemble performing work preferably by the composer named in the application if the composer is a member of the ensemble (feature both scored and improvised selections)
- Track 2: applicant ensemble performing work by the composer named in the application or another composer; or
- Track 3: work of composer named in application who is not a member of the ensemble. If the guest composer works primarily outside the jazz idiom, provide a sample that strongly supports the new work being proposed in this application.

In the written application, the ensemble will be asked to provide for each track:

- the work title, track length, date recorded, total length of work, and date composed;
- cue timings (indicate the timings of the notated and improvised sections);
- ensemble size and instrumentation; and
- the specific elements that the applicant would like the panel to listen for.

E. PANEL PROCESS

An independent panel of jazz professionals versed in current compositional trends and performance practices reviews the applications. The panel does not include members of the CMA staff or board.

The panel will evaluate the ensemble's CD work sample for:

- the ensemble's overall artistry, cohesiveness, sound, and ability to perform both scored and improvised music. The panel will listen to the ensemble's music and refer to Sections C and D of the written application without knowing the applicants' identities ("blind listening");
- the artistry of the composer and his/her ability to write for the applicant ensemble. If the composer is a member of the applicant ensemble, his/her identity will not be provided to the panel during audio review; and, if applicable
- the artistry of the guest composer as represented by the CD sample, and his/her ability to write for a small ensemble. The guest composer's identity is provided to the panel during audio review.

The panel will evaluate the ensemble's written application based on:

- the description of the new work;
- the description of the composer, his/her work and relationship to the ensemble;
- the selection of a guest composer, if applicable; and
- the reasons for adding guest musicians/instrumentation if applicable.

OTHER INFORMATION

[FAQS](#)

[APPLICATION](#)

To complete application, first download to your desktop. Note that this is not an online application process.

To download and fill out application:

Right click application hyperlink

Select "Save Target As"

Save file to desktop

Work and edit from saved file

Print and submit with required supplementary materials

The application package must include:

- one stapled application form with an original signature;
- eight additional, complete copies of the application (collated, paper-clipped sets);
- two copies of the CD-R sample;
- one piece of documentation for each of the 10 concerts in the past 5 years;
- one copy of the composer's résumé;
- one copy of a Letter of Intent between ensemble and guest composer, if applicable;
- proof of the Ensemble Leader's U.S. citizenship, permanent residency status, or ensemble's 501(c)(3) designation; and
- a completed application checklist.

The application must:

- be typed and submitted in hard copy;
- be packaged in a single envelope; and
- arrive in its entirety on or before Friday, March 12, 2010, 5:00 P.M.

No late, incomplete, handwritten, faxed, or emailed applications will be accepted.

MAIL TO:

2010 NEW JAZZ WORKS

ATT: JEANETTE VUOCOLO, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, CMA JAZZ

CHAMBER MUSIC AMERICA

305 SEVENTH AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10001

STAFF SUPPORT:

New Jazz Works application workshops will be offered at Chamber Music America's offices. You can participate in person or via teleconference. Please visit the CMA website for the [workshop schedule](#). To R.S.V.P., contact, Marc Giosi, Program Associate, mgiosi@chamber-music.org, or (212) 242-2022, ext. 14.

Need additional assistance? Contact Jeanette Vuocolo, program director, CMA Jazz, (212) 242-2022, ext. 17, jvuocolo@chamber-music.org.

CMA MEMBERSHIP: To join CMA, or to inquire about your current membership, please contact Adam Reifsteck, membership manager, (212) 242-2022, ext. 28, areifsteck@chamber-music.org or visit <http://www.chamber-music.org/membership/join.html>.

Chamber Music America, the national service organization for the ensemble music profession, was founded in 1977 to develop and strengthen an evolving chamber music community. With a membership of over 6,000, including musicians, ensembles, presenters, artists' managers, educators, music businesses, and advocates of ensemble music, CMA welcomes members representing a wide range of musical styles and traditions. In addition to its funding programs, CMA provides its members with consulting services, access to health and instrument insurance, conferences, seminars and several publications, including *Chamber Music* magazine and a website, www.chamber-music.org

The **Doris Duke Charitable Foundation** is committed to improving the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, environmental conservation, medical research and the prevention of child maltreatment, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties. Visit www.ddcf.org.

SAMPLE: GUEST COMPOSER LETTER OF INTENT

(Insert Letterhead of Ensemble)

(Insert Date)

(Insert Composer Name)

(Insert Street Address)

(Insert City, State, Zip)

(Insert Salutation):

This is to confirm that (insert name of ensemble), has invited you to serve as composer/performer in a creation and presentation project that our group will propose to the 2010 Chamber Music America *New Jazz Works* grant program.

As discussed, this new work, with the working title (insert title of new work) will be: (include such basic information as length, structure, instrumentation).

We understand that this is the only CMA commissioning grant request that you are participating in this year, and that you have completed all requirements for any previous CMA commissioning grants.

For Ensemble (Signature):

(Print Name):

Date:

For Composer(Signature):

(Print Name):

Date: