

# Chamber Music America

## ENSEMBLE FORWARD PROGRAM 2021 FAQs

### **Who may apply to the *Ensemble Forward* Program?**

Ensembles of 2-10 musicians that perform Western European classical and contemporary chamber music based in the five boroughs of New York City and in the early stages of a career are eligible. In general, musicians will be in their mid- to late-20s.

### **What does the program fund?**

*Ensemble Forward* funds four sessions with a chamber music coach. The program provides the coach \$500 per session with the ensemble, and each ensemble musician receives \$200 per coaching.

### **What are the other components of the program?**

CMA will provide grantees with complimentary attendance at CMA's 2021 national conference, an additional skill-building seminar, career consulting sessions, networking opportunities and a complimentary one-year membership to CMA. CMA's conference will take place virtually January 11-15, 2021.

### **When must *Ensemble Forward* activity take place?**

Grant activities must take place January 1 to December 31, 2021.

### **Is there a residence requirement?**

Yes, the ensemble must be based in the five boroughs of New York City. The primary ensemble member must provide proof of their New York City residence. Both the ensemble leader and coach must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

### **We do not have a chamber music coach. How can we find one?**

CMA staff can provide names and contact information for potential coaches.

### **Who receives the payment if we are awarded a grant?**

*Ensemble Forward* grant funds are disbursed to the ensemble leader, who is responsible for distributing the funds to the other ensemble musicians and the coach.

### **Are grant funds taxable?**

Yes, the ensemble leader is responsible for filing the appropriate tax forms.

### **Do the musicians recorded on the ensemble audio samples have to be exactly the same as those in the application?**

Either the full ensemble or a majority of the musicians (greater than 50 percent) must be heard in the audio samples.

### **What file formats are accepted for the audio uploads?**

Acceptable audio formats are mp3 and m4a.

### **May I revise my application once I have clicked "submit" and received a CMA confirmation email?**

No, once you submit your application, your application is locked.

### **When will we be notified of the grant panel's decision to fund our project?**

Grantees will be notified in December 2020.

**Do we need to become a CMA Ensemble-level member to apply to this program?**

No, CMA membership is not required but, if selected, the ensemble will receive a complimentary one-year membership.

**We are seeking funds to start a new concert series. Will this program fund start-ups?**

No, *Ensemble Forward* is intended to help ensembles find their distinctive sound by working with a coach, and to take part in career-building activities that will help them navigate an increasingly competitive cultural landscape.

**What are the career workshops?**

Career workshops will be led by industry experts and will feature topics relevant to the current career environment. These will be scheduled based on recommended procedures related to the pandemic.

**If we are not able to meet with our coach in person because of the pandemic, may we meet remotely?**

Should it not be possible to meet with your coach in person for health and safety reasons, a virtual session is possible but must be approved by CMA. The entire ensemble must participate in any online coaching sessions that may be approved.

**SUPPORT**

Program: [Susan Dadian](#), (212) 242-2022, x102

Technical: [Submittable](#)