

Chamber Music America

2022 GUIDELINES

PERFORMANCE PLUS

Deadline November 29, 2021; 9:00 PM ET

Grant Notification December 2021

Grant Period January 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

A component of the Doris Duke Jazz Ensembles Project, Performance Plus is funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

Chamber Music America's *Performance Plus* provides grants to U.S. based gender minority and women-led jazz ensembles to engage an experienced jazz artist-educator for six evaluative listening sessions with the goal of enhancing the ensemble's performance. The listening sessions will culminate in a recording session resulting in a high-quality demo for use by the grantee ensemble.

The Board of Directors of Chamber Music America has made diversity, inclusion, and equity a primary focus of the organization's work. CMA's goal in this program is, through the panel review process, to arrive at a final slate of grantees that is representative of the field in terms of racial diversity, as well as the aesthetic range of jazz. Read about CMA's [Commitment to Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity](#).

For terms used in the application regarding the LGBTQIA+ community, please see [a glossary of terms prepared by PFLAG](#).

ELIGIBILITY

Only ensembles may apply to this program.

An ensemble is eligible if it

- is a professional gender minority and women-led jazz ensemble;
- is based in the U.S. or its territories, consists of 2-10 musicians; and the leader is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident;
- includes improvisation as an integral part of composition and performance;
- has no overdue reports or financial obligations to CMA.

THE BANDLEADER

The bandleader must be a gender minority or woman identifying professional jazz musician with a core ensemble consisting of 2-10 musicians. While there is no age restriction, applicants cannot have previously received major awards, commissions, prizes, or other types of institutional recognition.

THE ARTIST-EDUCATOR

The artist-educator must be an accomplished jazz bandleader with demonstrated experience in performance, composing, arranging, instruction, and recording. They must be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.

CMA has compiled a [database](#) of jazz artists who are recognized in the field for their creative practice and service and have expressed interest in partnering with applicants to this program as artist-educators. Applicants may contact one of these artists or apply with an artist-educator of their choice.

Note: Grant funds do not include travel subsidies for the ensemble/artist-educator.

GRANT COMPONENTS & FUNDING

A *Performance Plus* grant is made up of four components:

1. Ensemble Listening Sessions

Funding includes a rehearsal fee of \$200 per musician per listening session for six sessions with the artist-educator. The total number of musicians including the bandleader may not exceed 10. Sessions must be completed by January 31, 2023.

2. Artist-Educator Fees

Funding (\$3,000) includes a fee of \$500 for the artist-educator for a minimum of 90 minutes of instruction per each of the six sessions.

3. Demo Recording

Funding (\$6,500) must be used for the purpose of recording a demo of only the works rehearsed in sessions with the artist-educator. Demo recording must be completed by June 30, 2023

4. CMA National Conference

Grant includes a complimentary registration for the ensemble leader to attend the 2022 or 2023 CMA National Conference, held in January of each year. Travel/hotel subsidies are available, on a limited basis, for ensemble leaders who live outside the greater New York region.

GRANT AWARD AND PAYMENT

CMA contracts with the Grantee Ensemble Leader or her business entity on behalf of her ensemble. The Grantee Ensemble Leader must provide government issued documentation as proof of U.S. citizenship or Permanent Resident status. Grant funds are taxable income; grantees must comply with all applicable city, state, and federal laws, ordinances, codes, and regulations affecting the project. The grantee is solely responsible for management of the project, disbursement and reporting of grant income.

PANEL REVIEW PROCESS

Performance Plus applications are reviewed by an independent panel of professional jazz musicians; CMA staff and board do not participate in the deliberations ([Representative list of previous CMA panelists](#)).

Applications are evaluated based on the following criteria:

- reason(s) why the ensemble leader believes the listening sessions will benefit her ensemble at this stage in the ensemble's career;
- qualifications of the artist-educator that led to his/her selection;
- reason(s) why the artist-educator is a good match for the ensemble;
- project feasibility including, but not limited to: selected repertoire, established timeline, consistent intervals between sessions, and realistic geographic parameters (location of ensemble members relative to location of artist-educator);
- ensemble audio samples are evaluated for artistic and technical strength, and cohesiveness of the ensemble in performing scored and improvised music.

THE APPLICATION

General Instructions

CMA only accepts applications through Submittable. Go to cma.submittable.com to begin an application or to create a free Submittable account if you do not already have one.

- Complete the online form directly or draft your responses in an offline document such as Word, Pages, or Google Docs as backup, then cut/paste your information into the online application.
- To save the work you have done on your application, you must click **SAVE DRAFT** at the bottom of the form before exiting.
- You may return to your saved application to continue working on it by following the log-in instructions. CMA recommends that you also save your draft in an offline document such as Word, Pages, or Google Docs as backup.

- The application will close promptly at the stated deadline of **9:00 PM ET on Monday, November 29, 2021**. Late or incomplete submissions will not be accepted. Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications at least 24 hours in advance of the deadline to avoid any last-minute interruptions.

Audio Summary Table

Within the Submittable application, please provide instrumentation, track length, and cue times on the Audio Summary Table to guide the panel's listening.

Uploads

Audio Uploads

Two audio samples are required and must be uploaded to the online application. The audio samples should demonstrate the ensemble's best playing. The panel generally listens to 2-3 minutes of an audio file. Acceptable file types are mp3 and m4a.

- Submit audio featuring small ensemble music (2-10 musicians), with up to 5 minutes of a single work on each file. Original works compositions are not required.
- An audio file may contain edited and/or excerpted work.
- Each sample may feature music from a live concert, studio/home recording, and/or commercial release.
- Audio samples must each feature Work performed by the ensemble listed in the application or majority of its members.

Memorandum of Understanding

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is a signed statement of intent and consent between the ensemble and proposed artist-educator. The required MOU includes intended session date(s)/time(s)/meeting location. A sample MOU is provided at the end of these guidelines.

To submit an application

- Go to cma.submittable.com.
- Complete all required fields, including text boxes, and the Funding Request and Audio Summary tables.
- Prepare your attachments: audio samples and MOU.
- Save audio files as indicated below:
 - **Ensemble Name-Audio #** (e.g. *Ensemble Name-Audio1*); acceptable file types: mp3/m4a.
- Upload attachments to application.
- When complete, sign and date the application.
- Click "Submit" to send application to CMA; you will receive a confirmation email.

OTHER INFORMATION

[FAQS](#) | [APPLICATION](#) | [APPLICATION WORKSHOP SCHEDULE](#)

APPLICATION SUPPORT

Gargi Shindé, Director of Grant Programs | gshinde@chamber-music.org

Jordyn Davis, Grant Programs Associate | jdavis@chamber-music.org

Technical: [Submittable Help Center](#)

Application Deadline: November 29, 9:00 PM ET

Late submissions will not be accepted. Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications 24-hours in advance of the deadline to avoid any last-minute complications.

CHAMBER MUSIC AMERICA, the national network of ensemble music professionals, was founded in 1977 to develop, strengthen, and support the chamber music community. With a membership of nearly 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 instrument and other insurances, conferences, seminars, and several publications including *Chamber Music* magazine and the weekly e-newsletter, *Accent*. www.chamber-music.org

The mission of the **DORIS DUKE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION** is to improve the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, environmental conservation, medical research and child well-being, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties. www.ddcf.org

**SAMPLE: 2022 *Performance Plus*
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

Date: _____

Name and Title: _____

Ensemble Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Dear Chamber Music America:

This letter confirms that Ensemble: _____ intends to partner with Artist-Educator: _____ for six listening sessions, pending funding from Chamber Music America's *Performance Plus* grant program in accordance with, but not limited to, the following:

- Date range: _____
- Rehearsal location: _____ in City: _____; State: _____
- With total artist-educator fee of \$3,000 for six sessions (\$500/session) for a minimum of 90 minutes per session.

It is agreed that the ensemble will feature the following core musicians and instrumentation (please provide a complete list below):

Ensemble Leader (Print):	
Signature:	Date:
Artist-Educator (Print):	
Signature:	Date: