

Chamber Music America

Guidelines

2022 National Conference Showcase

Application Deadline: July 9, 2021, 9:00 PM ET

ELIGIBILITY

An ensemble is eligible if it:

- consists of 2-10 musicians
- has an ongoing core of musicians (soloists with accompanists are not eligible)
- has performed professionally as an ensemble for at least one (1) year
- can document at least five (5) public performances within the past two (2) years
- is not enrolled in an academic program (student groups are not eligible)
- is a current CMA organization-level member
 - Please Note: In response to the financial challenges brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic, CMA organization-level memberships are available at a [Pay-What-You-Can](#) rate.
- has no overdue reports or financial obligations to CMA

APPLY

CMA uses an online application system called Submittable; only applications received through this platform will be accepted. Go to <https://cma.submittable.com> to create a free Submittable account or to log in to an existing account.

To Complete the Application:

1. You may type directly into the application or copy your responses from a separate document and paste them into the application.
 - a. CMA recommends saving a draft of your responses in a separate document for reference.
2. Complete the required fields and upload the required files and audio samples into the application.
3. To save your work in the application, you **must** click the "Save Draft" button at the bottom of the form before exiting.
 - a. You may return to your saved application to continue working on it by following the log-in instructions.
 - b. Your draft will be saved in your Submittable account until you click "Submit" or until the application deadline passes.
4. When the application is complete, click "Submit."
5. You will receive a confirmation email from Submittable once your application has been submitted successfully. Please check your spam folder.

AUDIO SAMPLE INSTRUCTIONS

In addition to completing the required fields, each applicant must upload audio samples to the online application. Applicants may include up to three (3) audio samples with no more than one (1) composition per file.

Each Audio Sample:

- Must be mp3 or m4a
- Must not exceed five (5) minutes
- Must have been recorded within the past two (2) years
- May be full-length works, excerpts from larger works, or individual movements
- May feature music from a live performance, home/studio recording, or a commercial recording
- Should reflect what the ensemble plans to perform in the showcase or be similar in style
- Must include a majority (more than half) of the musicians performing at the actual showcase
 - For mixed ensembles with variable combinations, at least one (1) sample must feature the same personnel and instrumentation as the proposed showcase musicians
- May only feature guest artists* if they are part of the proposed showcase program.

*Guest artists are those who are not part of your regular ensemble.

REVIEW PROCESS

An independent panel of musicians and presenters versed in multiple ensemble music styles (including classical, contemporary, jazz, and folk, from Eastern, Western, Indigenous, Latin American, and African traditions) will review the applications and audio samples to select the showcasing ensembles.

The panel's evaluation of the audio samples through anonymous listening determines ensembles selected to showcase. The panel evaluates the audio samples based on:

- Artistry
- Technical Facility
- Ensemble Cohesiveness.

SHOWCASE PROCEDURES

Ensembles selected to showcase can expect the following:

Chamber Music America will

- administer and schedule all showcase performances
- administer and schedule sound checks*
- provide a grand piano, harpsichord, guitar amp, bass amp, drum set, music stands, chairs, PA system, microphones, and audio engineer*
- produce a printed showcase program*
- publicize the showcase performances through its conference marketing materials including website, e-blasts, and social media.

**For in-person showcases only*

Showcase Ensembles will

- pay a \$500 showcasing fee, which includes conference registration for each ensemble member**
- be responsible for any necessary equipment not provided by CMA
- be responsible for their travel and accommodation expenses
- be responsible for any additional conference advertising, promotion, or exhibit tables they may wish to purchase.

*** Fee will be reduced to \$100 if the conference is virtual*

SUPPORT

Conference: conference@chamber-music.org

Membership: membership@chamber-music.org

Technical: [Submittal Help Center](#)