



May 8, 9, 10, 2020

Junior Division Official Rule Book®

Entry

Entries must be **RECEIVED** in the Fischhoff office by 5:00 p.m. EST, Wednesday February 26, 2020.

Late entries **will not be accepted**.

Guaranteed arrivals are HIGHLY RECOMMENDED for those shipping materials close to the deadline.

Please carefully review the **Entry Form and Instructions** at www.fischhoff.org.

Eligibility

The competition is open to instrumental ensembles only. Eligibility is open to U.S. *and* non-U.S. residents. Ensembles will consist of 3 to 6 musicians. The Fischhoff Competition is unable to accommodate ensembles that have more than one piano, are vocal in nature, or require more than three minutes set-up and tear-down time. All members of the ensemble must perform on separate instruments throughout the competition, but can use various instruments.

No individual may enter or compete in more than one ensemble, including the video audition round. **Changes in personnel will NOT be allowed once the entry is received in the Fischhoff office.** Ensembles that perform repertoire with varied instrumentation must select works that use all members of the ensemble for all competition repertoire.

Junior Division ensemble members must not be more than age 18 on May 10, 2020. However, an ensemble member whose 19th birthday occurs before May 10, 2020 *and whose grade level is not higher than grade 12 on May 10, 2020*, will be allowed to participate in a Junior Division ensemble. Documentation of grade level status will be required in these instances.

Junior Division ensembles may include individuals who have previously won first prize only if those individuals comprise **fewer than half** of the ensemble's membership (i.e. a trio or quartet will have only 1 member who has won first prize).

Senior Division ensembles may include members who are age 18 or younger. For more information, please see the Senior Division Rulebook.

Junior Division Video Audition Requirements

The video recording must include **at least two contrasting movements**, not necessarily from the same work, *and a minimum of 10 minutes of total playing time*. Recordings will frequently exceed 10 minutes.

Works performed in the video audition round are not required to be included in the live performance repertoire.

The audition video recording must be performed by the same players who would appear in the live performances in May.

The Junior Division will be divided into two categories: Wind and String.

Mixed ensembles will be assigned by Fischhoff staff to the division in which there is a majority of instruments. Pianos will be considered a string instrument.

NOTE: Junior Division ensembles selected to advance to the live performances in May will be required to submit a **minimum of 20 minutes** of repertoire for the live rounds.

Video Requirements

- The audition recording must be submitted by emailing a YouTube link(s) to miki@fischhoff.org.
- A movement must be recorded in its entirety; however, breaks may be taken between movements.
- Each movement must be a complete take with no editing.
- Each movement should be a separate video link.
- The recording must include all ensemble members at all times.
- The picture should remain stationary without panning, fade-in/out, close-up techniques or use of multiple cameras.
- The ensemble should fill the screen as much as possible.

Audition videos will be viewed by a screening panel. The panel will listen and watch for interpretation, ensemble sound and unity, technical accuracy, and overall performance effect. Their decisions are final and comments will *not* be available after the screening. Juror comments are provided during the live performance rounds.

Video Identification

The **only identification on the video link should be a six-digit code selected by the ensemble** (e.g. 8675-30) and the name of the composer/work, movement.

Do NOT include your ensemble, school or member names in the title of the video file or anywhere on YouTube.

The YouTube identification may be the name of *one ensemble member* but may not be the name of the ensemble.

Schools and coaches should *not* use their own YouTube accounts.

Competition - Live Performances, May 8-10

Ensembles selected to advance to the live round will receive detailed information regarding the weekend upon acceptance. Performance order will be determined by lot by the Fischhoff Association.

Live Performance Repertoire Requirements:

Repertoire must include a **MINIMUM of 20 MINUTES total playing time and include at least THREE contrasting movements. These must come from at least two works of contrasting style and period** (see below). Transcriptions are permissible.

For purposes of this competition, "works of contrasting styles and periods" should fit clearly into one of the following categories:

1770 and earlier (Baroque and earlier)

1770-1810 (Classical)

1811-1900 (Romantic)

1900-1950 (Modern)

1950-present (Contemporary)

Ensembles whose repertoire is primarily from the 20th century must clearly represent more than one style. **If repertoire choices are technically from different periods listed below, but composed within 15 years of each other, contact the Fischhoff well in advance for approval: miki@fischhoff.org**

Jurors will select 12-15 minutes of music from the submitted repertoire list. Ensembles will be informed of the jury's selections upon entering the warm-up room prior to their performance.

Any questions regarding appropriate repertoire selections must be emailed to miki@fischhoff.org well in advance of recording. Official responses will be returned via email. The Fischhoff Competition reserves the right to make final decisions on these matters.

Quarterfinal & Semifinal Rounds

All junior ensembles will perform on Friday, May 8 in the Quarterfinal Round.

Ensembles that advance to the semifinal round will perform Saturday afternoon, May 9.

On Saturday morning, ensembles that do not advance to the semifinals will participate in masterclasses with the jury.

Final Round

Finalists will be announced on Saturday evening, May 9. At least one member of each finalist ensemble must be present to attend a mandatory Finalist Meeting at the conclusion of the announcements.

At this meeting, finalists will be required to make important decisions concerning their final round repertoire. Non-finalist ensembles will have an opportunity to speak with jurors following the announcements on Saturday evening.

Junior Division Finalists will include the top three ensembles in both junior division categories. Finals will be held on Sunday, May 10. Performance times will be determined by lot prior to the Saturday evening Finalist Meeting.

Gold Medalist Concert

The Gold Medal winners in each division will perform in a concert on Sunday afternoon, May 10, following the awards. Please clear any potential conflicts.

Prizes

In each Junior Division category (Wind and String), three medals and cash prizes will be awarded (cash amounts are per ensemble, not per member):

1st Prize and Gold Medal - \$2,300

2nd Prize and Silver Medal - \$1,800

3rd Prize and Bronze Medal - \$1,300

The American Brass Quintet will award \$300 to the top-ranked Junior Wind Division brass ensemble.

The Kenneth Geoffroy Memorial Award for Local Junior Division Ensembles: To encourage the participation of local (50 mile radius of South Bend) junior chamber music ensembles, a special \$700 cash prize will be awarded. Any local group wishing to compete for the Geoffroy Award must participate in the video audition of the Competition. Applications and video recordings are due February 26, 2020 and must meet all Junior Division entry requirements.

The video auditions of local entrants will be screened for both the Geoffroy Award and the Fischhoff Competition. If a local ensemble does not advance past the video audition, the award will be given to the highest ranked ensemble from that round of the Competition.

NPR's From the Top

The Junior Division Gold Medal Winners will perform live on **NPR's From the Top**, which showcases America's most outstanding young classical musicians. Recording will take place at a time and location arranged by From the Top.

Transportation and accommodations will be provided by From the Top. Note: From the Top reserves the right to cancel the appearance if the ensemble has already appeared on its program. The Fischhoff National Chamber Music Association is not responsible in the event that From the Top does not honor this collaborative effort.

Competition Information

Scores & Confirmation Materials

Ensembles accepted to participate in the live performance rounds of the Competition will be required to complete and return additional forms, provided at the time of notification. At the Competition, ensembles must provide a total of three sets of scores of their live performance repertoire.

Scores may not be shared between ensembles. **Published (copyrighted) works not in the public domain must have original scores or authorized copies.** Authorized copies may include photocopied scores which are accompanied by either a written

statement from the publisher granting permission for the photocopy, or a signed release form relieving the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Association from any and all liability for copyright infringement. This rule applies only to published, copyrighted literature.

Ensembles submitting photocopied scores without written permission of the publisher will accept all legal liability.

Ensembles performing literature for which there is no published score must still submit an accurately transcribed score.

The 1st set of scores will be due in late April. Suggested sources for scores are music stores and supply houses, teachers, colleagues, university libraries, inter-library loans and publishers. Failure to comply with deadlines and/or score requirements may result in disqualification.

Location/Travel/Lodging

The Competition is held at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana.

All travel, lodging, and meal expenses are the responsibility of the ensemble.

Host hotel information will be provided to quarterfinalist ensembles upon notification of acceptance.

Any ensemble with one or more participants under age 18 must have a designated adult chaperone with them at the Competition.

PACMan Program

The Peer Ambassadors for Chamber Music (PACMan) program offers Junior Division ensembles the opportunity to perform 30-minute programs for area elementary school students on Friday, May 8. Ensembles perform and talk about their experiences in music with elementary school students.

Ensembles should have some previous experience with presenting programs for children. Ensembles participating in PACMan programs must arrive in South Bend by Thursday evening, May 7. Participating ensembles will have their entry fees reimbursed. A limited number of opportunities will be available. Ensembles should indicate their interest on page 2 of the entry form. Due to advance arrangements with host schools, participating ensembles will be obligated to perform.

Soirees

In some instances, Junior Division ensembles may be invited to perform at Fischhoff soirees. Soirees are private or public performances for small community audiences. The purposes of soirees are: a) to provide ensembles with an opportunity to perform their repertoire before a live audience prior to the Competition; b) to increase local awareness of chamber music; and c) to increase support for the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Association.

Soirees take place on Thursday, May 7 and Friday, May 8. Ensembles performing soirees will have their entry fees reimbursed. A limited number of opportunities may be available. Ensembles should indicate their interest on page 2 of the entry form.

Participation in soirees is strictly on a volunteer basis and is completely separate from participation in the Competition. Due to advance arrangements with soiree hosts, ensembles placed with soiree hosts will be obligated to perform.

Questions regarding Soirees and PACMan programs should be directed to: Kara Kane, Interim Executive Director: 574.631.0984 or kara@fischhoff.org.

Entry Instructions

The Entry Form and Entry Instructions are available at www.fischhoff.org.

Any questions should be directed to Miki Strabley: miki@fischhoff.org.