



May 8, 9, 10, 2020

Senior Division Official Rule Book[©]

Entry Closing Date

Entries must be **RECEIVED** in the Fischhoff office by 5:00 p.m. EST, Wednesday February 26, 2020. Late entries **will not be accepted**. Please read the Entry Instructions for additional information. Guaranteed deliveries are HIGHLY RECOMMENDED for those sending materials close to the deadline.

Eligibility

The competition is open to instrumental ensembles only. Eligibility is open to U.S. *and* non-U.S. residents. Ensembles may 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.

Senior Division ensemble members must not be more than age 35 on May 10, 2020.

The average age of ensemble members must not exceed 30 years on May 10, 2020. (The ensemble's age must average less than 31 years old). Senior Division ensembles may include members who are age 18 or younger.

Senior ensembles may *not* include any individual who has previously won the Grand Prize in the Senior Division.

Senior Division Video Audition Requirements

The video recording must include **at least two *complete* works of contrasting STYLE and PERIOD and a minimum of 20 minutes of total playing time.**

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**

Transcriptions are permissible. Note: If transcribing a work of standard chamber music repertoire, *all movements* of that work must be transcribed and prepared. An example of this might be a standard string quartet transcribed for wind instruments.

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

1770 and earlier (Baroque and earlier)

1770-1810 (Classical)

1811-1900 (Romantic)

1900-1950 (Modern)

1950-present (Contemporary)

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.

All multi-movement works must be performed in their entirety on the video recording. Failure to meet these requirements will result in disqualification. Recordings will frequently exceed 20 minutes.

The Senior 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.

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

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

A maximum of twelve ensembles from each senior division (Wind and String) will advance to the Quarterfinal Round in South Bend. Performance order will be determined by lot by the Fischhoff Association.

Live Performance Repertoire Requirements:

Repertoire must include **at least two complete works of contrasting style and period** and a **minimum of 60 minutes** total playing time. Parameters concerning appropriate repertoire and any questions concerning repertoire choices are the same as listed for the video audition round.

All multi-movement works must be prepared in their entirety.

Jurors will select 17-20 minutes of music from the submitted repertoire list. Ensembles will be informed of the jury's selections upon entering the warm-up room.

See above under **Senior Division Video Audition Requirements** for information on categories of styles and periods.

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

Quarterfinal & Semifinal Rounds

All senior division ensembles will perform on Friday, May 8 in the Quarterfinal Round. The list of Semifinalists will be posted on Friday night. A maximum of six ensembles from each senior division will advance to the Saturday morning Semifinal Round.

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.

Senior Division Finalists will include the top three ensembles in both senior 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 two Senior Division Gold Medal Winners will perform in a concert on Sunday afternoon, May 10. All senior division ensembles must be available to perform in the concert in order to be eligible for the Grand Prize.

Prizes & Tours

In each Senior 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 - \$3,500
- 2nd Prize and Silver Medal - \$3,000
- 3rd Prize and Bronze Medal - \$2,000

In addition, the Senior Division Gold Medalists will each be awarded **one** of the following:

- Grand Prize - \$10,000 (\$13,500 total prize money)
- Double Gold Tour Prize - \$3,500 (\$7,000 total prize money)

The **Grand Prize** includes \$10,000 to be awarded in two \$5,000 increments after tours, a special medal, tours of the Midwest (autumn 2020) and Italy (summer 2021). The Grand Prize Winner is obligated to perform all concerts on the tour, which includes a trip to Italy in the summer of 2021 for several concerts at the "Emilia Romagna Festival."

Upon completion of the Midwest Tour, the Grand Prize winning ensemble will receive \$5,000 as partial payment of the Grand Prize cash award. The remaining \$5,000 will be received at the conclusion of the Emilia Romagna Festival. **NOTE:** Failure by the Grand Prize ensemble to perform the entire Tour may result in forfeiture of the Grand Prize, its medals and cash award. The Grand Prize may subsequently be awarded to the Gold Medalist in the corresponding senior division.

The Fischhoff Double Gold Tour Prize: Fischhoff will present a tour of the Midwest featuring the corresponding Senior Division Gold Medalist. This tour will include an additional cash prize of \$3,500 and will take place in autumn 2020.

Fischhoff will pay travel, lodging and meal expenses for all tours.

The Fischhoff National Chamber Music Association reserves the right to cancel all or part of the tours, if necessary.

Additional Prizes

CodaBow will award their master bow, the MARQUISE, to the Senior String Division Gold Medalists. The American Brass Quintet will award \$400 to the top-ranked Senior Wind Division brass ensemble.

Midwest Tour Dates

Wind Division: approximately September 16-25, 2019.

String Division: approximately October 9-18, 2019.

Specific dates will be confirmed upon acceptance into the quarterfinal round.

Please contact miki@fischhoff.org regarding any possible conflicts.

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. Information regarding a host hotel will be provided to quarterfinalist ensembles upon notification of acceptance.

Soirees

Senior 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 will 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 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.