



The 48th Annual Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition
Junior Division Official Rule Book & Entry Instructions ©
UPDATED 2-5-21

Virtual Competition: May 14, 15, 16, 2021

The 2021 Fischhoff Competition will be held virtually. Entry videos will be used for acceptance into the competition and for all competition rounds. Fischhoff reserves the right to cancel or amend any or all of the 2021 competition.

Updated 2-5-21

Videos must show ensembles performing together in the same space. To ensure ensemble safety, Fischhoff urges ensembles to follow Covid-19 protocols. Masks, distancing and alternative performance venues (such as outdoor locations) are encouraged.

COVID-19 Precautions: Fischhoff urges all ensembles to abide by local and state health & safety guidelines. Our first priority is ensemble & community safety. If you cannot safely enter the 2021 Competition, please mark your calendars for the 49th Annual Competition, May 20-22, 2022.

Entry

UPDATED: Complete entries must be **RECEIVED by 11:59 p.m. EST, Wednesday, March 3, 2021.**

Late or incomplete entries will not be accepted.

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. Percussion will be considered a wind instrument.

Eligibility

The Fischhoff Competition is open to U.S. and non-U.S. residents. The competition is open to instrumental ensembles only.

Ensembles will consist of 3 to 6 musicians. Ensembles that have more than one piano, or are vocal in nature, are ineligible to compete.

All members of the ensemble must perform on separate instruments throughout the competition, but can use various instruments. Ensembles that perform repertoire with varied instrumentation must select works that use all members of the ensemble for all competition repertoire.

Individuals may not enter or compete in more than one ensemble, including the video round. **Changes in personnel will NOT be allowed once the entry is received.**

Age Requirement

Junior Division ensemble members must not be more than age 18 on May 16, 2021. However, an ensemble member whose 19th birthday occurs before May 16, 2021 and whose grade level is not higher than grade 12 on May 16, 2021, will be allowed to participate in a Junior Division ensemble.

Documentation of grade level status will be required in these instances.

Previous Prizewinners

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 (a trio or quartet will have only 1 member who has won first prize).

Junior Division Repertoire Requirements

UPDATED 12-18-20

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.

Transcriptions are permissible. Repeats are optional.

If it is possible, you are encouraged to submit additional recordings, but your ensemble will not be penalized for submitting the minimum.

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

Videos will be viewed by a screening panel to determine acceptance into the Competition. 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.

Videos of advancing groups will be used for the quarterfinal, semifinal and final rounds. In May, competition jurors will provide verbal and written comments to advancing ensembles.

See page 4 for Video Requirements.

Prizes

In each Junior Division category (Wind and String), three medals and cash prizes will be awarded based upon judging of the entry videos. (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 the American Brass Quintet Brass Ensemble Prize of \$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 (60-mile radius of South Bend) junior chamber music ensembles, a special \$800 cash prize will be awarded. Any local group wishing to compete for the Geoffroy Award must participate in the video audition of the Competition and must meet all Junior Division entry requirements. 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*

cancels an appearance.

Acceptance Materials & Scores

Ensembles accepted to the quarterfinal round of the Competition will be required to complete and return additional forms provided at the time of notification. One set of scores in pdf format will also be required.

PACMan Program

The Peer Ambassadors for Chamber Music (PACMan) program offers Junior Division ensembles the opportunity to connect with area elementary school students to perform and discuss their experiences in music. Fischhoff is exploring virtual PACMan possibilities for May. Interested ensembles should have some previous experience with presenting programs for younger students.

Ensembles selected to participate 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, which will be available in December. Due to advanced arrangements with host schools, participating ensembles will be obligated to perform.

Entry Instructions **UPDATED 12-18-20**

Complete entries (forms, repertoire information, proofs of age, video links & online payment) must be emailed to miki@fischhoff.org by **11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, Wednesday, March 3, 2021**.

Late or incomplete entries will not be accepted. All entries will be submitted electronically.

Organizations sending more than one entry are asked to submit a separate email for each entry.

Questions regarding the entry process should be directed to the Fischhoff office well before the deadline: miki@fischhoff.org

Entry Fees

Non-refundable entry fees will be accepted via credit card using the [PayPal link on Fischhoff's website](#).

\$125.00	Trio
\$165.00	Quartet
\$205.00	Quintet
\$245.00	Sextet

University, conservatory and music school checks *are* acceptable. Please contact Miki Strabley to make arrangements.

Proof of Age

Each ensemble member must provide proof of age. A *legible* photocopy of a driver's license, birth certificate, student identification with birthdate, or passport must be emailed with your entry.

Please combine all IDs into one pdf document.

Repertoire Information

For each video recording list:

- Title & Composer & include composer year of birth/death
- Movements with timings in minutes/seconds
- Total playing time for each work in minutes/seconds
- At the end of the entire program, list overall playing time in minutes/seconds.

This information will be included in the body of your entry email, along with video links. A sample email can be found at the end of the rulebook.

Video Recording Requirements

The audition recording must be submitted by emailing an unlisted YouTube link(s) to miki@fischoff.org.

- A movement must be recorded in its entirety; however, breaks may be taken between movements.
- Videos may not be edited or spliced.
- All videos must be complete movements in one unedited take. Audio must be from the same take, but can be from an external microphone(s).
- Fischoff highly recommends using an external microphone to sync with the video.
- 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.
- Minimum video resolution is 1280x720 (720p).
- Do **not** embed any information into the video, including titles, ensemble names, individual names, or school affiliations.
- In the YouTube page description or title on each video, include the name of the work & the movement being played.
- Each movement must be submitted as a separate video link.

Other

- Concert attire is encouraged, if possible; however, ensembles will not be penalized if recording conditions do not allow for formal attire.
- Videos must show ensembles performing together in the same space. To ensure ensemble safety, Fischoff urges ensembles to follow Covid-19 protocols. Masks & distancing are encouraged.
- Do not delete your original video from your files after uploading it to YouTube in the event that Fischoff may request it later on.


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.

For example:

8675-30 Ravel, String Quartet in F Major, Mvmt I

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.

If a third party is assisting with your video recording, make certain they are aware of the requirements above.

Contact

Questions regarding competition entries should be directed to: Miki Strabley, Competition Director:

miki@fischoff.org

Questions regarding PACMan programs should be directed to: Kara Kane, Executive Director:

kara@fischoff.org

Email is the best way to reach Fischoff staff as we continue to work remotely.

Submission Instructions & Checklist

- Pay ensemble entry fee via [PayPal on Fischhoff's website](#)
- Email the following to miki@fischhoff.org:
 - [Entry Form](#) (available on the Fischhoff website in January)
 - Proof of age for each ensemble member in one PDF document
 - Repertoire information
 - Video links (It is also acceptable to send one link to a single unlisted YouTube playlist).
- The email subject line must include:
 - Your **ensemble name** (not 6-digit ID) &
 - The **division you are entering** (Junior Wind, Junior String, Senior Wind, Senior String).

Complete entries must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern time on Wednesday, March 3, 2021.

Notifications

The contact person for each ensemble will receive an email acknowledgement when their entry is processed. Each ensemble's contact person will be notified of the screening panel's decision by email in late March. Please provide an accurate email address and check email frequently.

Sample Entry Email

From: Miki Strabley [mailto:miki@fischhoff.org]
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2020 4:17 PM
To: Miki Strabley <Miki@fischhoff.org>
Subject: Quintet Staffaca, Sr. Wind Division

Hello Miki!

Attached is the entry form for our ensemble, along with our proofs of age.

We submitted our entry fees via PayPal last week.

Below is our 6-digit code along with our video links and repertoire information, including composer birth/death dates, movement timings & total timings.

Thank you! Good luck with entries!

~ Miki Strabley on behalf of Quintet Staffacca

Six-digit code: #8675-30

In Memoriam, Joel Love (b. 1982)

I. Threnody (5:30)

II. Adieu (5:25)

(10:55 total)

<https://youtu.be/.....>

Trio Sonata Op. 1 No. 11 in B minor, Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741) Arr. Evan Harris

I. Preludio (2:57) <https://youtu.be/N.....>

II. Corrente (2:22) <https://www.youtue/2...>

III. Giga (2:00) <https://youtu.be/1.....>

IV. Gavotta (1:15) <https://youtu.be/i.....>

(8:34 total)

Ciudades: Addis Ababa, Guillermo Lago (b. 1960)
(3:48) <https://www.youtube/...>

Nepomuk's Dances: Memory, Marcelo Zarvos (b. 1969) Arr. Macke
(6:29) <https://www.youtube/.....>

Nuages, Eugene Bozza (1905-1991)
(3:14) <https://youtu.be/....>

Total time: 33:00

OR if submitting a Playlist...

Six-digit code: #8675-30

[Playlist link](#)

A Schumann Bouquet, Robert Schumann (1810-1856), arr. William Bolcom

I. Lieber Mai (2:08)

II. Knecht Ruprecht (1:51)

III. Sheherazade (2:47)

IV. Landler (0:50)

V. Sehr langsam (3:30)

VI. Lied italienischer Marinari (1:13)

Total (xx:xx)

In Memoriam, Joel Love (b. 1982)

I. Threnody (5:25)

II. Adieu (5:47)

Total (xx:xx)

Fantasy Etudes, William Albright (1944-1998)

Prelude (1:49)

I. A Real Nice Number (3:00)

II. Pypes (3:57)

III. The Fives for Steve (2:50)

IV. Phantom Galop (4:41)

V. Harmonium (5:10)

VI. They Only Come Out at Night (2:44)

Total (xx:xx)

Total Time: 47:42