

DIRECTOR'S CHOICESM presents the
PREMIER PERFORMANCE

I N V I T A T I O N A L

Perform in Orchestra Hall at

**CHICAGO
SYMPHONY CENTER**

Information and Application Packet

March 11, 2018

THE APPLICATION

Digital Recording:

We can accept digital recordings using the following methods:

- *CD*
- *Flash Drive*
- *Electronic File Sharing*

The recording sampling rate should be 44.1 kHz. Note that over compression of .mp3 and .wav files will greatly diminish recording quality. Please include: Track Number, Title, Movement, Composer, and Arranger of each selection. Each selection must be a continuous performance which was recorded at a concert, festival, or contest. Multi-movement works must be recorded from a continuous performance. Recordings should not be edited after the performance except to remove announcements and introductions. Engineering, editing, or tampering with the recording in any way is not allowed. The recording should represent a recent recording of the ensemble and the director that is applying to the Premier Performance Event.

Music Requirements

- *Concert Band - One march and one concert selection*
- *Instrumental Jazz Ensemble - Two selections in contrasting styles*
- *Orchestra - Two selections contrasting in historical period, styles, and tempo (no solo repertoire)*

THE CONCERT

Educating:

Symphony Center is a music complex located at 220 South Michigan Avenue in the Loop area of Chicago, Illinois. Home to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra; Chicago Symphony Chorus; Civic Orchestra of Chicago; and the Institute for Learning, Access, and Training; Symphony Center includes the 2,522-seat **Orchestra Hall**, which dates from 1904; **Buntrock Hall**, a rehearsal and performance space; **Grainger Ballroom**, an event space overlooking Michigan Avenue and the Art Institute of Chicago; a public multi-story rotunda; **tesori** restaurant; and administrative offices. Orchestra Hall was designated a National Historic Landmark on April 19, 1994. It has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1978 .

Programming:

Each ensemble will be given 40 minutes to perform their entire concert program. This time includes an onstage warm-up, special tuning, breaks between movements, and time between selections. There will be a 10-20 minute set change between ensembles. More customization is allowed in the 3 hour package.

Creating the perfect program for a Premier Performance Event performance is a task that demands careful consideration. As a general rule, a thoughtful conductor will select a program:

- 1) which features the strengths of your ensemble,
- 2) that is enjoyable for an audience of parents and young musicians,
- 3) written by recognizable composers,
- 4) that is not too difficult for the ensemble,
- 5) of the appropriate length.

In addition, it is important to consider the duration of your program based upon the ability level and endurance of the performers.

Without the rules and restraints of a traditional music contest or festival, you are encouraged to explore exciting options such as featuring a soloist (student or professional) or having a composition commissioned for the ensemble.



WHAT IS INCLUDED:

The Premier Performance Event at Chicago Symphony Center includes:

- Performance in one of the world's leading venues - Orchestra Hall, Armour Stage at Chicago Symphony Center
- Program and on-site signage announcing performance
- Commemorative shadow box for each ensemble, including onstage group photograph
- Archival CD recording of performance for conductor
- 20 minute sound check on stage
- 40 minute performance time (or) 3 hour concert package
- Each ensemble will be assigned a pre-concert gathering room backstage for the purpose of organization and use as a short warm-up facility. Music stands and chairs not available for warm-up.
- Poster for each ensemble

Equipment Provided in Premier Performance Invitational at the Chicago Symphony Center package:

- Grand Piano
- Chimes
- Concert Bells
- Xylophone
- Marimba
- Vibraphone
- Timpani 23", 26", 29", 32"
- Large Gong with stand
- Concert Bass Drum

All other equipment and accessories are the responsibility of the performing ensemble. Students assume all responsibility for bringing sticks, beaters and mallets.

Director's Choice Performance Event Team can assist with the rental of additional instruments if notified at least 60 days prior to event. Additional instruments are not covered in the Premiere Performance Event at Chicago Symphony Center concert package.

Additional large instruments and percussion equipment will be assigned specific load-in times to meet load-in and performance schedule. Load-in/load-out of large instruments will be handled by Chicago Symphony Center stage hands.

Publicity:

Director's Choice will promote and advertise your performance as follows:

- Symphony Center's monthly concert calendar
- Concert Program
 - ◆ ensemble bio and photo, conductor bio and photo, performer names, program information.
 - ◆ It is the conductor's responsibility to provide accurate information within the timeline specified. All requested materials are due 90 days prior to the performance date.
- Ensembles are not permitted to distribute any additional printed materials at Symphony Center.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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When will we know if we have been accepted?

The Director's Choice Premier Performance Invitational selection committee meeting is scheduled as needed when applications are received. Your application packet will be reviewed at the selection committee meeting. All applicants will be notified immediately following the meeting.

Is the Premier Performance Event at Chicago Symphony Center adjudicated?

No. The only adjudication portion of the Chicago Symphony Center concert is the application process. Once selected, ensembles are encouraged to focus on presenting the best possible musical performance without regard for the competitive element of musical selections.

What time will my ensemble perform?

Performance times will be assigned 60 days prior to performance.

Is transportation included in the package price?

The package price does not include any transportation.

What is the appropriate attire for the Premier Performance Event?

For the performance, groups must wear uniforms or concert dress.

Will we have an audience for our performance?

Directors' Choice will arrange for each performing ensemble to listen to another performing ensemble. This ensures every group will perform for a knowledgeable and respectful audience.

Can we purchase CDs or photographs of our performance?

Due to the Symphony Centers strict licensing agreements, it is not possible to sell media of any type from the concert performance. Each ensemble will receive a master CD and a master photograph for archival purposes. Duplication of the archival media is prohibited.

Can we take our own photographs or video recording of our performance?

Due to the Symphony Center's strict licensing agreements, it is not permissible to video or photograph inside the auditorium.

Can more than one ensemble "share" a performance slot?

No, the 40 minute window can only be utilized by one ensemble. However, we do provide a 3 hour package which can be utilized as a feature performance for a school of music or music program to be shared as desired.

Are there any exceptions if we have more than 80 performers in one performance slot?

Having more than 80 performers on stage would limit the amount of room for the standard arrangement of percussion instruments.

Are we allowed to change clothes in our assigned backstage room?

No, the backstage room you will be assigned is a pre-concert gathering area for each ensemble, but is not set up nor large enough to utilize as a dressing room. Each ensemble needs to arrive at the Hall in concert dress.



APPLICATION FORM

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Name of School or Entity or Organization _____

Name of Ensemble (as should appear in publicity) _____

Estimated number of students in Ensemble _____

Shipping Address (no P.O. Box) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Primary Director (as should appear in publicity) _____

Main Phone _____ Ext. _____ Director Phone _____ Ext. _____

Primary Director's Cell Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please complete all information exactly as it should appear in publicity materials.

Names of additional ensembles if applying for a 3 hour performance block:

Ensemble Name	Director First Name	Director Last Name	No. of Performers
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

A complete application should include:

- *Signed and completed Application Packet*
- *\$995.00 Application Fee*
- *Two Audtion CDs or Digital Downloads*

Mail to:

Director's Choice
Premier Performance Event
10701 Upland Ave.
Lubbock, TX 79424

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____



LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

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If selected, Director's Choice would like to send letters of acceptance to your principal, superintendent, or local newspaper upon your acceptance. This letter would be sent on your behalf in praise of your group.

Letter #1

Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Letter #2

Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Letter #3

Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Name: _____

Address: _____



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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Event Pricing:

- 40 minute concert \$14,480
- Call for custom pricing on the 3 hour package

The undersigned customer and Director's Choice (provider) hereby enter this contract and agree to the following terms and conditions, including terms, conditions and selections indicated on the attached package form:

- Application Fee \$995.00 (only refundable if application is denied. If accepted, applied toward total balance.)
- \$3,620 non-refundable deposit due 60 days after acceptance of application
- 50% of total production charges is due by 120 days from performance.
- 75% of total production charges is due by 90 days from performance.
- 100% of total production charges is due by 60 days from performance.
- If payments are not made according to the payment schedule, registration may be canceled. Registrations may be reinstated by Provider, at its option, upon receipt of payment. This may affect the availability of goods and services. Late payments incur a \$25.00 late payment fee.
- Any excess funds will be applied as an account credit toward future charges unless a refund check is requested in writing.
- Returned checks are subject to a \$25.00 processing fee.

Cancellation:

Cancellations must be made in writing via email by the client. Upon receipt of written email notification of cancellation, refund of production charges will be applied as follows:

Time Period*	Package Cancellation
120-90 days prior to performance	50% of package price less nonrefundable application fee and deposit
90 days to performance	100% of package price. No refunds will be made
No-show	100% of package price. No refunds will be made.
Application fee and deposit	Nonrefundable

* The date written notice of cancellation or changes is received in the Provider's office and confirmed via email will be the date from which charges will be based.

Responsibility and Liability:

- Provider shall not be held liable in whole or part, for any damage or injury to persons or property, including damages arising from acts of negligence by any vendor or member of a Group unless such damage is caused by the gross negligence of Provider.
- Provider shall not be responsible for events beyond its control, such as, without limitation, acts of God, strikes, acts of war or terrorism, government restrictions, or for acts of omissions of persons or companies not controlled by provider, such as, without limitation, air carriers, bus companies, railways, and hotels. Provider and its officers, directors, employees, and agents are hereby released from all claims arising out of such event, acts, or omissions.

General and Administrative:

- Unlike other festival products, Chicago Symphony Center Premier Performance Invitational requires a significant amount of communication with the client. It is imperative the client responds to communications from the Director's Choice Performance Events in a timely manner to ensure the client's performance experience is the best it can be.

Organization/Group _____

Organization or Group Rep Signature _____ Date _____

Director's Choice Signature _____ Date _____

