



**The 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition  
Junior Division Official Rule Book & Entry Instructions ©**

**May 12, 13, 14, 2023  
University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana**

*At the present time, there are no Covid requirements. Health guidelines could change, depending on current conditions.*

**Entry**

Complete entries must be **RECEIVED by Wednesday, February 22 at 5:00 pm Eastern time.**

The entry form and instructions will be posted in January at [www.fischoff.org](http://www.fischoff.org).

*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 Fischoff office well before the deadline:  
[miki@fischoff.org](mailto:miki@fischoff.org)

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

Mixed ensembles will be assigned by Fischoff 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.

Ensembles will receive email notification of results by the end of March.

**Eligibility**

The Fischoff 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. The Fischoff Competition is unable to accommodate ensembles that have more than one piano, or are vocal in nature, or require more than three minutes for set-up and tear-down.

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 14, 2023; However, a Junior Division ensemble may have one member who is 19 years old *in some instances, with appropriate documentation.*

**Approval must be granted by the Fischoff office well in advance of applying.**

Contact Miki Strabley: [miki@fischoff.org](mailto:miki@fischoff.org)

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

### **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 15 minutes of total playing time**. Recordings will frequently exceed 15 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.

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.

**Detailed information on recording and submitting your video and entry materials can be found below beginning on page 5. Entry forms will be available in January.** Check [www.fischoff.org](http://www.fischoff.org) for updated information.

## **Competition Live Performance Rounds – May 12-14, 2023**

### **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)**

**1900-1980 (Modern)**

**1981-present (Contemporary)**

Ensembles whose repertoire is primarily from the 20th century to the present must clearly represent more than one style. If repertoire choices are technically from different periods listed above, but composed within 15 years of each other, contact the Fischoff well in advance for approval: [miki@fischoff.org](mailto:miki@fischoff.org)

Ensembles are encouraged to include a work/works by historically underrepresented composers.

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@fischoff.org](mailto:miki@fischoff.org) well in advance of recording.** Official responses will be returned via email. The Fischoff Competition reserves the right to make final decisions on these matters.

### **Quarterfinal & Semifinal Rounds**

All junior division ensembles will perform on Friday, May 12, in the Quarterfinal Round. Ensembles that advance to the semifinal round will perform Saturday afternoon, May 13. 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 13. 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 14. Performance times will be determined 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 14, 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 - \$2,500

2nd Prize and Silver Medal - \$2,000

3rd Prize and Bronze Medal - \$1,500

The **American Brass Quintet** will award the American Brass Quintet Brass Ensemble Prize of \$500 to the top-ranked Junior Wind Division brass ensemble.

The **Horszowski Trio Prize for Junior Division Piano Trio** of \$300 will be awarded to the top-ranked trio consisting of piano, violin & cello.

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 area 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 that are accepted to the quarterfinal round of the Competition will be required to submit their proofs of age, and complete and return additional forms provided at the time of notification. One set of scores in pdf format (1 pdf per movement) will also be required. Additional information will be provided upon acceptance into the competition. *Do not include scores with your entry materials.*

### **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.

**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 connect with area elementary school students to perform and discuss their experiences in music on Friday of the Competition. Ensembles interested in participating should have some previous experience with presenting programs for students.

Ensembles selected to participate will have their entry fees reimbursed. Ensembles participating in PACMan programs must arrive in South Bend by Thursday evening. A limited number of opportunities will be available. Ensembles should indicate their interest on the entry form. Due to advanced arrangements with host schools, participating ensembles will be obligated to perform.

Questions regarding PACMan programs should be directed to: Kara Kane, Education Director: [kara@fischhoff.org](mailto:kara@fischhoff.org).

## Entry Instructions

### 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.

### Video Recording Requirements

The audition recording must be submitted by emailing an unlisted YouTube link(s) to [miki@fischhoff.org](mailto:miki@fischhoff.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).
- Fischhoff 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.
- Movements that are attacca may be submitted as one complete video but must include time stamps at the beginnings of each movement.

### Other

- Concert attire is encouraged; 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. Mask wearing & distancing are acceptable.
- Do not delete your original video from your files after uploading it to YouTube in the event that Fischhoff 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.

### Submission Instructions & Checklist

A completed entry will include:

- PayPal Entry Fee Payment <https://www.fischoff.org/competition/compete/>
- Email with Ensemble Summary, Repertoire & Video links (separate links for each movement or one link to a single unlisted YouTube playlist) to [miki@fischoff.org](mailto:miki@fischoff.org)
- Entry Form <https://www.fischoff.org/competition/compete/> or see links below

### Email Ensemble Summary, Repertoire & Video links to [miki@fischoff.org](mailto:miki@fischoff.org)

The email subject line must include your ensemble name (not 6-digit ID) & the division you are entering (Jr Wind, Jr String, Sr Wind, Sr String).

In the body of the email submit the following information:

- Ensemble Name
- Six-digit code (six numbers of your choosing)
- Ensemble Instrumentation (sax quartet, reed quintet, 2 saxes + piano, etc.)
- Contact Person Name, Email, Phone
- Repertoire & Video links for each movement  
(It is also acceptable to send one link to a single unlisted YouTube playlist)

For each video recording list:

- Title & Composer & include composer year of birth/death & country of birth
- Movements with timings in minutes/seconds
- Total playing time for each work in minutes/seconds
- Indicate (\*) which work/works will be considered for the Lift Every Voice Prize (Senior Divisions only)
- At the end of the entire program, list overall playing time in minutes/seconds.

### Ensemble Entry Form

Complete the following for the appropriate division.

Junior Winds: <https://forms.gle/Cz29nK2xVFBruU13A>

Junior Strings: <https://forms.gle/hEhGzXEjqVmY8dbD9>

Senior Winds: <https://forms.gle/x47QpTXqzbomQgM66>

Senior Strings: <https://forms.gle/tjEeotqcnbkbGbf9>

### Sample Entry Email

**From:** Miki Strabley [mailto:miki@fischoff.org]

**Sent:** Friday, February 17, 2023 4:17 PM

**To:** Miki Strabley <Miki@fischoff.org>

**Subject:** Quartet Staffacca, Sr. Wind Division

Hello Miki!

We submitted our entry fees via PayPal last week and we have submitted our online entry form. We are a quartet comprised of 2 trumpets, 1 sax & 1 piano.

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

Thank you! Good luck with entries!

~ Miki Strabley on behalf of Quartet Staffacca

[miki@fischhoff.org](mailto:miki@fischhoff.org), 574.631.0599

Six-digit code: #8675-30

\*Work, Composer, year of birth/death, country of birth (\*LEV)

I. movement name (timing) video link

II. movement name (timing) video link

III. movement name (timing) video link

(total time)

Work, Composer, year of birth/death, country of birth

I. movement name (timing) video link

II. movement name (timing) video link

III. movement name (timing) video link

(total time)

Work, Composer, year of birth/death, country of birth

I. movement name (timing) video link

II. movement name (timing) video link

III. movement name (timing) video link

(total time)

Total time: xxx

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Any questions should be directed by email to Miki Strabley: [miki@fischhoff.org](mailto:miki@fischhoff.org).

### **Notifications**

The contact person for each ensemble will receive an email acknowledgement when their entry is processed. Each ensemble's contact person will also be notified by of the screening panel's decision by email by late March.

Please provide an accurate email address and check email frequently.

### **Proof of Age**

Upon notification of **acceptance**, 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. *Please combine all IDs into one pdf document.*

**Complete entries must be RECEIVED by Wednesday, February 22 at 5:00 pm Eastern time.**