

2019 Classical Roots African-American Composer Residency

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Classical Roots African-American Composer Residency is offered by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra (DSO) in conjunction with its Classical Roots Celebration and the American Composers Orchestra (ACO) EarShot New Music Reading. The residency is granted to a living African-American composer. The selected work(s) will be performed at the Classical Roots Chamber Recital, which will take place on Monday, March 4, 2019 in Detroit, Michigan. Additionally, the selected composer will have the opportunity to serve as a Mentor Composer during the EarShot New Music Reading hosted by the DSO from March 1 to March 7, 2019. The winning composer will receive an honorarium of \$1,500 plus round-trip travel to Detroit, accommodations for the duration of stay, ground transportation, and a stipend for incidentals.

SELECTION PROCESS

Applicants are asked to submit a resume, completed application form, sample scores of up to three completed works scored for string quartet, and supporting audio representation of each work submitted. Works will be judged by a committee formed by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. The number of works performed on the chamber recital program is subject to length. The application form, resume, and sample scores must be submitted in .pdf format. All audio files must be submitted in .mp3 format. **NO OTHER FILE FORMATS WILL BE ACCEPTED, INCLUDING SCORES AND CDs SENT BY MAIL.** The Application will open on **Monday, November 19, 2018 at 6:00 AM** and will close on **Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 11:59 PM.**

PERFORMANCE

The work composed by the winning composer will be performed by DSO Musicians on the 2019 Classical Roots Chamber Recital on Monday, March 4, 2019. The composer will be required to be in Detroit from Friday, March 1 through Thursday, March 7. The selected composer must be available to participate in community engagement activities such as school visits and engagements with young musicians, as well as serving as a mentor to the ACO Student Composers. The winning composer will be responsible for providing digital files of the work to specifications provided by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

ABOUT THE CLASSICAL ROOTS CELEBRATION

The mission of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Classical Roots Celebration is to increase awareness of the contributions of African-American composers and musicians to classical music through performance and recordings. The DSO seeks to support increased opportunities for African-American classical musicians through the DSO's African-American Composer Residency, Emerging Composer Program, and African-American Fellowship. For over 40 years, the Classical Roots concert has celebrated African-American contributions to classical music. In 2000, the Celebration benefit was founded to honor select African-American composers, musicians, and educators for lifetime achievement and raise funds to support the DSO's African-American music and musician development programs.

ABOUT EARSHOT

EarShot curates connections between orchestras and emerging composers. Drawing from a national network of advisors and advocates, EarShot works with orchestras around the country to identify and support promising composers in the early stages of their careers. Orchestras have relied on EarShot to advise them on commissions, competitions, and program design in addition to identifying composers consistent with the orchestra's artistic vision. EarShot is a partnership between the American Composers Orchestra, League of American Orchestras, American Composers Forum, and New Music USA.

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION HERE

If the link above does not work, please copy and paste the following URL into your browser: <https://goo.gl/forms/154QBB1qo5sBOZP43>
All questions about the composer residency can be directed to Clare Valenti, Manager of Community Engagement at cvalenti@dso.org.