

Announcing the 2020-2021 Association of Concert Bands Young Composers Composition Contest in partnership with the John Philip Sousa Foundation

There are over a thousand community bands in the United States and more across the globe who are performing concert band music. These ensembles play music from across the spectrum - show tunes, patriotic selections, marches, transcriptions, new works for band. These bands are looking for new music that fits a more traditional style of concert band literature that audiences will enjoy.

Eligibility:

- ◆ Composers under 30 years of age on June 15, 2020
- ◆ Composers must not be contractually obligated as an employee or under contract to any publisher or publishers.
Composers who self publish their music are welcome to submit to the contest. The submitted piece cannot be for sale until after the results of the contest have been made known.
Ineligible: Current Members of the ACB Board and their family members

Guidelines

- ◆ A 3 - 5 minute duration piece of original composition for concert band at a grade level of roughly 4.
- ◆ Submissions must not have been previously published or previously performed in a public venue.
- ◆ Submissions must have been written within the past 18 months.
- ◆ Only one submission per composer will be accepted.
- ◆ Suggested Instrumentation:
 - ◆ C Piccolo; 1st & 2nd Flute; Oboe; Bassoon; 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Clarinet; Bass Clarinet; 1st & 2nd Alto Saxophone; Tenor Saxophone; Baritone Saxophone; 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Trumpet; 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Horn; 1st, 2nd, 3rd Trombone; Euphonium (BC/TC); Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani & Percussion (expanded) Optional: Eb Clarinet, 2nd Oboe, 2nd Bassoon, Contrabass Clarinet, piano. Special Considerations: Extensive cross-cueing (always on solos for Horn, Bassoon, Oboe, Bass Clarinet); composers are encouraged to use expanded percussion, particularly mallet and accessory instruments. Plan for maximum of five percussionists.

Submit the following information using the form linked from: <https://acbands.org/composition-between August 1, 2019 and June 15, 2020>

- ◆ Composer Contact Information as requested
- ◆ PDF of the score labeled with the Title. Other identifying information must be removed.
- ◆ An .mp3 recording from the composing software.
- ◆ Program notes (separate from the score as a word document or PDF file, all identifying information must be removed)
- ◆ Naming conventions for files: TITLE_Initials_score.pdf TITLE_Initials_recording.mp3 TITLE_Initials_prognote.pdf For lengthy titles, truncate to the first 10 characters.
- ◆ Application fee of \$25 payable by credit card payable via the form. Or choose "pay later" and mail a check made out to the Association of Concert Bands with your contact information to: Sarah McElfresh Association, of Concert Bands, 276 Weatherford Way, Newport News, VA 23602 . Application fee must be received for consideration.

Winning

- ◆ Entries will be judged by a panel of judges who are well-known composers and conductors.
 - ◆ The winning composer will need to provide a complete set of parts in PDF format by December 1, 2020.
- ◆ That set of parts and **all future copies** of the score and parts will need to have inscribed "Winner of the 2020 Association of Concert Bands/John Philip Sousa Foundation Composition Contest."
- ◆ The composer will receive a certificate suitable for framing.
- ◆ The composer will receive an award of \$2000 and reimbursement up to \$1000 for travel expenses to attend the ACB Convention for the premiere if available to attend.
- ◆ The piece will be premiered at the annual convention of the Association of Concert Bands to be held in Santa Fe, New Mexico April 27-May 2, 2021. More information, including dates, location, and Guest conductor will be forthcoming on our website.

Dates:

- ◆ Submit by: June 15, 2020
- ◆ Notifications by: November 1, 2020

Any questions can be sent to acbcontest@gmail.com or visit the **website**: <http://www.acbands.org/composition-contest>

