2012 CONCERTO COMPETITION

Eligibility: Applicants must meet at least one of the following requirements:

a) currently registered as a full-time or a part-time student at the University of Chicago;
b) a faculty member or a staff member in a Department other than the Music Department;
c) currently a member of a Department of Music performance organization (University Symphony Orchestra, University Chamber Orchestra, University Wind Ensemble, New Music Ensemble, University Chorus, University Motet Choir, Rockefeller Chapel Choir, Jazz X-tet, Gamelan, Middle East Music Ensemble, Piano Program, Chamber Music Program, or Vocal Studies Program).

Previous U. of C. Concerto Competition winners are ineligible to compete.

Contestants who play an orchestral instrument must be active participants in a Department ensemble.

Repertoire: Repertoire chosen for the 2012 Concerto Competition must be suitable for performance with the University Symphony Orchestra, University Chamber Orchestra, or University Wind Ensemble in terms of the instrumental requirements and the difficulty of the accompaniment. The accompaniment parts must be currently available from some library, publisher, or other lending source. All repertoire selections are subject to the approval of the USO, UCO, and UWE directors before an audition will be scheduled. If you have any doubts about your chosen piece, be sure to contact Barbara Schubert by February 1. Either complete concertos or single movements are eligible for consideration in the 2012 Concerto Competition. Those who wish to perform an entire concerto must audition with excerpts from at least two movements.

Application: A Concerto Competition Application Form must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 20.

Audition: Concerto Competition Auditions will be held on Saturday, February 25, 2012, in Fulton Recital Hall. Auditions will be scheduled at 10-minute intervals; specific audition times will be arranged after the February 20 application deadline. Each auditionee may select which movement(s) or portions of movements s/he will perform at the audition; the selections should not exceed 8-10 minutes of music, unless otherwise requested.

All audition repertoire should be memorized.

Auditionees may provide their own accompanist, if they wish, or they may utilize the services of the staff accompanist who will be present for these auditions. If using the staff accompanist, auditionees must submit a copy of their music by 5:00 p.m. on February 20, along with their official concerto competition application form; a rehearsal with the staff accompanist will then be scheduled. Pianists are encouraged to audition without an accompanist, as the norm. A second (accompanist) piano will be available for the 2012 Concerto Competition auditions only if requested by February 15. Talk to Barbara Schubert.

Judges: The panel of judges for the 2012 Concerto Competition includes: Barbara Schubert, Director of Performance Programs and Conductor of the University Symphony; Timothy Semanik, Conductor of the University Chamber Orchestra; Chip De Stefano, Conductor of the University Wind Ensemble; Amy Briggs, Director of Chamber Music Program; and one guest artist to be announced. The judges will provide follow-up comments for the auditionee(s), if requested to do so.

Selection: The judges reserve the right not to select any winner(s) in the 2012 Concerto Competition, or to select more than one winner in each instrumental / ensemble category. Winner(s) will be scheduled to perform with the Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, or Wind Ensemble during Spring Quarter 2012, in a Concerto Showcase Concert on Saturday, April 21, 2012. Additional winners may be scheduled to perform with one or more of the ensembles during the 2012-2013 season, at the discretion of the judges. Results of the 2012 Concerto Competition will be announced by Thursday, March 1, 2012.

Concert: Concerto Competition Winners will receive no financial compensation for their rehearsals, concerts, or broadcasts with the University Symphony Orchestra, University Chamber Orchestra, or University Wind Ensemble. The winners’ names and biographies will be included in all Department of Music publicity for the relevant concerts. Winners will also receive a CD recording of their concerto performances.

Information: For more information on the 2012 Concerto Competition, please contact Barbara Schubert, Director of Performance Programs, Goodspeed 407; Telephone: (773) 702-7628; b-schubert@uchicago.edu.