2018 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 an active member of a Department of Music performance ensemble or 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 2018 Concerto Competition must be suitable for performance with the University Symphony Orchestra, University Chamber Orchestra, or University Wind Ensemble in terms both 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 in advance.) Either complete concertos or single movements are eligible for consideration in the 2018 Concerto Competition. Those who wish to perform an entire concerto must audition with excerpts from at least two movements of the concerto.

Application: A Concerto Competition Application Form must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 19.

Audition: Concerto Competition Auditions will be held on Sunday, February 25, 2018, in Fulton Recital Hall. Each auditionee may select which movement(s) or portions of movements s/he will perform at the audition; the selections should be approximately 8 or 12 minutes in length, unless otherwise requested. Auditions will be scheduled at 10- or 15-minute intervals, depending on the audition length selected by the auditionee. Specific audition times will be arranged after the February 19 application deadline, and will be confirmed by e-mail.

In normal cases, audition repertoire should be memorized. Contact Barbara Schubert with questions.

Auditionees may provide their own accompanist, if they wish, or they may utilize the services of the staff accompanist who will be available for these auditions. If using the staff accompanist, auditionees must submit a copy of their music by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 19, along with their official concerto competition application form; a rehearsal with the staff accompanist will then be scheduled. Pianists are requested to audition without an accompanist, as the norm. A second (accompanist) piano will be available for the 2018 Concerto Competition auditions only if requested by Monday, February 19.

Judges: The panel of judges for the 2018 Concerto Competition includes: Barbara Schubert, Director of Performance Programs and Conductor of the University Symphony; Matthew Sheppard, Conductor of the University Chamber Orchestra; Chip De Stefano, Conductor of the University Wind Ensemble; Daniel Pesca, Director of the Chamber Music Program; and one guest artist to be announced. The judges will provide follow-up comments for the auditionee(s), if requested.

Selection: The judges reserve the right not to select any winner(s) in the 2018 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 2018, in a Concerto Showcase Concert on Saturday, April 21, 2018. Additional winners may be scheduled to perform with one or more of the ensembles during the 2018-2019 season, at the discretion of the judges. Results of the 2018 Concerto Competition will be announced by Tuesday, February 27, 2018.

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 2018 Concerto Competition, please contact Barbara Schubert, Director of Performance Programs, Logan 217B; Telephone: (773) 702-7628; b-schubert@uchicago.edu.