SUMMERMUSIK
CINCINNATI CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Summermusik (Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra) Announces First Annual Summermusik Commission Competition

CINCINNATI, OH – Summermusik (Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra) in partnership with Chamber Orchestra of Pittsburgh, Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle (NC), and Reno Chamber Orchestra announce the first annual Summermusik Commission Competition. This blind competition is open to composers of any nationality and age.

This first-of-its-kind initiative will provide the winning composer the rare opportunity to have their composition performed by four professional chamber orchestras over the course of the 2025-26 season with the premiere performance taking place in Cincinnati in August 2025. The winner will also receive a $10,000 grand prize and a travel stipend to attend the premiere.

“As a professional orchestra, we believe that we have a responsibility to provide opportunities for living composers,” says Summermusik Executive Director Evan Gidley. “The blind nature of this competition removes all bias during the judging process, thus providing equal opportunity to all prospective applicants.”

Summermusik anticipates more than 100 applications for the inaugural competition which has a work sample submission deadline of March 31, 2024. The selected composer will then have a year to compose the new work.

For full details and to apply, visit https://www.ccocincinnati.org/competition/

The inaugural Summermusik Commission Competition is made possible with support from John and Patsy Kreitler, Mike and Beth Dempsey, and Mary Ann Barnes and Tim Boyle. Additional support comes from partner organizations Chamber Orchestra of Pittsburgh, Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle (NC), and Reno Chamber Orchestra. The competition is part of Summermusik’s 50th Anniversary celebration in 2024.

For Summermusik and partner logos – Click Here

About Summermusik (Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra): Summermusik (Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra) is an independent ensemble of 32 professional musicians that is celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2024. Under the direction of Music Director Eckart Preu, Summermusik concerts offer a fun and informative musical experience in an intimate and informal setting. The ensemble’s size allows for creativity in programming; presenting orchestral works ranging from Baroque and Classical eras to commissioned works by contemporary composers. Collaborations are a hallmark of Summermusik, including partnerships with Walk with Amal, Cincinnati Ballet, and Cincinnati Art Museum, among others. The We Are One festival series was launched in 2022 and amplifies under-consulted voices by acknowledging historical and contemporary inequities and celebrating unique cultures.

The Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra is supported by Robert and Debra Chavez, Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile, Jr. Foundation, ArtsWave Community Campaign, Louise Dieterle Nippert Musical Arts Fund, Irv and Melinda Simon, Greater Cincinnati Foundation, The Charles H. Dater Foundation, Ohio Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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