



Music Teachers' Association of California YOUNG COMPOSERS GUILD

Application Fee: \$55

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

(revised January 2010)

POSTMARK DEADLINE

February 28, 2010

Deborah H. How, Ph.D., YCG State Chair

dhhow@musette.org * (310) 828-6677

The Young Composers Guild (YCG) is the highest achievement that a Composers Today composition student can attain. An accepted student is granted membership in the Guild for five years upon recommendation by a panel of composition evaluators. During this five-year tenure, the YCG member may be offered semi-professional paid performance opportunities through MTAC branch-sponsored concerts and semi-professional publishing opportunities through the Composers Today program. Each year, a special YCG Presentation Concert is held at the MTAC State Convention. This concert serves as a debut for newly selected members and as a venue for current and recent past members to present new works (after being selected through a competitive application process). In some cases, the Guild also provides awards, scholarships, and other financial support for its current and recent past members. The Young Composers Guild was established in 1996-1997 by Sue Shannon to honor MTAC's most gifted young composers.

The Young Composers Guild offers three levels of participation:

- ❖ NEW STUDENT MEMBERSHIP
- ❖ CURRENT MEMBER COMPOSITION AWARD
- ❖ RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATE COMPOSITION AWARD

NEW STUDENT MEMBERSHIP: 2009-2010 Eligibility Requirements

1. School Grade, Age, and Teacher Requirements

- a. The student must be enrolled or homeschooled in high school (or equivalent) grades 10, 11, or 12 and be age 18 or younger as of January 1, 2010; AND the student must be currently studying an instrument/voice and/or composition/theory with an MTAC member in good standing.
 - i. If the student has different teachers for instrument/voice and composition/theory, and both teachers are MTAC members, the student must list the composition/theory teacher as the **primary** teacher.
 - ii. If the student only studies an instrument/voice with an MTAC member, then that teacher will serve as the **sponsor** teacher.

OR

The student must be enrolled at a junior college or undergraduate college/conservatory and be age 22 or younger as of January 1, 2010; AND the student must have studied an instrument/voice and/or composition/theory during at least two of his/her high school grades 10, 11, or 12 with an MTAC member teacher in good standing.

- i. If the student is no longer studying with an MTAC teacher, then the MTAC teacher with whom the student studied with in high school must now be a current MTAC member and serve as the **sponsor** teacher.
- ii. If the student currently has different teachers for instrument/voice and composition/theory, and both teachers are MTAC members, the student must list the composition/theory teacher as the **primary** teacher.
- iii. If the student currently only studies an instrument/voice with an MTAC member, then that teacher will serve as the **sponsor** teacher.

2. Participation and Performance in Composers Today (CT) Requirements

- a. The student must have entered the CT Evaluations or CT State Contest, AND the student's composition(s) must have been recognized at the MTAC State Convention in at least one year of high school grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.
 - i. That is, the recognized composition(s) must have been PERFORMED in either the CT Symposium or the CT State Contest Winners Program at an MTAC State Convention PRIOR to applying for student membership in the Young Composers Guild.
 - ii. This rule applies to both high school applicants and college (junior college, undergraduate college, and undergraduate conservatory) applicants.

3. Composition Submission Requirements

- a. The student must submit three compositions of his/her current work OR submit one composition of a single longer work of at least three movements. Works previously entered in CT programs are eligible. Minimum total length: 7 minutes of playing time without repeats. An audio or audio/visual recording of a performance of the composition(s) must also be submitted. Compositions and recordings must be submitted electronically. Detailed instructions on how to submit materials electronically will be sent by e-mail after the YCG application form and application fee are received and accepted by the YCG State Chair.
 - i. Compositions must be original **unpublished** works.
 - ii. Compositions must be submitted as either written manuscripts (by hand) or printed scores (by computer), unless created using equipment with no means to generate a score.
 1. Written manuscripts must be neatly notated by the student in black ink or dark pencil.
 2. Printed scores must be inputted and/or generated by the student using the text entry method, step entry method, or through the midi entry and editing method. The student may receive instruction in how to use a computer program, but he/she must do the actual inputting, transposing, arranging, and/or formatting of the composition(s).
 3. If the student created the composition(s) using equipment with no means to generate a score, the student must describe the process used in detail and list all equipment used.
 - iii. Film scores are not eligible for YCG consideration; please see MTAC Young Film Scorers Guild.
 - iv. Compositions may be for any instrument, voice, electronic sound, ensemble, or for a multimedia collaboration such as music and poetry, music and dance, or music and art. Good taste and musicianship is always a criterion in any creative effort.
 - v. Electronically generated sound waves may come from a pre-created sound bank or may be created by the student. The student may pre-record the electronically generated sound waves and use the recording as an "instrument." For any electronically generated sound waves, the student must list both the hardware and software used.
 - vi. If borrowed melodies or themes are used, sources must be cited.
 - vii. Measures must be numbered. The student may either provide measure numbers at the beginning of each line of music or for each individual measure. Numbering must begin with the first complete measure.
 - viii. Any non-traditional notation must have a complete explanation defining the notation system.
 - ix. Program notes must be included with each composition.
 - x. A brief biographical sketch, including performances and awards, must be provided.

4. Application Form and Fee Requirements

- a. The YCG application form must be signed by the student if age 18 or older; otherwise, it must be signed by a parent or legal guardian.
- b. A \$55 non-refundable application fee and a proof-of-age document must accompany the application form.
 - i. If the student is recommended by the evaluators to be accepted in the Young Composers Guild, he/she will receive a cash scholarship that will cover the \$55 application fee plus an additional stipend as part of his/her YCG MEMBERSHIP.
 - ii. Please make check payable to MTAC and write YCG on the memo line. Do not send cash.
- c. The completed (typed only) and signed YCG application form, application fee, and proof-of-age document must be mailed on or before the POSTMARK DEADLINE to the YCG State Chair.

Please do NOT request "Signature Required" if sending by USPS Express Mail, UPS, FedEx, etc.

5. MTAC State Convention Attendance and Performance Requirements

- a. If the student is recommended by the evaluators to be accepted in the Young Composers Guild, YCG MEMBERSHIP, which includes a cash scholarship award, will be granted only after the student attends and has his/her composition(s) performed at the annual YCG Presentation Concert at the MTAC State Convention in the year in which he/she is recommended.
 - i. If these two conditions are not met, the YCG MEMBERSHIP and accompanying cash scholarship award will automatically be forfeited.
- b. Compositions must be performed live at the MTAC State Convention for works scored for five or fewer performers. The student need NOT be a performer.
 - i. The YCG State Chair will assist in finding additional performers for the MTAC State Convention, but the student will assume all financial responsibility to secure the additional performers.
 - ii. If the budget allows, YCG will present a small stipend to additional performers at Convention.
- c. Video recordings may be played as a substitute for a live performance at the MTAC State Convention for works scored for six or more performers, but the composer must be present to introduce his/her video.
 - i. The student will assume all financial responsibility related to making the video, including securing additional performers and production costs.

CURRENT MEMBER COMPOSITION AWARD: 2009-2010 Eligibility Requirements

COMPOSITION SUBMISSION for performance at the
YOUNG COMPOSERS GUILD PRESENTATION CONCERT at the MTAC STATE CONVENTION

1. Membership Requirement

- a. The applicant must be a current member of the Young Composers Guild.

2. Participation and Performance in Composers Today (CT) Requirements

- a. N/A: Composers Today Requirements already met.

3. Composition Submission Requirements

- a. The current YCG member must submit at least one composition of his/her current work. Minimum total length: 3 minutes 30 seconds of playing time without repeats. An audio or audio/visual recording of a performance of the composition(s) must also be submitted. All compositions and recordings must be submitted electronically. Detailed instructions on how to submit compositions and recordings electronically will be sent by e-mail after the YCG application form and application fee are received and accepted by the YCG State Chair by postal mail.
- b. The current YCG member must also follow Eligibility Requirements 3.a.i–3.a.x as listed above in the NEW STUDENT MEMBERSHIP section of this document.

4. Application Form and Fee Requirements

- a. The YCG application form must be signed by the current YCG member if age 18 or older; otherwise, it must be signed by a parent or legal guardian.
- b. A non-refundable application fee and a proof-of-age document must accompany the YCG application form.
 - i. The 2009-2010 YCG application fee is \$55.
 1. If the current YCG member is selected by the evaluators to have his/her composition(s) performed at the YCG Presentation Concert at the MTAC State Convention, he/she will receive a cash scholarship that will cover the \$55 application fee plus an additional stipend as part of the CURRENT MEMBER COMPOSITION AWARD.
 - ii. Please make check payable to MTAC and write YCG on the memo line. Do not send cash.
- c. The completed (typed only) and signed YCG application form, application fee, and proof-of-age document must be mailed on or before the POSTMARK DEADLINE to the YCG State Chair.
Please do NOT request "Signature Required" if sending by USPS Express Mail, UPS, FedEx, etc.

5. MTAC State Convention Attendance and Performance Requirements

- a. If the current YCG member is selected by the evaluators to have his/her composition(s) performed at the YCG Presentation Concert at the MTAC State Convention, the CURRENT MEMBER COMPOSITION AWARD, which includes a cash scholarship award, will be presented only if the current YCG member attends and has his/her composition(s) performed at the annual YCG Presentation Concert at the MTAC State Convention in the year in which he/she is accepted.
 - i. If these two conditions are not met, the CURRENT MEMBER COMPOSITION AWARD and accompanying cash scholarship award will automatically be forfeited.
- b. Compositions must be performed live at the MTAC State Convention for works scored for five or fewer performers. The current YCG member need NOT be a performer.
 - i. The YCG State Chair will assist in finding additional performers for the MTAC State Convention, but the current YCG member will assume all financial responsibility to secure the additional performers.
 - ii. If the budget allows, YCG will present a small stipend to additional performers at Convention.
- c. Video recordings may be played as a substitute for a live performance at the MTAC State Convention for works scored for six or more performers, but the composer must be present to introduce his/her video.
 - i. The current YCG member will assume all financial responsibility related to making the video, including securing additional performers and production costs.

RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATE COMPOSITION AWARD: 2009-2010 Eligibility Requirements

COMPOSITION SUBMISSION for performance at the
YOUNG COMPOSERS GUILD PRESENTATION CONCERT at the MTAC STATE CONVENTION

1. Membership Requirement

- a. The applicant must be a past member of the Young Composers Guild.
- b. The applicant must not have a graduate or professional degree (e.g., M.A., M.F.A., M.M., M.Mus.Ed., M.S., D.M.A, Ph.D., or post-baccalaureate performance certificate) in any music field.
- c. The applicant must be age 25 or younger as of January 1, 2010.

2. Participation and Performance in Composers Today (CT) Requirements

- a. N/A: Composers Today Requirements already met.

3. Composition Submission Requirements

- a. The past YCG member must submit at least one composition of his/her current work. Minimum total length: 3 minutes 30 seconds of playing time without repeats. An audio or audio/visual recording of a performance of the composition(s) must also be submitted. All compositions and recordings must be submitted electronically. Detailed instructions on how to submit compositions and recordings electronically will be sent by e-mail after the YCG application form and application fee are received and accepted by the YCG State Chair by postal mail.
- b. The past YCG member must also follow Eligibility Requirements 3.a.i–3.a.x as listed above in the NEW STUDENT MEMBERSHIP section of this document.

4. Application Form and Fee Requirements

- a. The YCG application form must be signed by the past YCG member if age 18 or older; otherwise, it must be signed by a parent or legal guardian.
- b. A non-refundable application fee and a proof-of-age document must accompany the YCG application form.
 - i. The 2009-2010 YCG application fee is \$55.
 1. If the past YCG member is selected by the evaluators to have his/her composition(s) performed at the YCG Presentation Concert at the MTAC State Convention, he/she will receive a cash scholarship that will cover the \$55 application fee plus an additional stipend as part of the RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATE COMPOSITION AWARD.
 - ii. Please make check payable to MTAC and write YCG on the memo line. Do not send cash.
- c. The completed (typed only) and signed YCG application form, application fee, and proof-of-age document must be mailed on or before the POSTMARK DEADLINE to the YCG State Chair.
Please do NOT request "Signature Required" if sending by USPS Express Mail, UPS, FedEx, etc.

5. MTAC State Convention Attendance and Performance Requirements

- a. If the past YCG member is selected by the evaluators to have his/her composition(s) performed at the YCG Presentation Concert at the MTAC State Convention, the RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATE COMPOSITION AWARD, which includes a cash scholarship award, will be presented only if the past YCG member attends and has his/her composition(s) performed at the annual YCG Presentation Concert at the MTAC State Convention in the year in which he/she is accepted.
 - i. If these two conditions are not met, the RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATE COMPOSITION AWARD and accompanying cash scholarship award will automatically be forfeited.
- b. Compositions must be performed live at the MTAC State Convention for works scored for five or fewer performers. The past YCG member need NOT be a performer.
 - i. The YCG State Chair will assist in finding additional performers for the MTAC State Convention, but the past YCG member will assume all financial responsibility to secure the additional performers.
 - ii. If the budget allows, YCG will present a small stipend to additional performers at Convention.
- c. Video recordings may be played as a substitute for a live performance for works scored for six or more performers, but the composer must be present to introduce his/her video.
 - i. The past YCG member will assume all financial responsibility related to making the video, including securing additional performers and production costs.