Maryland Music Educators Association

‘YOUNG COMPOSERS PROJECT’

The Young Composer Project supports Maryland music educators in their efforts to incorporate the National Standards for Music Education and the Maryland Essential Learner Outcomes for music in their classrooms and rehearsals. As such, the Project is designed to encourage and enhance the instructional experiences of Maryland school students and music educators through providing professional critiques, enhanced recognition and selected presentations for the on-going creative work of students in Maryland schools.

DESCRIPTION: Students in Maryland schools are encouraged to submit their creative work to the Maryland Music Educators Association for professional review, evaluation and recognition. (Visit mmea-maryland.org/ycp for examples of previous submissions to the ‘Young Composers Project’).

ELIGIBILITY: Open to Maryland school students enrolled in school music class’s grades PK-12. SPONSORING TEACHER MUST BE A MEMBER OF NAFME/MMEA.

DESCRIPTION OF CREATIVE WORK:

• Can be composed by an individual, class or ensemble.

• NEW! Can be an original arrangement of public domain works.

• Duration must not exceed five (5) minutes in length.

• May be for a solo, small or large ensemble.

• Presentation may be for an electronic, instrumental, multi-media, or vocal medium.

• Must reflect ‘Creating’, in 2014 Music National Anchor Standards 1, 2, and 3. (Visit standards at mmea.org/ycp/creating/standards)

• Works not addressing ‘Creating’ standards will not be accepted.

• Must address ‘Creating’ standards at a selected grade/level, i.e. for PK-8: select, grade 2, 5, 8, or level; for middle school: Novice or Intermediate; for high school: select, Proficient, Accomplished or Advanced. Works failing to select a specified grade or level will not be accepted.

SUBMITTING CREATIVE WORK: Each work submitted

• Must include scores with a title on the first page, NO names on any additional pages, and all measures numbered.

• Must include a one (1) to two (2) page student(s) narrative reflecting on the process of creating the work, i.e. ‘How was the work submitted ‘Imagined’, ‘Planned’, ‘Made’, ‘Evaluated’ and ‘Refined’? NO name(s) should appear on any page.
YOUNG COMPOSERS GUIDELINES P. 2

• Must include a one (1) page teacher generated narrative identifying and reflecting on the instructional strategies implemented to enable student(s) to create the work, i.e. What instruction was provided to help student(s) ‘Imagine’, ‘Plan’, ‘Make’, ‘Evaluate’, and ‘Refine’ the work submitted? NO name(s) should appear on the page.

• Will not be returned. All work submitted becomes the property of MMEA. However, all creative rights, including copyrighting, remains with the creator(s).

• Scores with names or without a title or all measures numbered will not be accepted.

• Must be postmarked by May 1, 2017.

INSTRUMENTAL OR VOCAL WORK: must have five (5) printed copies of a full score (Full scores may be through a notation program or hand-written).

ELECTRONIC WORK: must have five (5) screen shots of the sequencer Digital Audio workstation (DAW).

• Must include an MP3 recording labeled with the work’s TITLE ONLY (MP4 may also be included). The recording should be of a performance by a grade level student, student ensemble or an electronic medium. A non-acoustic performance will be accepted ONLY if it presents the desired acoustic performance medium or if it is exclusively for an electronic medium). Submissions without recordings, titles or with name(s) will not be accepted.

MULTI-MEDIA WORK: includes any and all combinations of visual, auditory or physical movement (Example, film scores, ballet, scenes, etc.). Please submit a DVD of the entire project that must be playable in cross-platform format such as MP4.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Multi-media works must be presented in a format that enables others to recreate all aspects of the work.

REVIEWS/EVALUATION: Each work submitted:

• Will be reviewed and evaluated by a panel of judges. A panel may include current or retired school music educators, members of the music industry, composers, or qualified university composition faculty. Review comments and evaluations will be provided for each work submitted. All comments and evaluations will be final.

• Will be evaluated as being either ‘Superior’, ‘Excellent’, ‘Good’, ‘Fair’, or ‘Needs Improvement’.

• Will be considered for ‘Exemplary’ recognition at a selected grade/level of review and evaluation. An ‘Exemplary’ work will be posted on the MMEA website (MP3 and score). Further, an ‘Exemplary’ work will be considered for presentation at MMEA local, state, and
NAFME divisional and national conferences and events. (MMEA reserves the right to withhold ‘Exemplary’ recognition in the event that no work is so designated.)

- Will be reviewed and evaluated focusing on:

1. **Originality:** Creative work exhibits a personal/unique style clearly demonstrating the ability to create, use and/or organize sound for expressing personal or group musical intent.

2. **Compositional Technique and Presentation:** Creative work clearly exhibits characteristics of the elements of music being accurately and effectively understood and manipulated and presented for expressive purposes. Includes organization of rhythmic, melodic elements, formal design, writing for instruments and/or voices, correct usage of musical notation, etc.

3. **Compositional maturity:** Creative work clearly demonstrates a depth of knowledge, understanding and effective application of the elements of music for expressive purposes. Includes a high level of appropriate professionalism in presentation of score and recording.

4. **Overall Appeal:** Creative work includes effective handling of unity/variety, dynamics, tension/release, articulations, text setting, etc.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS:**

1. Remember that a grade level student, student ensemble or an electronic medium should perform each work submitted.

2. Remember, neatness counts! Creative work exhibiting attention to presenting a clean full score, clear copies and a sensitive recording, shows careful attention of preparation.

3. Consider, characteristics of creating a work include:

   - Manipulating, using or creating different tone qualities and sounds for a specific purpose or intent,
   - Careful and flexible planning, selecting and organizing sounds for presenting a purpose or intent,
   - Engaging in numerous ‘experiments’ to help select and make creative work, i.e. exploring dynamics, articulation, variety of melodic and harmonic ideas, orchestration and timbre, text setting, repetition, contrast, etc.
   - Use of sampled sounds for timbre authenticity is strongly encouraged

4. Above all, creative work should be an extension of your personal ideas, thoughts and experiences. A work should be meaningful to each person, class or ensemble.
2016-17 MMEA Young Composer’s Project
Application Form

INDIVIDUAL SUBMISSION

NAME: ____________________________________________________________

BIRTH DATE____/____/____GRADE_______

ADDRESS_________________________________________________________

CITY___________________________STATE_MD_ ZIP CODE__________

TELEPHONE (_______)________________________

PARENT/ GUARDIAN____________________________________________

EMAIL__________________________________________________________

SCHOOL NAME _______________________________________________

SCHOOL ADDRESS____________________________________________

TITLE OF COMPOSITION_______________________________________________

WORK SUBMITTED REFLECTS CREATING STANDARDS FOR (Circle one):

• PK-8: select, grade 2 5 8 or level,

• Middle School: NOVICE INTERMEDIATE

• High school: select PROFICIENT ACCOMPLISHED ADVANCED

MUSIC TEACHER_________________________________________________

SCHOOL PHONE______________

E-MAIL__________________________________________________________

I certify that the work submitted is original and has not been published. I understand that I retain all rights, including copyrights, and that MMEA will retain all materials.

SIGNATURE OF COMPOSER/ARRANGER: _______________________________
The Maryland Music Educators Association or its designee has my permission, in the event of a public performance or presentation, to photograph or to create an audio and/or video recording of my child at an MMEA sponsored/hosted event.

Please check: Yes_____ No _____

The Maryland Music Educators Association or its designee has permission to post work submitted on the MMEA website.

Please check: Yes____No____

Media releases will be provided for all performers of my composition.

Please check: Yes___No___

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN: ____________________________ DATE ______

SIGNATURE OF MUSIC TEACHER: _________________________________

NAfME/MMEA Membership Number ________________________________

PRINCIPAL (TITLE)______________________________________________

MUSIC SUPERVISOR_____________________________________________

SUPERVISOR’S E-MAIL ADDRESS____________________________________

SUPERINTENDENT(TITLE)_________________________________________

MAILING ADDRESS________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

Please send completed form, score, and recording by May 1, 2017 to:

Young Composers Project
 c/o Richard Disharoon
 MMEA Office
 791 Aquahart Rd., #117
 Glen Burnie, MD 21061
2016-17 MMEA Young Composer’s Project

Application Form

CLASS or ENSEMBLE SUBMISSION

CLASS NAME (ex. Mrs. Smith’s 4th grade) ________________________________
ENSEMBLE NAME (ex. chorus, 10-12, Jazz ens., 6-8) ___________________________
SCHOOL __________________________________________________________
SCHOOL ADDRESS _________________________________________________
TITLE OF COMPOSITION _____________________________________________

WORK SUBMITTED REFLECTS CREATING STANDARDS FOR (Circle one):

• PK-8: select, grade 2 5 8 or level, NOVICE INTERMEDIATE
• High school: select, PROFICIENT ACCOMPLISHED ADVANCED

MUSIC TEACHER(S) _________________________________________________
CLASSROOM TEACHER _____________________________________________
SCHOOL PHONE ___________ SCHOOL E-MAIL ____________________________

I/we certify that the work submitted is the original work of students and has not been published. I/we understand that all rights, including copyrights, are retained by the music teacher or classroom teacher and that MMEA will retain all materials.

SIGNATURE OF MUSIC or CLASSROOM TEACHER____________________

For class submissions, the teacher is required to secure permission from the parent/guardian of EVERY child for MMEA to photograph, film or videotape their child at the MMEA Conference. Please use the permission form provided
found at the end of the application for this purpose. A separate form must be submitted for every class or ensemble member.

The Maryland Music Educators Association or its designee has permission to post work submitted on the MMEA website.

Please check: Yes___ No___

Media releases will be provided for all performers of my composition.

Please check: Yes___ No___

SIGNATURE OF MUSIC TEACHER: _______________________________________

NAfME/MMEA Membership Number___________________________

Please send completed form, score, and recording by May 1, 2017 to:

Young Composers Project
c/o Richard Disharoon
MMEA Office
791 Aquahart Rd., #117
Glen Burnie, MD 21061

MEDIA RELEASE

The Maryland Music Educators Association or its designee has my permission, in the event of a public performance or presentation, to photograph or create an audio and/or video recording of my child at an MMEA sponsored/hosted event.

Parent/Guardian Signature________________________________Date________

PRINCIPAL (TITLE)_________________________________________________

MUSIC SUPERVISOR_______________________________________________

SUPERVISOR’S E-MAIL ADDRESS_____________________________________

SUPERINTENDENT(TITLE)__________________________________________

MAILING ADDRESS_________________________________________________