Maryland Music Educators Association

YOUNG COMPOSERS PROJECT

ELECTRONIC MUSIC

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES 2019-2020

The Young Composer Project supports Maryland music educators in their efforts to incorporate the National Standards for Music Education and the Maryland State Music Standards 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 ongoing 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 https://www.mmea-maryland.org/young-composers-performances for examples of previous submissions to the ‘Young Composers Project’).

Questions can be directed to Ms. Michelle Roberts, YCP chair, at ycpmdmmea@gmail.com

ELIGIBILITY: Open to Maryland school students enrolled in school music class’s grades PK-12. The sponsoring teacher MUST BE a member of NAfME/MMEA (https://www.mmea-maryland.org/membership-1/).

DESCRIPTION OF CREATIVE WORK:

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

• Students may produce compositions in any genre (Experimental, EDM, Pop, Hip Hop, Trap, etc.) of their choice; however, at this time, remixes will not be accepted.

• Students may use any Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) of their choice. Examples include Ableton Live, Reason, Pro Tools, Logic, or FL Studio. Students may also access any web-based DAW as long as it allows for exporting .wav or .aiff files.

• Students may create an original arrangement of public domain works.
• The use of legally obtained loops and samples is permitted, but it strongly encouraged that students re-work this material in some way such as chopping loops and/or using DSP functions. Both hardware and software instruments are acceptable for use in the production.

• Composition may be for electronically generated instrument(s), multi-media, or any combination of acoustic and electronic instruments.

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

• Must include a minimum of three (3) tracks.


Must address ‘Creating’ standards at a selected grade/level: PK-8: select grade 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.
HOW TO APPLY

Complete an online application and upload required materials at:

- **Electronic Submissions:** [www.tinyurl.com/ycpelectronic](http://www.tinyurl.com/ycpelectronic)

**All Submissions must be received by May 1, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.** Questions can be directed to Ms. Michelle Roberts, YCP chair, at ycpmdmmea@gmail.com

Required Materials for Submission: Six materials must be submitted.

**Required Submission Materials:**

1. Screen shot(s) of DAW sequencer window. **STUDENT NAME MUST NOT APPEAR ON WORK SUBMITTED.**

2. Track listing with detailed description of mixing and mastering process used (levels, panning, effects, etc.)

3. A digital recording (live performance or electronic realization/midi) of the work submitted as an .wav or .aiff file. The work’s title should appear as the file name. **Student name MUST NOT appear on the file name.**

4. 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’? **THE NARRATIVE MUST BE ORGANIZED BY EACH AREA. NO name(s) should appear on any page.**

5. 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?’ **THE NARRATIVE MUST BE ORGANIZED BY EACH AREA. NO name(s) should appear on any pages.**

6. A scan or photo of a completed **signature page.** This page is included on page 3 of the guidelines.

All creative rights, including copyrighting, remains with the creator(s).

*Submissions with names, without a title, without all measures numbered, or without recordings will not be accepted. Works that do not address the ‘Creating’ standards will not be accepted. Works failing to select a specified grade or level will not be accepted.*

Applicants will receive their comments and evaluation in June, 2020.
SIGNATURE PAGE

Upload a scan or photo of this completed page to your online application. (Required Submission Material).

A. SIGNATURES REQUIRED FOR INDIVIDUAL SUBMISSION:

- Parent Signature
- Student and Teacher Signature

1. Parent signature grants the following release/legal permission to MMEA:
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.

Parent Signature: ________________________ Parent Printed Name: __________________

2. Student and Teacher signature grants the following legal permission to MMEA:
   1. The Maryland Music Educators Association or its designee has permission to post work submitted on the MMEA website.
   2. Media releases will be provided for all performances of my composition. The signature also certifies 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.

   Date: ________________

   Student Signature: ________________________ Student Printed Name: __________________

   Teacher Signature: _______________________ Teacher Printed Name: __________________

B. CONFIRMATION REQUIRED FOR CLASS/ENSEMBLE SUBMISSION:

1. Teacher signature guarantees the following for legal purposes:
   1. I certify that the work submitted is the original work of students and has not been published. I understand that all rights, including copyrights, are retained by the music teacher or classroom teacher and that MMEA will retain all materials.
   2. For class submissions, I certify that I have obtained written permission from the parent/guardian of every student for MMEA to photograph, film or videotape their child at the MMEA Conference. I have used the permission form provided by MMEA (on page 5 of the YPC Guidelines for this purpose). A separate form was submitted for every student in the class or ensemble member.
   3. The Maryland Music Educators Association or its designee has permission to post work submitted on the MMEA website.

   Date: ________________

   Teacher Signature: _______________________ Teacher Printed Name: __________________
YOUNG COMPOSERS PROJECT
MEDIA RELEASE

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

Student Name: _____________________________
Parent/Guardian Signature: ___________________________ Date: _______
Parent/Guardian Printed Name: ___________________________ Date: _______
Teacher Name: _____________________________
School:______________________________
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 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, 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 recording.

4. **Overall Appeal**: Creative work includes effective handling of unity/variety, dynamics, tension/release, articulations, 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 sensitive recording shows careful attention of preparation.

3. 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.

Questions can be directed to Ms. Michelle Roberts, YCP chair, at ycpmdmmea@gmail.com.