

2019-20 MFQ Audition Requirements

Dear 2019-20 PYSO/YC² Members:

PYSO is excited to invite you to participate in the competition to name the Montgomery Fellowship Quartet or Quintet sponsored by Chamber Music Pittsburgh. This is a PYSO-run competition for string quartets or quintets (provided a string quartet is part of the group). Group members must all be current PYSO members or recent PYSO alum.

The winning group will receive:

- Free weekly coachings by PSO Principal Second Violin Jeremy Black, a season subscription to Chamber Music Pittsburgh for each student and one guest, and prestigious performance opportunities - all sponsored by a generous annual gift from Chamber Music Pittsburgh.
- YC² assists PYSO by managing their chamber music activities, so this prize also includes free tuition in YC², which provides overall scheduling and management of the group, and also enables you to participate in additional enrichment programming, as well as take advantage of performance opportunities offered to YC² groups.

We hope all of you receiving this email WILL participate in the audition.

Audition Date/Location: **Saturday, October 19, 2019**, Heinz Hall, 4th floor rehearsal room.

Audition Time: **Auditions will begin at 6:00pm.** Depending on how many groups request to audition, the final group should be finished by approximately 7:30pm. Two rehearsal rooms (RR1 and RR2) are available from 4:00-5:50pm for warm-up (groups will have to take turns); and one room will remain available after 5:50pm.

Rehearsal space provided by PYSO/YC² (you are welcome to meet as often as you like on your own time in addition to the times offered below): The following times will be rehearsal-on-own time unless otherwise stated. **RSVP REQUIRED** to Mrs. Cunningham which dates your group would like a room.

- Saturday, September 7 - 11:00am-12:30pm at Duquesne University - College Hall
- Saturday, September 14 - 1:00-3:00pm at Duquesne University - College Hall
- Sunday, September 15 - 3:15-5:45pm at First Presbyterian Church (no coaches)
- Sunday, September 22 - 3:15-5:45pm at First Presbyterian Church - inc. 45 minutes of coaching
- Sunday, September 29 - 3:15-5:45pm at First Presbyterian Church - inc. 90 minutes of coaching
- Sunday, October 6 - 4:00-5:45pm at First Presbyterian Church - inc. 45 minutes of coaching
- Sunday, October 13 - 4:00-5:45pm at First Presbyterian Church - inc. 45 minutes of coaching
- Saturday, October 19 - at Heinz Hall - 4th floor - rehearsal schedule TBD - note there are no rooms available to rehearse at Duquesne on this date.

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Audition requirements:

- Mr. Black has chosen an excerpt from **Julia Wolfe's "Early that Summer"** for your audition.
- Audition excerpt: **Prepare from the beginning to the first beat of measure 35.**
- Parts and score can be found [here](#). You can listen to the Lark Quartet's performance [here](#).
- In addition, each group should choose one movement from a classical piece in a contrasting style - note that you only need to play the exposition or theme of the movement if you don't have the full movement prepared.
- If your group is planning to work this year as anything other than a traditional string quartet (quintet, piano quartet, etc.), for your self-selected piece you may play something for your preferred instrumentation; however, you must play the Wolfe piece as a string quartet (2V, VIa, C).
- The Pittsburgh Symphony will be presenting several works this year by living composers, including a premiere by Ms. Wolfe on their season opening weekend. Ms. Wolfe has won a Pulitzer Prize and MacArthur Fellowship - you may enjoy [this podcast](#) featuring an interview with the composer offered by the National Endowment of the Arts.

If you have any questions, ask Mr. Johnson or myself.

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