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Aural Compass Projects



# ACP's Emerging Composer Competition

January 2nd, 2023 - April 1st, 2023

Winners announced June 2023

**Aural Compass Projects is a musical arts organization dedicated to performing new and less-performed works. We strive to foster and develop a solid moral compass which guides our work in advancing towards equality and better representation in the arts. We believe that following a strong code of ethics while cultivating a space for new and underperformed music is our duty as artistic ambassadors and is incredibly important for the collective growth of our community and world.**

This year, Aural Compass Projects is holding its third annual Emerging Composer Competition. Through this competition, we hope to build connections with the world's rising composers and provide a platform for young musicians to combine their values and principles with their creative process. In an effort to solidify a vital connection to new music and especially the genre of art song, it is our goal to share the **transformative and regenerative powers of intimate song sharing**, and, by doing so, instill incentive for the growth of this genre.

Winners of this competition will receive a cash prize of \$250 and will have their submitted work produced, performed, and recorded in an upcoming ACP project. This annual competition is open to **composition students** of any age whose submitted work meets the requirements.

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## Requirements

The work must be:

- written after January 1st, 2022
- A minimum of three minutes
- For solo voice unaccompanied, or accompanied by 1-2 of the following:
  - Violin, Viola, Cello, Flute, Piano, Guitar, Electronics
  - (If your piece includes an instrument outside of this group, please contact us at [info@auralcompassprojects.org](mailto:info@auralcompassprojects.org) before submitting.)
- Written by a **student of composition** (if not enrolled in a university composition program currently, be able to prove private composition studies)
  - Professors of composition are ineligible
  - Composers who have more than two professional commissions are ineligible
- Texts are to reflect ACP's mission statement as stated **in bold** on page 1 of this document.
  - If text is not in English, please provide translation
  - It is encouraged for composers to source texts from within their community
  - Written from &/or about the perspective of a demographic or issue that you feel is underrepresented in the arts
  - **A text for which the composer has secured copyright clearance**—only text setting permission necessary. (If the poem is not in the public domain, the composer must be able to show proof that the proper rights from the appropriate person in control of the copyright—either the poet, the poet's estate or the publisher—have been secured.)

For U.S. publications, the following is a summary of works in the **public domain**:

- works published before 1927
- works with a copyright notice from 1927-1967 but with no copyright renewal
- works from 1927-1977 without a copyright

<https://www.teachingcopyright.org/handout/public-domain-faq.html>

## Applicants

- Must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States
- Foreign applicants must be enrolled in a post-secondary institution in the United States.

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## Eligibility

The Art Song Composition Award is open to anyone meeting the above requirements. There is no age limit for this competition.

## Award

Each winner will receive an award of \$250, a premiere of their song in a future season, and a digital recording of the premiere.

## Entry Deadline

Compositions are to be submitted by 11:59pm April 1st, 2023

## Procedure

All submissions are to be submitted to this form ([click here](#)) by 11:59pm 4/11/2023.

By submitting to this competition, you grant Aural Compass Projects the right to publish your submission in an anthology of new music in the future. Winners and any runners-up may be featured in this anthology in the coming seasons.

## The following are required material for entry:

- (1) A Cover Sheet (PDF format) containing the following information:
  1. Length (of each individual song and/or the complete cycle)
  2. Date of Composition (the actual Date(s) of composition for each piece; Copyright date does not suffice for date of composition)
  3. Permission Statement (sighting legal permission to set text; such as “in the Public domain”, “Permissions granted by the entity having Copyright Control – poet/publisher”, or “Lyrics written by composer”)
  4. A brief description of why this piece aligns with ACP’s mission (1-2 paragraphs).
  5. ([Click here](#) for an Example)
  
- (2) A PDF copy of the song score(s). Copies must be neat, legible, and clearly edited, and should include:
  1. composition title;
  2. poet’s name;
  3. public domain status or person or agency granting text setting permission; and
  4. length and date of composition.