

## Guidelines

### EtM Con Edison Composers' Residency 2015–2016

#### Summary

Exploring the Metropolis (EtM) is sponsoring the seventh round of the EtM Con Edison Composers' Residency.

This residency will provide five composers with use of consistent, suitable composition and rehearsal space for a six-month period starting in fall 2015 or winter 2016. Each composer will also receive a stipend of \$2,500. **The composer is free to use the space for whatever purpose they would like. There is no requirement for the composer to complete a piece of work during the residency. Each composer is required to perform one free public program in coordination with the host facility.** Please note that, while many of our residencies take place in music schools, this program does not require that you collaborate with the school or its students in any way. You are welcome to do so, if that is something that interests you, however it is not the mission of this residency program.

Applicants will be chosen by a panel of music professionals based on the following criteria:

1. Artistic merit
2. Quality of proposal

#### General Information

Each resident will receive a total stipend of \$2,500 for the six-month residency and public program, an initial \$2,000 upon signing the agreements and the final \$500 upon completion of the required public program. Residents will be responsible for any additional technical resources needed.

**A public program component is required**, and must be mutually agreed upon with, and presented by, the host facility. This may be a workshop, master class, free public performance or other community-based activity. The resident will be responsible for providing performers as there is no additional funding available for public programs at this time; however, Exploring the Metropolis will provide information to the residents on further funding resources. **All public programs must be completed by June 30, 2016.**

Applicants must be at least 18 years old and a resident of New York City as of the **application deadline, Monday June 1, 2015.**

- Residents of Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn and Staten Island will be considered for residency at Bloomingdale School of Music, The Filomen M. D'Agostino Greenberg Music School at Lighthouse Guild ("Lighthouse Music School"), Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy and Turtle Bay Music School.
- Residents of Queens will be considered only for residency at Flushing Town Hall.

## Who May Apply

Composers and composer/performers working in any genre, including but not limited to: classical, jazz, blues, rock, Latin, hip-hop, opera, musical theater/Broadway, experimental/new music/electronic, world music, sacred, and works across genres.

## Who May Not Apply

- Full-time students enrolled in a degree-granting program at time of application deadline.
- Composers who will be participating in another residency or professional development program during the residency period. PLEASE NOTE that three out of the five total residencies will take place from **September 2015 to March 2016**. Two residencies will take place from **January 1 to June 2016**.
- Composers who will not be available to take advantage of the workspace opportunities offered during the residency period. If you expect to be traveling extensively during the residency period(s), consider applying for the next round.
- Previous EtM Con Edison Composers' Residency awardees, employees, family members and board members of Flushing Council on Culture and the Arts, Flushing Town Hall, Turtle Bay Music School, Lighthouse Music School, Lighthouse Guild, Bloomingdale School of Music, Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy and their spouses and immediate family members. Employees of funders, including Consolidated Edison, Inc., and those employees' spouses and family members, are also ineligible to apply.

## Residency Locations and Descriptions

**In Brooklyn** (only residents of the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan and Staten Island may apply):

**Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy** is located in a 6,000-square-foot renovated carriage house in Cobble Hill, Brooklyn. It offers private space with performance-quality pianos. It is convenient to public transportation and is fully accessible for persons with disabilities. Rooms are available between 9:30 AM and 3:00 PM on weekdays, with some additional flexibility. There is limited secure storage. Wi-Fi is available.

[www.brooklynouthchorus.org](http://www.brooklynouthchorus.org)

**In Manhattan** (only residents of the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan and Staten Island may apply):

**Bloomingdale School of Music**, located in a charming brownstone on West 108th Street in Manhattan, has been a part of the musical and educational life of the Upper West Side for 50 years. Resident composers may use one of the school's 14 studios, each with a regularly tuned piano, weekdays from 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM and on Sundays from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. "We regret that none of the studios are accessible for persons with disabilities, nor is there secure storage in the studios. BSM has a program of encouraging students to create and perform new music, called the Bloomingdale Student New Music Project, and we are hoping resident composers will be a part of that program." [www.bsmny.org](http://www.bsmny.org)

**The Filomen M. D'Agostino Greenberg Music School at Lighthouse Guild (Lighthouse Music School)** was founded in 1913 and is the only community music school in the country for people living with vision loss. The Music School also serves as a resource to music educators and performers nationwide and internationally in matters relating to accessible (Large Print, Braille, audio) music instruction. Currently located on the 4th floor of the Lighthouse Guild building at East 59th Street in Manhattan, the school features seven sound-treated rooms equipped with Steinway pianos. Some minimal storage may be available and Wi-Fi is also available on the floor. A studio for a composer is available 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM weekdays. The school is located in the Lighthouse Guild headquarters in one of the only buildings in the United States specifically planned to integrate the needs of people of all ages who have a broad range of vision, hearing and mobility impairment and meets or exceeds the recommendations of the Americans with Disabilities Act. [www.lighthouse.org/services-and-assistance/music-school/](http://www.lighthouse.org/services-and-assistance/music-school/)

**Turtle Bay Music School** is located on the east side of Midtown Manhattan. This community music school offers performance-quality pianos and secure storage and is convenient to public transportation. It is not accessible for persons with disabilities. Composer residents may collaborate with other composers or performers during the residency. They can use rooms from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM on weekdays and from 3:30 PM to 6:00 PM on Saturdays. Turtle Bay Music School is particularly interested in hosting composers that will partner with the School to create music learning opportunities for their community. [www.tbms.org](http://www.tbms.org)

#### **In Queens (only residents of Queens may apply):**

Flushing Town Hall in Flushing, Queens, a remarkable Civil War-era building owned by the City of New York, houses the Flushing Council on Culture and the Arts. Flushing Town Hall offers spaces to compose and rehearse, including two Steinway pianos and limited storage space for equipment. It has nearby parking and is fully accessible for persons with disabilities. Composer residents may use a designated space weekdays from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. They may collaborate with other composers or performers during the residency. [www.flushingtownhall.org](http://www.flushingtownhall.org)

## **Guidelines**

### **How to Apply**

Applicants must submit, **by email** to [composersresidency@exploringthemetropolis.org](mailto:composersresidency@exploringthemetropolis.org), the following four items:

- one completed application form
- one résumé
- two work sample audio files in MP3 format (may instead be sent via SoundCloud; details below)

**All items must be received by 5:00 PM Eastern Time on Monday, June 1, 2015.** Please send all items together with one email.

Exploring the Metropolis is no longer charging application fees for this residency.

## Application form

Download the application form at [www.exploringthemetropolis.org/composers-residency](http://www.exploringthemetropolis.org/composers-residency). Complete it on screen using a recent version of Adobe Reader software and save the PDF file with your information in it.

## Résumé

Your résumé must be in PDF (preferred) or Microsoft Word format. Please limit résumés to two pages.

## Work samples

Submit two audio work samples. **Work samples must be MP3 files.** Please limit work samples to five minutes each. **The file names must include the following:**

- your name
- title of the work
- Either a number 1 or number 2 to specify the order in which you would like them to be considered. (Start with your best material.)

The two MP3 files are to be transmitted to Exploring the Metropolis either as **email attachments** or by providing private **SoundCloud links** in your application. SoundCloud (<https://soundcloud.com>) is free. To create a SoundCloud account, you only need an email address.

How to upload a track onto SoundCloud and send a private link:

1. Upload your MP3 file
2. Set to 'private'
3. Click on 'permissions' and click 'enable download'
4. Click 'save'
5. Go to your track and click on the 'share' icon
6. Copy and paste the secret link into your application

## Scores (optional)

For samples of work with both instrumental and vocal components, or work combining instrumental and/ or vocal with electronic components, you may also submit a score. Composers submitting improvisational works are strongly urged to submit a score or narrative description. Scores must be sent **on paper** to: Exploring the Metropolis, EtM Con Edison Composers' Residency, 61 W 23rd Street Fl 4, New York NY 10010-4246. Digital files are not accepted. Please send copies, not original scores, charts, etc., because **we are not able to return any materials.**

## Helpful hints for your application

- While we ask for a five-minute sample, please keep in mind that first impressions are key and that panelists may not listen to the entire selection. If the most interesting part of your piece takes place four minutes in, use that as your starting point.

- Artistic merit is two-thirds of your total score so choose your work samples wisely.
- This residency is designed for composers of original music, rather than those who are arranging pre-existing material.
- Keep proposals concise, clear and concrete.

## Deadline

**All items must be received in our office by 5:00 PM, Monday June 1, 2015.** There are no exceptions for late applications, including those delayed by internet problems. Incomplete application forms or incomplete materials will not be considered. Applicants will receive email confirmation of receipt of materials.

## Selection Process & Criteria

Applications will be reviewed by an independent panel of five musicians and music professionals in various genres. Panelists have been chosen based on recommendations by professionals in nonprofit music service organizations and government arts agencies. Exploring the Metropolis staff will act in an administrative capacity.

The review process is not anonymous. Materials will be reviewed and evaluated by the panelists. A single panelist cannot ensure a composer's success or failure. Panelists' names will be kept confidential until results are released. After review of all materials, the panel will assess and rank all materials of eligible applicants according to the following criteria, in order of priority:

- Artistic merit (two-thirds of total score)
- Quality of proposal (one-third of total score)

Host facilities will assess technical and logistical suitability of projects for their space before residency winners are announced.

## Residency Timeline

Award announcements will be made in August 2015, with specific starting date as Composer-in-Residence to be agreed upon with each host facility. Residencies periods are as follows:

**Bloomingdale, Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy and Flushing Town Hall:** Beginning on or around September 1, 2015 and finishing on or around March 31, 2016. There will be a hiatus in the residency at the end of December when the facilities are closed for the holidays.

**Lighthouse and Turtle Bay:** Beginning on or around January 1, 2016 and finishing on or around June 30, 2016.

**All public programs must be completed by June 30, 2016.**

## Obligations and Benefits for the Composer Resident:

- Once notified as a recipient, each resident will need to verify NYC and specific borough as **primary residence** by providing a copy of any one of the following: tax forms, phone or utility bills, bank statements, NYS drivers' license, etc.
- Each resident will sign a letter of agreement with Exploring the Metropolis regarding stipend, public programming requirements and composer's willingness to assist in any public relations or marketing efforts. Residents must provide Exploring the Metropolis with a valid Social Security Number or Employee Identification Number (EIN) in order to receive their stipend. **Composers will retain sole ownership, including licensing and copyrights, for all work produced during the residency.**
- The resident and host facility will sign an agreement that stipulates the time and use of space, development and presentation of a required free public program, and that the resident will abide by the facility's regulations for the term of the residency.
- After completion of the residency, the resident will submit a final report to Exploring the Metropolis evaluating the residency experience.

Exploring the Metropolis will send press releases to appropriate media announcing the winners of the EtM Con Edison Composers' Residency and will publicize the public programming component at the conclusion of the residency.

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**Council on  
the Arts**



For more information, contact [composersresidency@exploringthemetropolis.org](mailto:composersresidency@exploringthemetropolis.org)