

## Guidelines

### EtM Ridgewood Bushwick Composer Residency 2016–17

#### Summary

Exploring the Metropolis (EtM) is sponsoring the inaugural round of the EtM Ridgewood Bushwick Composer Residency.

EtM is committed to resolving the workspace needs of the performing arts community in New York City. This pilot program, the second implementation of our Queens Workspace Initiative, will provide free, long-term studio space to composers who are in need of a dedicated workspace outside of their home.

This residency will provide one composer with use of consistent, suitable rehearsal space over a six-month period starting in January 2017 to develop and create new work at the Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council (RBSCC). The composer will receive a stipend of \$2,500. **There is no requirement to complete a piece of work during the residency. The composer is required to perform one free public program in coordination with the Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council.** In addition, the composer agrees to host an introductory Meet and Greet with residents of RBSCC: Plaza de Los Ancianos.

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

1. Artistic merit
2. Quality of proposal

#### General Information

The composer 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. **The composer will be responsible for any additional technical resources needed beyond what Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council is able to provide.**

**A public program component is required**, and must be mutually agreed upon with, and presented by, Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council. This may be a workshop, master class, free public performance or other community-based activity. The composer 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 resident on further funding resources. **The public program must be completed by June 30, 2017 and must take place on premises at the Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council.**

Applicants must be at least 18 years old and a resident of New York City as of the **application deadline, Monday, October 31, 2016.**

## 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. **Previous EtM Composers-in-Residence (from either the Con Edison Composer Residency or the Choreographer + Composer Residency) are eligible to apply for this new program.**

## 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. **This residency will take place from January 1 to June 30, 2017.**
- Composers who will not be available to take advantage of the workspace opportunity offered during the residency period. If you expect to be traveling extensively during the residency period, consider applying for the next round.
- Employees, family members and board members of Exploring the Metropolis and Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council. Employees of funders and those employees' spouses and family members, are also ineligible to apply.
- Composers who are not residents of New York City (any of the five boroughs) as of the application deadline.

## Residency Location and Description

Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council, Inc. (RBSCC) is a comprehensive community development and social service agency, holistically empowering and serving, our communities.

"Our vision reflects the strong belief that a combination of comprehensive social services and continued community development is essential to properly address the multi-faceted problems of a low-income community. Thus, the agency's mission is to continually seek out and implement new and effective strategies to improve the community and provide the necessary resources to local residents so they may improve their present living conditions and work toward long-term self-sufficiency. RBSCC is committed to creating programs that offer a wide-range approach to assisting individuals and families achieve their goals. For over three decades, RBSCC has been a beacon of hope and inspiration to the residents of Bushwick, Ridgewood, and surrounding communities. Since its founding, RBSCC has been committed to creating a positive difference, actively responding to the changing needs of the community and providing a diverse range of services to some of the most needy youth, seniors, and families in New York State."

### The Facility: Plaza de Los Ancianos, 297 Wilson Avenue

RBSCC's Plaza de Los Ancianos, built in 1997, in Bushwick, Brooklyn is located on the corner of Wilson Avenue and Bleecker Street, and is home to nearly 100 Senior Citizens and a live-in Superintendent.

RBSCC Building Staff includes Property Manager, Social Service Coordinators, Maintenance Staff, and 24-hour Security. Many of Plaza's residents speak Spanish as a first language and have lived at Plaza since it was built.

RBSCC Senior Residences offer on-site resident programming (classes, activities, resources) provided by RBSCC Social Service Coordinators ensuring our Seniors have access to social and educational opportunities. Plaza de Los Ancianos has 24-hour on site security to ensure Seniors are secure and visitors to the building are approved.

Plaza de Los Ancianos is located two blocks from the M train at Knickerbocker Avenue Station, adjacent to the B60 Bus line, and a few blocks from the M and L trains at the Myrtle/Wyckoff transit Hub.

### The Space: Hobby Room

The Hobby Room at Plaza de Los Ancianos is a sun lit ground floor, ADA compliant, multipurpose room. The room is regularly utilized by RBSCC's Senior residents for arts, crafts, and other creative group events. The Hobby Room is a colorful and creative space that holds many senior art works, crafts, plants, and an old piano. The room has open space, white boards, tables and chairs that the composer may utilize. There is a kitchen, bathroom, and outdoor courtyard adjacent to the Hobby Room that the composer may access. Off-street parking for the EtM Composer-in-Residence may be possible but would need to be arranged in advance.

As Plaza de Los Ancianos is home to Senior Citizens, security and amplification are of concern. RBSCC will issue the EtM Composer-in-Residence a RBSCC ID which will need to be presented to the security guard at 297 Wilson upon daily entry. The EtM Composer-in-Residence would agree to clear any visitors or collaborators with RBSCC staff in advance of their visit. **There will be no amplified sounds permitted at 297 Wilson. Percussionists would not be suitable residents for this site.** The EtM Composer-in-Residence is expected to follow all rules of our facility and conduct themselves in a professional and respectful manner while on site.

### Storage

It is not recommended that the EtM Composer-in-Residence leave equipment at Plaza de Los Ancianos as Seniors and staff utilize the Hobby Room regularly and personal-property security cannot be ensured. Should temporary on-site instrument/equipment storage be needed, the resident would coordinate this with RBSCC staff. RBSCC will be as accommodating as possible.

The RBSCC: Plaza de Los Ancianos Hobby Room would be available for an Exploring the Metropolis Composer-in-Residence to use Mondays through Fridays from 4:00 PM until 9:00 PM.

RBSCC requests the composer provide a bi-weekly (twice a month) anticipated "schedule of use" of The Hobby Room in order to ensure Seniors could reliably access the Hobby Room for special events and other functions.

# Guidelines

## How to Apply

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

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

**Submitting scores is optional, but strongly recommended.**

**All items must be received by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Monday, October 31, 2016.** Please send all items together with one email, and either mail or hand deliver scores to Exploring the Metropolis, Inc., EtM Ridgewood Bushwick Composer Residency, 205 Lexington Ave Fl 17, New York NY 10016-6022.

## Application Form

Download the application form at [exploringthemetropolis.org/ridgewood-bushwick-composer-residency/](http://exploringthemetropolis.org/ridgewood-bushwick-composer-residency/). Complete it 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

**This residency is designed for composers of original music. Arrangements of preexisting material will not be accepted. We will not accept MIDI recordings.**

**Submit two audio work samples. Work samples must be MP3 files. Please limit work samples to five minutes each and include cue points within the excerpt if you feel it makes your application stronger.**

**Name your files like this: Beethoven Ludwig 1.mp3 and Beethoven Ludwig 2.mp3** (i.e. Lastname First-name #). The number specifies 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 downloadable **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' (**CRITICALLY IMPORTANT TO DO THIS**)

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 (recommended)

For samples of work with both instrumental and vocal components, or work combining instrumental and/or vocal with electronic components, we strongly encourage you to submit a score. Composers submitting improvisational works are strongly urged to submit a score and/or narrative description. Scores must be sent **as hard copies** to: Exploring the Metropolis, EtM Ridgewood Bushwick Composer Residency, 205 Lexington Ave Fl 17, New York NY 10016-6022.

**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.
- Keep proposals concise, clear and concrete.
- Please email application from your own email address, not another person's!

### Deadline

**All items must be received in our office by 5:00 p.m., Monday, October 31, 2016.** 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 the field. 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 after the award announcement is made. 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)

Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council will assess technical and logistical suitability of projects for their space before the residency winner is announced.

## Residency Timeline

The award announcement will be made in December 2016, with specific starting date as Composer-in-Residence to be agreed upon with the host facility.

**The public program must be completed by June 30, 2017.**

## Obligations and Benefits for the Composer Resident

- Once notified as a recipient, the composer will need to verify NYC 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.
- The composer 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. The composer must provide Exploring the Metropolis with a valid Social Security Number or Employee Identification Number (EIN) in order to receive his or her stipend. **The composer will retain sole ownership, including licensing and copyrights, for all work produced during the residency.**
- The composer will sign an agreement that stipulates the time and use of space, development and presentation of a required free public program, and that the composer will abide by the Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizen Council'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 winner of the EtM Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council Composer Residency and will publicize the public programming component at the conclusion of the residency.

*Founded in 1982, EtM's mission is to foster a vibrant and prolific performing arts community around shared resources of space and talent, to increase stability and growth within the artistic community and to help broaden public access to the performing arts. Our residency programs which utilize underused space in NYC cultural and community facilities, have awarded more than \$500,000 worth of rehearsal space and financial support to more than 60 composers and choreographers since 2009. EtM's recent research studies on the needs of NYC's performing artists have resulted in major initiatives including the DiMenna Center for Classical Music, the EtM Con Edison Composers' Residency, the EtM Choreographer + Composer Residencies and the CUNY Dance Initiative. [www.exploringthemetropolis.org](http://www.exploringthemetropolis.org)*

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