

III PERFORMANCE MEMBERSHIP AND AUDITIONS

A. PERFORMANCE MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT AND EXCEPTIONS

1. Generally, only Performance Members may perform on public FMMC programs. Solo performers must have auditioned and qualified as solo Performance Members within the discipline in question. Solo Performing Members are eligible to perform in any subdivision of their discipline, and in chamber groups and orchestral or choral ensembles, without further audition. Members who wish to be listed as performers in more than one discipline (e.g., piano and organ) must audition separately for each discipline.
2. Every effort should be made to utilize talents within the membership. However, exceptions are permitted as indicated below: When circumstances warrant, and with the approval of the Program Director:
 - a. A singer or instrumentalist may engage, at his/her own expense, an accompanist who is not a member of the Club
 - b. Guest soloists may appear with the Chorale or the Avanti orchestra.
 - c. Qualified/recognized musicians may join FMMC performers in chamber ensembles.
3. When additional instrumentalists are needed in the Avanti Orchestra for a particular concert, and such players are not available within the Club membership, the Conductor and the Orchestra Committee shall have the authority to invite players from outside the membership, with no cost to the Club.
4. When additional singers or instrumentalists are needed in the Chorale for a particular performance, and such singers or instrumentalists are not available within the Club membership, the Chorale Conductor and the Chorale Committee shall have the authority to invite performers from outside the membership, with no cost to the Club.

B. ATTAINING PERFORMANCE MEMBERSHIP

1. Performance Membership is granted only to persons of any age who successfully audition before a duly constituted committee established by an authorized entity of the Club listed below or who is exempted from audition as provided in section III. C.2 (exceptions to audition requirement) or III D.3 (winners of student competitions). In the case of composers, conductors, and vocal coaches, the audition takes the form of a review of written evidence of the candidate's qualifications. An applicant for performance membership may opt, in lieu of a live audition, to submit a "virtual" audition in video (not audio) format electronically via YouTube (see details in section III.B.3.e, below).

2. Categories of Performance Membership and the entities responsible for each are:

Category and subcategories	Responsible official
Solo – Strings, Winds, Keyboard, Voice	First Vice-President/Auditions
Chamber- Instrumental, Piano, and Vocal Accompanist	First Vice-President/Auditions
Orchestra	Avanti or Chorale orchestra auditions chair
Chorale	Chorale auditions chair
Composer	Composers' Committee, convened by First Vice President/Auditions
Conductor	Conductor's Committee convened by First Vice President/Auditions
Vocal Coach	First Vice President/Auditions

3. Steps in attaining performance membership through audition.

a. Application for audition

- i. Solo or Chamber Performance: The candidate submits a completed audition application form, along with a check for the deposit, to the First Vice President/Auditions. An applicant for performance membership who auditions “virtually” (see section III.B.1) has the option of submitting his/her deposit to the Club via PayPal on the Club’s website instead of by U.S. Mail.
- ii. Composer, Conductor, or Vocal Coach: The candidate submits the completed audition application and supporting materials to the First Vice President/Auditions.
- iii. Orchestra, Chorale: The candidate contacts the ensemble’s auditions official and requests that an audition be scheduled.

b. Scheduling of auditions. Solo and chamber auditions are held at preannounced dates. The First Vice President/Auditions arranges for judges and assigns candidates to times. Other categories of audition are arranged as needed by the official responsible.

c. Notifying candidates of audition results. In general, the responsible official notifies candidates of audition results in writing, offering the candidate the opportunity to receive feedback. However, results of auditions arranged on an as-needed basis, in which a decision is made immediately, may be conveyed orally. The official provides all candidates new to the Club with a membership application form, inviting successful candidates to submit their completed form and dues within two weeks and encouraging unsuccessful candidates to join

as Associate Members.

d. Notifying other FMMC officials of audition results. The responsible official sends the Administrative Assistant, the First Vice-President/Auditions, and the Second Vice President/Membership the following information about those who have passed the audition:

- i. Individuals new to the Club: name, performance category (including instrument/voice), and phone number or email.
- ii. Existing members: Change in membership status as a result of audition.

The Administrative Assistant notifies the Newsletter Editor and Program Director of the change in Performance status of existing members. The Program Director puts newly qualified members on standby to fill gaps in programs if needed.

e. YouTube Auditions for Friday Morning Music Club. An applicant for performance membership may submit a virtual audition to the Club's audition judges in lieu of a live audition (see section III. B. 1 above). The applicant should follow the guidelines as enumerated below.

- i. Use the best quality video and audio recording devices possible. The performance of each individual composition presented should be recorded as if one is at a "live" audition. In other words, there should be only one "take" with no editing. Full face, instrument, and bowing arm (if applicable) should be clearly visible in the video portion. For pianists, at least half of the face visible, both arms and keyboard visible; complete side view of performer onstage with view of pedals preferred. Friday morning Music Club reserves the right to ask for an in-person audition.
- ii. When the applicant starts recording, he/she should:
 - state his/her full name and the performance category he/she is auditioning for
 - state the current date and time
- iii. Once the applicant has stated the required information at the start of the recording, he/she can proceed to record his/her selections. Applicant should follow all rules for producing the video as listed in section III.B.3.e.i above.
- iv. At the conclusion of the performance portion of the audition, applicant should announce, "I have reached the end of my audition" and restate his/her name. Video recorder may be turned off at this time.
- v. After applicant completes the video auditioning recording, he/she should post the audition video on YouTube in the following manner, and send an unlisted link to auditions@fmmc.org (see below for details).

- a. An unlisted video is a different type of private video. “Unlisted means that only people who know the link to the video can view it (such as friends or family to whom you send the link). An unlisted video will not appear in any of YouTube’s public spaces (such as *search results*, *your channel*, or the *Browse* page.) An unlisted video is different from a private video in these ways:
 - One does not need a YouTube account to watch the video (one can see an unlisted video if someone sends that person the video’s hyperlink).
 - There is no limit on how many people may view the video.
- b. YouTube Video Submission Instructions (How to create an unlisted video). You can choose to make any of your uploads an unlisted video in your YouTube Account settings as follows:
 - Sign in to your YouTube Account
 - Go to your My Videos page
 - Go to the Privacy section of the page. There you will see the option to mark your video as “unlisted,” “public,” or “private.” **Select unlisted.**
 - Don’t forget to click the “Save Changes” button. Once you’ve done this your video will be an unlisted video. Please title the video as such: FMMC Audition: Your Name, Date (Example: **FMMC Audition: John Smith, 1/1/2011**)
- c. Evaluation of video by judge panel. The judge panel must convene in person to view and evaluate YouTube auditions, in the same venue and on the same day that live auditions are held. Each YouTube video must be streamed by the judges according to a “no rewind” policy, i.e., once the video begins streaming, it may not be stopped, rewound or replayed in any way. This approach assures that YouTube auditions are comparable to live auditions to the greatest extent possible. Each judge fills out the judging sheet for the YouTube applicant while viewing the YouTube audition; the applicant is only accepted when at least two-thirds of the judges on the panel vote to “ACCEPT” on their respective judging sheets.

C. AUDITIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. Requirement for audition. All candidates (with the exceptions listed in point 2 below) must perform before an Auditions Committee. (See By-Laws, Article IX, 1(a).)

- a. All auditions for membership in the Friday Morning Music Club will be closed.

b. Each Auditions Committee will consist of three members of the Friday Morning Music Club, including representatives of the particular performing discipline involved.

c. A deposit of \$30 is charged for those wishing to audition for solo or chamber performance membership. The deposit is refunded at the audition or, if the applicant has auditioned “virtually” and submitted his/her deposit electronically, via PayPal.

2. Exceptions to the audition requirement.

a. Winners of the Washington International Competition are admitted as Solo Performing Members without audition (see By-Laws, Art. III, Sec 7). Winners of the student competitions as listed in section III.D are also granted Performance Membership in the skill category covered in the competition.

b. Associate or Fellowship members of the American Guild of Organists may also be admitted without audition.

c. At the sole discretion of the Board of Governors, outstanding performing artists may be invited to join FMMC as Solo Performance Members without audition under any of the following circumstances:

- 1) Candidate is now under professional management
- 2) Candidate is now enjoying a recognized concert career and has been heard and approved by three or more FMMC Performance Members who have served or are now serving on an auditions committee in the appropriate discipline
- 3) Candidate was a winner of a major competition (e.g., the Metropolitan Opera Regional Auditions)
- 4) Candidate is a member of the National Symphony Orchestra or other major orchestra.

Candidates seeking admission by waiver should present their credentials to the First Vice President/Audition Chair, who will consult with relevant Performance Members or audition judges within the Club and bring a recommendation to the Board.

3. Auditions requirements for specific categories of Performance Membership

a. **Composer**

Application forms must be requested from and returned to the First Vice-President. The composer candidate shall submit to the First Vice-President the necessary materials: three or more original works, for review by the Composers' Committee, as follows:

- 1) One composition shall be a work of at least six minutes' duration in a medium of the composer's choice: The composition may be a single extended movement or may comprise a group of shorter related pieces.

- 2) One of the other compositions shall be in a different medium, showing other aspects of the composer's ability.
- 3) At least one of the compositions submitted shall have been written less than four years prior to the date of submission

Compositions are to be submitted either in duplicate manuscripts or in published form. Performance tapes, if available, may accompany the manuscripts but are not required.

The First Vice-President shall transmit the application materials to the Composer Chairman, who will arrange for review by the Composers' Committee. After action is taken, the results will be forwarded to the First Vice President, who will then submit the name of the accepted candidate to the Board of Governors. The Composer Chairman will inform the candidate of the results and will report successful candidates to the Administrative Assistant, the First Vice President/Auditions and Second Vice President/Membership of the results as outlined in Section III.B.3.d

All application material will be returned to the applicant. Judges will take every possible care of submitted material but will not be held responsible for possible damage or loss.

b. **Conductor**

Application forms must be requested of and returned to the First Vice-President, accompanied by a detailed resume and no fewer than four programs of concerts conducted by the candidate within the past four years.

The application will be referred to a jury of three Conductor members for review. When action has been taken, the jury chair will inform the candidate. The jury chair will inform the candidate, the Administrative Assistant, the First Vice President/Auditions and Second Vice President/Membership of the results as outlined in Section III.B.3.d

c. **Instrumentalist** (Other than Keyboard)

Candidates in all categories should resolve questions about the appropriateness of works proposed for audition with the First Vice President/Auditions before submitting an application.

Commented [GSM1]: Added 2/12

1) **Solo Performance Requirements**

Candidates must prepare one major (multi-section) work from the recognized performance literature for that instrument (alone or with accompaniment), plus two additional movements or pieces from contrasting styles and periods. Memorization is encouraged for works other than sonatas, but is not required for any of the three works. Candidates must provide judges with one copy of the score

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Commented [GSM3]: Change re: memorization adoptd 11.2011.

for each work presented. Judges will select the sections of these works they wish to hear.

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Woodwind, brass and percussion players may substitute major solo passages from two contrasting orchestral works for one of the additional pieces.

Commented [GSM5]: Added 2/2012

Candidates must use an accompanist for compositions that require it. The Vice President/Auditions can provide a list of accompanists whom candidates may engage at their own expense.

2) Chamber Performance Requirements:

Candidates must prepare one major (multi-section) work from the recognized performance literature for instrumental duo or larger chamber ensemble, plus two additional movements or pieces from contrasting styles or periods. Works for three or more players may include piano. Candidate must provide judges with one copy of the score for each work presented. Judges will select the sections of these works they wish to hear.

Commented [GSM6]: Adopted 2/2012

The works presented may involve ensembles of different sizes, as long as each candidate for membership is heard in all three selections. Each auditioning player's parts must be of sufficient scope and challenge to provide a firm basis for assessing his or her capabilities.

Commented [GSM7]: Clarificatoin: Added 2/12

The candidate(s) must arrange for additional performers who may be needed in the chamber group(s). If more than one member of a chamber ensemble is auditioning, each auditioning member submits an individual audition application and pays the deposit, and each is judged individually according to standards applicable to his or her instrument and its role in the ensemble.

3) **Orchestra Requirements**

String, woodwind, brass and percussion players who have attained Solo or Chamber Performance membership may play in any orchestral ensemble sponsored by the Club at the invitation of its conductor in consultation with orchestra officers. String players who are Orchestra Performance Members are similarly eligible to perform in orchestral ensembles. However, Orchestra Performance members may not perform in non-orchestral FMMC programs except by special invitation.

String players interested in Orchestra Performance membership should contact the Avanti orchestra manager or Chorale orchestra manager, as appropriate. The manager will provide the candidate with orchestral excerpts and arrange for a three-member committee (see sec. III.C.1.B) to hear the audition. The candidate is required to perform a selection of his or her choice plus two of the provided excerpts.

When a candidate has auditioned and been accepted for orchestra membership, he/she shall receive an application form, to be completed and returned, together with check for dues, to the Administrative Assistant. The auditions committee chair will inform the candidate, the Administrative Assistant, the First Vice President/Auditions and Second Vice President/Membership of the results as outlined in Section III.B.3.d.

The conductor and/or orchestra committee has the authority to seek players outside the membership when the repertoire calls for players not available within the FMMC membership. (See Section III.A.3 above).

d. Keyboard (Piano, Harpsichord, Organ)

Candidates in all categories should resolve questions about the appropriateness of works proposed for audition with the First Vice President/Auditions before submitting an application.

1) *Solo Harpsichord or Organ*

Candidates must prepare one major (multi-section) work from the recognized performance literature for a single, unaccompanied player, plus two additional movements or pieces from contrasting styles or periods. Candidates must provide judges with one copy of the score for each work presented. Judges will select the sections of these works they wish to hear. Memorization is not required.

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Organ candidates who are Associate or Fellowship members of the American Guild of Organists may be accepted without audition.

2) *Solo Piano*

Candidates for Solo Piano shall perform, from memory, three compositions from contrasting periods and styles (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionist, and Contemporary.) A major sonata in its entirety plus another work of no less than fifteen minutes' duration are required. With prior approval of the First Vice President/Auditions, music may be used for compositions whose modern or unconventional idiom justifies the exception. Concertos and accompanied pieces are not acceptable. Candidates must provide judges with one copy of the score for each work presented.

3) **Chamber Piano**

a) Piano (including Duo-and Four-Hand Piano): Candidates must prepare one major (multi-section) work for two or more players from the recognized performance literature for the instrumentation represented, plus two additional movements or pieces from contrasting styles or periods. Works for piano plus instrument may involve ensembles of different sizes. Candidate must provide judges with one copy of the score for each work presented. Judges will select the sections of these works they wish to hear. The candidate must arrange for all additional performers needed.

b) Vocal Accompanist: Candidates must (1) prepare, with singer, one long-form and two shorter works from contrasting periods and styles, and (2) demonstrate satisfactory sight-reading ability. The candidate must arrange for the participation of a singer in the audition and provide judges with a copy of the score for each work presented.

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e. Voice

1) *Solo Voice*

Candidates should resolve questions about the appropriateness of works proposed for audition with the First Vice President/Auditions before submitting an application.

Candidates for Solo Voice shall perform one aria from an opera or oratorio, in the original key and language, plus four other pieces in English and two other languages, selected to demonstrate the variety of the candidate's abilities and interests. Memorization is required except for oratorio arias. Candidates must provide judges with one copy of the score for each work presented.

Candidates must use an accompanist for compositions that require it. The Vice President/Auditions can provide a list of accompanists whom candidates may engage at their own expense.

2) ***Chorale***

Candidates for the Chorale should consult first with the conductor of the Chorale. Candidates shall perform before an appropriate Auditions Committee, demonstrating the range and quality of voice, ability to read at sight, and ability to sing one familiar song.

The auditions committee chair will inform the candidate, the Administrative Assistant, the First Vice President/Auditions and Second Vice President/Membership of the results as outlined in Section III.B.3.d

3) ***Coach***

The candidate shall submit to the First Vice-President a complete resume, including documentation that the candidate has worked in this area of specialization, preparing performers for professional performance. Three letters of recommendation will also be required.