Chamber Music in Grantham: Performance and Composition

Intensive Chamber Music Program and Composition Workshop

July 28 – Aug. 4, 2019

This one-week intensive program is designed to enhance participants’ ability to effectively communicate musical ideas in performance.

Featuring artist faculty: the Mendelssohn Piano Trio: Peter Sirotin, Fiona Thompson and Yo-Ting Chang; and Richard Roberson, composer and dean of Messiah College School of the Arts

This year, the festival will begin Sunday, July 28 and run through the final concert Sunday, Aug. 4. Scholarships are available for highly qualified applicants.

Description of the program: Since its founding in 2006, this one-week intensive program develops participants’ musicianship as they are both challenged and nurtured by a world-class faculty.

Each participant will rehearse and perform in at least two chamber ensembles. The repertoire is carefully selected based on the participants’ audition, and music is mailed in advance. Participants are expected to come with their individual parts well prepared.

The workshop also provides a unique opportunity for young composers to work closely with young performers; work on their compositions with Richard Roberson, composer and the dean of the School of the Arts at Messiah College; and receive a reading session of their piano trio by the Mendelssohn Piano Trio. One or more of the piano trios will be performed by the Mendelssohn Piano Trio in the final concert.

Application process:

Application fee: $50
Application deadline: April 30, 2019
All application materials should be mailed to:
Chamber Music in Grantham
Attn: Peter Sirotin
9400 Sunnyfield Court
Potomac, MD 20854
peter@mendelssohnpianotrio.com
301-806-2250

Notification of acceptance: May 24, 2019
Full tuition and room and board due: June 3, 2019
All checks should be payable to “Messiah College, Chamber Music in Grantham.”

For instrumentalists, please submit the application form, a letter of recommendation from your current major teacher with his or her contact information, a compact disc or DVD of two contrasting styles of music of your choice and a $50 application fee by the application deadline.

For composers, please submit the application form, a letter of recommendation from your current major teacher with his or her contact information, a score of a substantial (longer than five minutes) composition for piano trio and a $50 application fee by the application deadline. Submitted works should not have received a public performance.

“...the discovery of the workshop in Grantham ranks at the top of my list. The program is serious in nature while being nurturing to young players. The facility offered a most wonderful setting for the program and is a real gem not just for the college community but the wider musical world. Your program is outstanding!”

—Joseph McKenna, President & CEO, Sarasota Orchestra

Check one of the following plans:

- Tuition + double-occupancy dorm with full meal plan — $5835
- Tuition + single-occupancy dorm with full meal plan — $5930
- Tuition + full meal plan — $645
- Tuition + lunch only — $525
- Tuition only — $440

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Performance calendar:

- Sunday, July 28
  3 p.m. Faculty recital
- Sunday, Aug. 4
  2:30 p.m. Student concert

(see other side ▶)
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Sunday, July 28 to Sunday, Aug. 4, 2019
Grantham, Pa.

Please give a brief description of your solo repertoire and chamber music experience. Composers, please list your compositions.

Contributions to support the educational and cultural objectives of Chamber Music in Grantham: Performance and Composition are gratefully accepted. All contributions are tax-deductible if they are made to Messiah College and designated to Mendelssohn Piano Trio/Chamber Music in Grantham.

Artistic Advisory Board:
- Ann Sherr, pianist, Distinguished teacher’s chair at the Aspen Music School
- Earl Carlyss, violinist, former member of the Julliard String Quartet
- Ronald Leonard, cellist faculty at the Colburn School
- Victor Danchenko, violinist, faculty at the Curtis Institute of Music and Peabody Conservatory
- Jerome Barry, baritone and artistic director of the Washington, D.C. Embassy Series
- Richard Roberson, pianist and composer, Dean of the School of the Arts at Messiah College

Faculty bios

Richard Roberson serves as Dean of the School of the Arts at Messiah College, where he supervises the departments of Art and Design, Music, and Theatre and Dance. Under his leadership the School of the Arts has increased enrollment and developed successful new programs in Studio Art, Music Performance, Musical Theatre, Dance, Digital Media, and a master’s degree in Conducting. He also participated in the development of the High Center for Worship and Performing Arts, which houses five performance venues, including Parmer Hall, and extensive galleries for the visual arts. A pianist and a graduate of the Juilliard School of Music at Lincoln University, and the School of Music at the University of North Texas, he continues to perform, compose and teach music as his administrative duties allow.

Found in 1997, the Mendelssohn Piano Trio has performed over 500 concerts in the US, Europe and Asia, as well as recorded 15 CDs including the 8-CD complete Haydn Piano Trios cycle released on Centaur Records. Pianist, Ya-Ting Chang is from Taiwan, violinist, Peter Seitz is from Ukraine; and cellist, Fiona Thompson is from England. From Washington Post to the American Record Guide, critics describe the Mendelssohn Piano Trio performances and recordings as “unfathomably beautiful,” “electrifying,” “technically immaculate” and “rich in psychological insight.” The group can be frequently heard on many classical radio stations including WMFT’s Performance Today.

Facilities: Messiah College’s scenic main campus, located on 400 beautiful rolling acres in the suburban town of Grantham, in south central Pennsylvania, features the new Calvin and Janet High Center for Worship and Performing Arts, with two concert halls and ample practice room space for musical studies and performances.

Activities: Each chamber group will have group rehearsals, coaching by all members of the faculty, performances in the masterclasses and a public performance in the High Foundation Recital Hall at the closing of the festival. Various seminars of music/chamber music-related topics will be held each day. In addition to attending performances and master classes, participants in the composition workshop will write music and participate in group critiques, study selected chamber works and supervise readings and rehearsals of their works.

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