



SummerSet DC

FY 2018

AUDITION NOTICE

Audition Dates: March 26 and 27, 2018, 5:30PM – 8:00PM EDT

Government of the District of Columbia
Commission on the Arts and Humanities
200 I (Eye) Street, SE, Suite 1400
Washington, DC 20003

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NOTICE: Applicants must read the entire notice prior to auditioning. For questions or additional information, please contact the Commission on the Arts and Humanities (CAH).

FY 2018 SummerSet DC Auditions and Schedule

SummerSet DC Audition Notice Release Date: March 15, 2018

Audition Type: Music

Audition Dates: March 26 and 27, 2018, 5:30-8:00PM

Audition Location: Washington Metro Area Transit Authority
Headquarters
600 5th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

SummerSet DC Performance Dates/Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays,
May 10 – June 7, 2018
12:00-2:00 PM

SummerSet DC Performance Location: The National Mall

About SummerSet DC

SummerSet DC is a lunchtime music series presented on the National Mall by the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (CAH) and the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority (WMATA), in cooperation with the Office of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton and the National Park Service (NPS). The series brings free musical performances by area musicians to the National Mall each Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00PM – 2:00PM. SummerSet DC provides a unique opportunity to showcase our region’s variety of musical talent.

Auditioning for SummerSet DC

In-person audition registration will begin at 5:30PM at the Washington Metro Transit Authority Headquarters. Auditions will take place from 6:00PM – 8:00PM. Performers should plan to spend 30 minutes to one hour at the auditions. To speed the process for all, applicants are requested to complete and print out the Application Form prior to the audition date, which may be found here:

<https://dcarts.dc.gov/page/summerset-dc-2018>. Please ensure that the application is legibly written or typed.

Eligibility

Individuals or artist groups may apply and audition (groups must assign a lead individual as the applicant) if they meet all of the following eligibility requirements at the time of application:

- Be a legal resident, 18 years of age or older, residing within a thirty (30) mile radius of the US Capitol Building in Washington DC; Post office boxes may not be used as a proof of residency;
- Possess a US government issued identification and social security number.
- Be in good standing with CAH and other District of Columbia entities.
- Not use fiscal agents.

What to Bring to the Audition

PLEASE NOTE: FAILURE TO SUBMIT REQUIRED DOCUMENTS (as noted by underline below) RESULTS IN DISQUALIFICATION.

- ✓ **Application: SummerSet DC 2018**
- ✓ **Artistic Resume(s)**
Resume of lead artist(s), including, if applicable: discography, recent performances, awards, etc.
- ✓ **Artist Statement**
A brief (250 words) biographical statement about artistry/musical training or influences
- ✓ **Performance Proposal**
Please provide a statement detailing the proposed performance (musical set) for SummerSet, clearly articulating how the applicant will fill a fifty-minute family friendly performance.
- ✓ **Technical Requirements/Rider**
Provide written information detailing technical requirements; instrumentation; frontline descriptions; backline items; and a drafted (or sketched) stage plot of the ideal physical arrangement of your performance space.
- ✓ **Signed IRS Form W-9 (Request for Taxpayer Identification and Certificate)**
- ✓ **Headshot Photograph (should not exceed 8x10) of the act/artist**
- ✓ **Those auditioning may bring a battery-powered amplifier or instruments to audition, if desired, and should keep set-up time to a minimum.**

DO NOT send these materials prior to your audition. Any materials submitted to the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (CAH) will be unreturned to the applicant.

Audition Guidelines

- Applicants will audition with a (2), two-minute musical presentation, which should include at least one up-tempo musical selection. Applicants are afforded a total of (5) five minutes to set-up and audition.
- Applicants will audition before a review panel.
- Applicants must bring to the audition the required documents listed in the “***What to Bring to the Audition***” section of this notice.

In order to have the most successful audition possible, please consider the following suggestions:

- Remember that your audition begins the moment you enter the audition room, not just when you begin performing your audition repertoire. Please dress in clothing that promotes a feeling of confidence and allows movement. Speak confidently and respectfully. Smiling and making eye contact with the panel is appropriate and appreciated.
- Choose a repertoire that is appropriate to your level of experience and demonstrates your best musical range. An easier piece performed well will be more successful than a more difficult piece performed poorly.
- Choose repertoire that demonstrates your ability to perform in a variety of styles and tempos. Fast movements that demonstrate your technical abilities as well as slow movements that demonstrate good tone quality, intonation, and vibrato (if appropriate) would be a good combination.
- Choose something to begin your audition that you feel comfortable with. You may be nervous at the beginning of your audition, so consider starting with work you have mastered.
- Minor mistakes during the audition are common. The panelists are not expecting a perfect performance, but instead are interested in your potential and your ability to captivate an audience.
- The panelists may ask you to play additional music. To prepare for this, please prepare additional selections.

Evaluation Criteria

Applicants will be evaluated on a scale of 0 to 10: (0-4 = poor, 5-6 = fair, 7-8 = good, 9-10 = excellent)

Category Ratings

Artistry

Score _____
(0-3)

Technique

- Mastery of skill, physical coordination, breath control and support

Tone and Pitch Accuracy

- Quality of sound, accuracy of pitches and evenness of vowels throughout the range

Performance

Score _____
(0-3)

Posture & Stage Presence

- Energy and focus that connects to the entire song. Whole body free and relaxed

Style

- Demonstration of mastery of styles – Style is consistent with genre and historical period

Phrasing & Musicality

- Musical and meaningful phrasing and interpretation. Seldom rigid or mechanical.
- Sense of legato and tonal color that expresses the music and words.

Rhythm & Dynamics

- Overall sense of pulse and ability to perform accurate rhythms
- Use of the full range of dynamics in keeping with the style of the selection

Experience

Score _____
(0-2)

Communication and Acting Ability

- Desire to communicate to the audience. Emotional involvement in the words & music

Interpretation

- Musicality, technique, tone & acting ability etc. working together

Language Skills & Pronunciation

- Proficiency of language being sung, execution of pronunciation

Professionalism

Score _____
(0-2)

Receptiveness to Feedback

- Ability to take feedback and incorporate suggestions
- Ability to adhere to performance guidelines

****Total Combined Points (10 possible)**

Total Score _____

Selection Notification

Applicants will be notified of selections via email by Friday, April 6, 2018. Please note that there are only 16 performance slots available. If selected, performance dates are on a first come first served bases. We encourage applicants to stay vigilant when checking their email. Additionally, following the full execution of an agreement to perform, musicians are welcome to begin sharing this news and inviting friends and family to attend the event.

Selected participants will receive an honorarium of \$400.00 for participation.

What to Expect on Performance Day

If you are selected to perform as part of the music series, here are some tips to keep in mind for successful preparation and performance. This information will be shared again with selected artists prior to their performance date.

- Selected participant artist(s) must arrive at the National Mall performance location at 11:00AM for load- in and a sound check, prior to their scheduled start time.
- Participants will offer fifty (50) minutes of performance of family-friendly selected material.
- Two (2) performance acts will be selected for each performance date and each act is assigned a designated start time.
- A 10'x12' stage, a 10'x10' tent, and an amplified sound system with wired microphones will be provided for artist use. Artists are expected to provide all necessary instrumentation to perform their work.
- Artists may expect that audiences are transient during this free outdoor event.
- Sales of merchandise are not allowed on the National Mall.

Cancellation or Delay of Performance

Due to the nature of outdoor public events, a cancellation or delay of performance may occur and is at the sole discretion of the CAH staff. Weather related activity, such as high heat index or thunderstorms, might be a cause for cancellation or a modified start time. Artist(s) will be notified in advance of cancellation so as to prepare accordingly. If an artist receives a cancellation notice less than 48 hours before the schedule start time, artists will receive their contractual honorarium. A rescheduled date may not be provided for cancellations. Rescheduling is at the discretion of CAH and subject to limitations. (Full details are outlined in the artist performance agreement to be provided once the artist is selected.)

Under extreme weather conditions or for other public safety concern, CAH will not delay the scheduled performance time more than two (2) hours.

Contacts

For questions, please contact Events Manager Ebony C. Brown at ebony.brown@dc.gov or Events Associate JaKenna E. Martin jakenna.martin@dc.gov or (202) 724-5613. Office hours are Monday – Friday 9:00am – 5:30pm EST.