Emerging Ensemble Division

Emerging Ensemble Division participants are required to submit a video recording. All videos, scores, group headshot and bio should be uploaded to Acceptd.

If your ensemble has any questions or concerns regarding eligibility, repertoire, or the application process please do not hesitate to reach out to our Programs Manager, Sophia Dobbie at sophia@lyricabaroque.com.

ELIGIBILITY

The **Emerging Ensemble Division** includes groups whose members are enrolled in an undergraduate, masters, or post-masters degree program (artist diploma, performing artist certificate, or doctoral program). It also includes post-graduates not currently enrolled in a university or conservatory program who are actively pursuing or maintaining a career in music.

- Ensembles may not have a faculty or staff member as a performer in their ensemble.
- All members of the performing ensemble must be 35 years of age or younger as of April 9, 2027.
- Suggested chamber ensemble size is 2-6 performers.
- The competition rounds are as follows: preliminary taped round, live semi-final round, and live final round. Due to the growing popularity of the competition, we will be limiting the number of ensembles that can apply. Applications will be accepted on a **first-come, first-served basis**, so be sure to apply early to secure your spot!

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND FEES

All registration fees are nonrefundable. If your ensemble has any questions or concerns regarding the registration fee, please do not hesitate to contact us. NOLA Chamber Fest will do its best to assist you with any concerns regarding financial needs.

Application timeline information:

Registration	**Deadline**	**Fee**
Early Bird Registration	March 26, 2027 @ 11:59p CST	$200
FINAL Registration	April 9, 2027 @ 11:59p CST	$350

- **Results will be announced on April 23, 2027 at 10:00am CST.**

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

- Each ensemble must prepare at least two contrasting works, or two movements from a singular work, **totalling 35-40 minutes of music.**
- One of the two pieces must be a composition by an underrepresented composer.
    - For information on how to research and find repertoire, please visit our Resources Page.

VIDEO REQUIREMENTS

- Video submissions may be live performances.
- The entire program does not need to be recorded in one take, nor do entire works, however editing individual movements is not allowed.

- We encourage the highest recording quality possible. Tools and ideas for preparation, recording, and uploading can be found on our Resources Page.
- **New this year:** In addition to your repertoire submission, your ensemble will need to submit a 1-3 minute video introduction.
    - Some topic ideas include, but are not limited to: when and why your chamber group was founded, what inspired you to choose the repertoire you are performing, why chamber music is important, how participating in NOLA Chamber Fest will help further your careers as musicians, etc. *Please note that these videos may be used for promotional purposes.*

LIVE ROUNDS

Semi-finalists must be available to come to New Orleans to perform live in the semi-final and final rounds to be eligible for prizes. Helpful tip: when choosing repertoire, keep in mind that the first prize winning ensemble will receive a paid performance opportunity in New Orleans the following year.

- **Eight groups** will be selected from the recorded round to compete live in New Orleans in the Semi-finals. Two ensembles per semi-final concert will perform for 25-30 minutes each.

  Semi-Finals Concert 1: Friday, May 21, 2027 - 1:00pm - 2:00 pm
  Semi-Finals Concert 2: Friday, May 21, 2027 - 2:30pm - 3:30pm
  Semi-Finals Concert 3: Friday, May 21, 2027 - 5:00pm - 6:00pm
  Semi-Finals Concert 4: Friday, May 21, 2027 - 6:30pm - 7:30pm

- **Two groups** will advance to the final round. Each ensemble will perform for 30 minutes.

⇛ **Finals: Saturday, May 22, 2027 - 7:00pm - 8:30pm**

PRIZES

- First Prize:
  - $5,000 cash
  - Presented in concert before December 2028
- Second Prize:
  - $2,000 cash
  - Community performances for **NCF on the Move** pop-up series during NOLA Chamber Fest, as well as masterclass teaching opportunities at **Creativity Day**.

FAQ's

Should each individual member register for NCF?

No, ensembles should submit one registration with one fee. Register here!

I'm having trouble uploading my video. Who should I contact?

You can contact us through email if you are having trouble! We strongly recommend trying to upload a few days before the deadline in case any problems occur.

Who should I contact if I miss a deadline?

If you have missed a deadline for registration or uploading, contact our Programs Manager Sophia Dobbie at sophia@lyricabaroque.com.