



GAUTENG CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL V

Growing Quality Musicians

29 November – 7 December 2019

IMPORTANT INFO:

The Gauteng Chamber Music Festival invites all string players who aim to play chamber music at an international level to audition for the fifth festival. The focus of this festival will be to nurture hard-working string players by focusing on the **core values** of chamber musicianship: phrasing, sensitive listening skills, refined playing technique and musical awareness. As the main emphasis will be developing these skills through playing in small ensembles, we will only be able to accommodate a limited number of 65 string players.

Kindly note that next proposed festival for Winds and Brass is in April 2021.

Violin Masterclasses will be presented by Réka Szilvay, Professor of Violin at the Sibelius Academy in Finland, renowned international soloist and the daughter of the founder of the Colourstrings method, Géza Szilvay.

Please find a detailed festival program at the end of this document.

APPLICATION

- Age: Applicants between 6-20 years in 2019
(older participants may apply for masterclass with Réka Szilvay, see below)
- Applications open: 15 July 2019
- Applications close: 30 August 2019. No late applications will be accepted.
- Fees payable by 30 August 2019.
- Fees include audition fee, and if an audition is unsuccessful, the entrance fee minus R200 will be refunded.
- The fee is non-refundable for participants who pass the audition.
- Apply online at www.gcmf.co.za
- Audition video recordings: email before or on 3 September 2019.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

- 2 Pieces (1 Baroque or Classical and one other piece of your choice). If you want to participate in the violin masterclasses by Réka Szilvay, one of the pieces should be suitable. Indicate on the entry form. (Maximum 5 minutes recording.)

Entrance requirements:

- *Gauteng Chamber Strings*: Minimum standard of playing: Gr.7
- *Gauteng Senior Strings*: Minimum standard of playing: Gr.5
- *Gauteng Junior ensembles* (mornings only):
Minimum standard of playing: Gr.3 (max age 6-10)
Minimum standard of playing: Gr.4 (max age 11-12)

Ensemble groups intending to participate in Masterclasses with Réka Szilvay should submit a recording of the piece they wish to perform.

- **How to record your video audition:**

Record your audition on your phone. Most smartphones have the capability to record adequate video and audio quality; therefore you don't have to spend money on professional equipment or service providers as long as you adhere to these principles:

1. RECORD THE VIDEO IN A SUITABLE SPACE. The location should be well lit (for video quality) and should be one in which your instrument sounds good (for audio quality). Pick a room with limited background noise (air-conditioning or traffic).
2. PLACE THE RECORDING DEVICE AT AN APPROPRIATE DISTANCE. Fix the recording device to an object like a table or music stand using Prestik or adhesive tape. Ensure that it is close enough that the details on the video are clearly visible, but not too close that the sound is distorted. Also remember that if you place the device too far, the sound might lack clarity.
3. RECORD AT THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE QUALITY. If your mobile device offers video recording at different qualities, use the highest quality available. There are also free third party applications available for both iOS and Android that offer higher quality than the built-in applications.
4. IDENTIFY YOURSELF. Please say your name and if you are applying for the Gauteng Chamber Strings, Gauteng Senior Strings or Gauteng Junior Ensembles at the beginning of your recording.

How to submit your audition: Upload your video to your Youtube channel, make it *unlisted*, and **email the link to gautengcmf@gmail.com** If you are not sure how to set up a YouTube channel, please go to: <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/161805?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en> For more information on how to upload videos:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57407?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en>

FEES

Festival fee includes daily tuition, snacks and lunch from 3 - 6 December and tickets for participants to masterclasses and the Staff Concert. **If you are invited to participate in a masterclass with Réka Szilvay this will be charged separately and is not included in the festival fee.** Participants and parents are responsible for their own snacks and drinks on 29/11, 30/11, 1/12, 2/12 and 7/12.

- Festival fee: 1st Child R1600 (includes audition fee)
- Festival fee: 2nd Child R1400 (includes audition fee)
- Festival fee: 3rd Child R1200 (includes audition fee)
- *Gauteng Junior ensembles* (mornings only): R1200 (includes audition fee)
- Master class with Réka Szilvay: R400 pay by 31 October 2019, once accepted for the masterclasses.
- Tickets for Staff Concert: R200, R150 (pensioners, students and scholars). Festival participants are free of charge.
- Masterclass Tickets (to attend as an audience member): R100 per session, (festival participants and teachers free of charge)

MASTERCLASSES WITH RÉKA SZILVAY

- There are 22 masterclasses available for groups and individuals. Please indicate on the application form whether you would like 1 or 2 lessons.

MASTERCLASSES FOR NON-FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS:

- Students older than 20 and pre-formed string, or piano and string ensembles may also apply for masterclasses with Réka Szilvay.
- Application fee of R200 per ensemble entry and R150 per solo entry for Non-festival participants older than 20.

IF YOU ARE YOUNGER THAN 20 YEARS OLD YOU WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MASTERCLASSES IF YOU ARE ENROLLED TO TAKE PART IN THE GCMF. STAND-ALONE MASTERCLASSES ARE ONLY AVAILABLE TO PLAYERS OLDER THAN 20 YEARS.

- If you are playing with piano accompaniment, you are responsible for arranging your own accompanist. A piano is available for 4 lessons on 29/11 and 4 lessons on 2/12.
- Contribution towards the masterclass with Réka Szilvay is R400 per 45 min lesson.
- Video audition of 4 min to be played and sent via youtube by 3 September 2019 to gautengcmf@gmail.com: (see detailed instructions at AUDITION REQUIREMENTS).
- Masterclass participants younger than 20 must participate in the whole festival.

Programme of the Festival:

Friday 29/11:

9:00-12:30 Private masterclasses by Réka Szilvay (optional)

Saturday 30/11:

8:00 Registration at Waterkloof NG Church

8:45 Welcome

9:00 -10:30 Public Ensemble masterclasses (without piano) by Réka Szilvay at Waterkloof NG Church

10:30 Tea time

11:00-12:00 “Violin Ergonomics” Lecture by Réka Szilvay

Sunday 1/12:

11:00 Staff Concert at Waterkloof NG church

Monday 2/12

9:00-12:30 Private masterclasses by Réka Szilvay (optional) - venue to be confirmed

14:00-17:30 Masterclasses by Réka Szilvay (optional)(no piano available at Waterkloof NG)

14:00-17:00 Placing Auditions

Tuesday 3/12

8:30 Orientation at Midstream College

9:00-17:15 Masterclasses by Réka Szilvay at Midstream College

9:00 - 13:00 Chamber Music Coaching

13:30 Juniors are fetched

14:00-17:00 Orchestra rehearsals

Wednesday 4/12 and Thursday 5/12

8:00 Optional rehearsals organised by the groups themselves

9:00-17:00 Festival at Midstream College - the participants will follow a timetable

Friday 6/12

8:00 All groups intending to play at Lunchtime Concerts to rehearse by themselves in practise rooms

13:00 Informal Lunchtime Concert at Midstream College

Thereafter Juniors go home

14:30 Tutti Chamber Strings and Senior Strings Rehearsals

16:00 Informal Tea time Concert at Midstream College

Saturday 7/12

Concert Day at Waterkloof NG Church. Final rehearsal from 9:00.

9:00-11:00 Chamber Strings

11:00-13:00 Senior Strings

13:00-14:30 Ensembles

Concert at 15:30 Parents and families may picnic on the Church grounds.

2-6 December at Midstream College:

Mornings will focus on teaching chamber music in small ensembles and Kodaly ear training workshops. During the afternoons participants play in chamber orchestras. There are limited places in the 2 Chamber Orchestras: Gauteng Chamber Strings and Gauteng Senior Strings. Juniors will be trained in small ensembles, mornings only. This is far more beneficial to them at their stage of musical development.