

About Fifth House Ensemble

Praised by the New York Times for its “conviction, authority, and finesse,” the Chicago-based Fifth House Ensemble harnesses the collaborative spirit of chamber music to reach beyond the traditionally-perceived limits of classical music. The ensemble’s artistic, educational, and civic programs engage theater groups, video game designers, corporate innovators, and folk bands to share stories as diverse as the communities it serves.

The 2021-22 season features the first in-person premiere of **Rivers Empyrean**, a program tracing the life cycle of water at a time when the environment is more threatened than ever with pollution and our life-giving waterways at risk. Featuring a new commission by Fresh Inc Festival alumnus Patrick O’Malley driven by ecological data from Friends of the Chicago River, a new commission by Shawn Okpebholo that celebrates water as a precious resource by transforming it into a musical instrument, alongside music inspired by First Peoples, this program asks what it would mean to return to a sacred conception in which humans are a part of nature rather than beings standing outside of its impact. During the 2021-22 season, Fifth House Ensemble will co-create public performances, events, and educational programs with its organizational partners on the project, including Pilgrim Chamber Players, Southeast Missouri State University, and the Brushwood Center at Ryerson Woods.

Fifth House Ensemble partners with Materia Collective to present **Undertale LIVE**, a live musical adventure and album based on Toby Fox’s indie video game hit. Featuring in-game visuals and audience choice along with new arrangements for acoustic dectet, percussion, and electronics by Eric Roth with Chris Opperman, Undertale invites audiences to explore a secret world of monsters who were sealed underground long ago with an ingenious twist: that it’s possible to spare monsters rather than slaying them, inviting players to empathize with those most unlike themselves. Featuring a cast of quirky characters, mysteries galore, and a foot-tapping soundtrack, Undertale has quickly become one of the most celebrated games of all time with over 4 million active players worldwide.

Since 2012, Fifth House Ensemble’s **Fresh Inc Festival** has helped emerging artists envision and launch their own authentic careers in music, rooted in genre-defying collaboration, entrepreneurial thinking, and new dialogues with audiences and community. The festival’s Fresh Voices program was created to provide dedicated scholarship support to Fresh Inc festival participants who are female, artists of color, and/or LGBTQ-identified, filling an industry-wide need to amplify voices under-represented by major institutions. Fifth House’s new Fresh Voices from Fresh Inc program is a snapshot of the myriad approaches to music-making in today’s world, featuring works by festival alumni based on improvisation, electronics, and more - and a chance to empower some of the freshest young voices amongst us.

Performances in previous seasons include those at Texas Performing Arts, LiveConnections (Philadelphia, PA), the MAGFest music and gaming festival (National Harbor, MD), WFMT Impromptu

(Chicago, IL), Steppenwolf Theater, the Forma Festival (Moscow), National Sawdust (NYC) and the Miller Theatre (NYC).

Through the ensemble's heartfelt social and civic practice work, Fifth House has co-created artistic projects with urban neighborhoods, social service organizations, and an agricultural community to spark conversations on issues that matter. Recent projects include Broken Text, a collaboration with Raven Theatre and DJ Searchlight inspired by multi-week residencies at the Cook County Temporary Youth Detention Center and St. Leonard's Ministries; Voices from the Dust Bowl, a collaboration with composer Steven Snowden and bluegrass band Henhouse Prowlers exploring stories from workers' rights organizations nationwide; **Nedudim**, an exploration of music and cultural identity in collaboration with Baladino that engages Chicago-based organizations representing Israel, Iran, Germany and Spain, and Harvest, a year-long partnership with DePauw University and the Greencastle, IN community culminating in a Mother's Day celebration of the people, places, and stories of Putnam County.

Reaching 17,000 students annually through its arts-integrated educational programs, Fifth House connects K-12 core curricula to vivid, custom-crafted, and interactive musical experiences which challenge students to share and lead. A member of the Illinois Arts Council Association's Arts-in-Education Roster, Fifth House has presented performances and residencies at Chicago public schools and the Chicago Cultural Center in partnership with the International Music Foundation, the Chicago Teachers' Center, Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education, and Ravinia's Reach*Teach*Play program.

As an extension of this work, Fifth House Ensemble is in residence at sites serving at-risk youth and adults including Deborah's Place, Ignite, Youth Job Center, and Nancy B. Jefferson Alternative School at the Chicago Temporary Youth Detention Center. Fifth House also partners with Storycatchers Theatre as part of its residency at the detention center to develop new curriculum culminating in a new theatrical work based on participants' own experiences. Fifth House concludes a five-year partnership with Loyola University's Center for Urban Research and Learning this season, providing case studies, process evaluations and toolkits for use by arts organizations nationwide.

An established partner and resource to the nation's top music schools and conservatories, Fifth House launches the careers of emerging artists through entrepreneurship residencies and training programs, including those at Yale College, Eastman School of Music, New England Conservatory, Indiana University, DePauw University, Roosevelt University, the Cleveland Institute of Music, UT-Austin, Northwestern University, San Francisco Conservatory, DePaul University, and the Colburn School. Recent creative partnerships have included those with The Cleveland Orchestra and the San Francisco Opera. In 2012, Fifth House launched **Fresh Inc**, a two-week, intensive training program for emerging composers and performers where Fifth House works with participants on building careers in music in line with their own unique vision and values.

Fifth House is currently an Ensemble in Residence at the **Music Institute of Chicago**.

Mission

Fifth House Ensemble taps the collaborative spirit of chamber music to create engaging performances and interactive educational programs, forging meaningful partnerships with unexpected venues, artists of other disciplines, educational institutions, and audiences of every type.

Fifth House Ensemble accomplishes its mission and nurtures new and established audiences through a commitment to the following core values:

- Performing at the highest artistic level through connective programming, dramatic interpretation and creative energy.
- Innovating through collaboration, using cultural partnerships to develop artistic experiences greater than the sum of their parts.
- Interacting with our audience, allowing each performance to connect in unexpected, thought-provoking and deeply personal ways.
- Upholding and revitalizing the chamber music repertoire through the performance of honored classics, undiscovered works and new music from both renowned and emerging living composers.
- Fostering diversity in learning through customized arts integrated educational programs that support curricular goals and individual development.
- Promoting musical invention and entrepreneurship through higher-education training programs for the next generation of performers.

Fifth House Ensemble is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit public charity.

By reaching beyond the perceived limits of classical music, Fifth House Ensemble's programs engage curiosity by asking deep questions of ourselves, our collaborators, and the communities we serve.

We extend the collaborative spirit of chamber music to audiences, organizations, and underserved communities—including urban at-risk youth, homeless populations, rural communities, and the incarcerated. And, as our recent creative partnerships with venerable institutions such as the Cleveland Orchestra and San Francisco Opera show, there's no telling where our curiosity might lead us next. Each season:

- Our **artistic programming** showcases boundary-breaking collaborations with pop musicians, graphic novelists, and video game designers; and by involving our audiences in the planning process, we learn and grow together through experimentation.
- Our **arts-integrated educational programs** reach over 17,000 children a year, connecting their curricula to vivid, custom-crafted, and interactive musical experiences that challenge them to share and to lead.

- Our **social and civic practice initiatives** prove that music can and should play a role in addressing social needs, through our work with partners as diverse as Interfaith Worker Justice, Ignite (formerly Teen Living Programs), and Loyola University's Center for Urban Research and Learning.
- Our **residencies and training programs** at major educational institutions including Yale, Eastman, Indiana University, DePauw, the Cleveland Institute of Music, and Florida Atlantic University give students the tools and guidance they need to succeed in life beyond school--and model the values necessary to being an active citizen in today's connected world.
- And, we share what we've learned from over a decade of adventurous music-making through our entrepreneurship workshops and our annual summer festival, **Fresh Inc** -- a two-week, intensive training program for emerging artists where we work with participants on building careers in music in line with their own unique vision and values.

Artist Roster

Herine Coetzee Koschak, cello

- BM, MM Indiana University
- Soloist with National Repertory Orchestra, Nittany Valley Symphony
- Former member, Civic Orchestra of Chicago
- Served on Faculties of Carthage College, Merit School of Music, Madeline Island Music Camp
- Performed with eighth blackbird, Milwaukee Symphony

Elizandro Garcia-Montoya, clarinet

- MM Rice University, BM Baylor University, Professional Studies diploma from the Cleveland Institute of Music
- Former Principal Clarinet of the Sarasota Opera and the Wichita Symphony
- Chamber musician with Ondas, Chicago Ensembles, and the Midsummer's Chamber Music Festival
- National and International outreach artist with the International Music Foundation and Sound Impact
- Clarinet instructor at the People's Music School, DePaul and Elmhurst Community Music Programs, and the Chicago Academy for the Arts
- Performances with Cleveland Orchestra, Sarasota Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Jacksonville Symphony, Principal Clarinet of the State of Mexico Orchestra in Toluca, Mexico
- Silver prizewinner in the 1999 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition

Grace Hong, oboe

- BM Oberlin College; MM Roosevelt University; Performance Certificate DePaul University
- Performances, Chicago Symphony, LA Opera, Ring Festival LA, Prairie Winds Quintet, Colorado College Music Festival, Pacific Music Festival, Festival Mozaic WinterMezzo Series, Aspen Music Festival
- Faculty, DePaul University

Parker Nelson, horn

- BM Boston University, MM DePaul University
- Former member, Milwaukee Ballet Orchestra, Boston Chamber Orchestra
- Performances, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Tanglewood Music Center, ALEA III
- Soloist, DePaul University Chamber Orchestra, New England Repertory Orchestra

Mason Spencer, viola

- BM, Performance Diploma Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University
- Performer, Aspen Music Festival, Texas Music Festival, Mimir Chamber Music Festival
- Former member, Sileo Quartet

Khelsey Zarraga, violin

- BM, MM Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University
- Former member of Lincoln Center Stage aboard Holland America Cruise Line
- Former teaching artist, Fairview Violin Project at Indiana University

2021-22 Season

SIGNATURE SERIES PERFORMANCES

Undertale LIVE

Indiana University, Bloomington IL

107 S. Indiana Ave

Dates TBD

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton FL

777 Glades Rd

Dates TBD

Concordia University, Ann Arbor MI

4090 Geddes Rd

Saturday, 2/12/22

Journey LIVE

Norton Center for the Arts, Danville KY

300 W Walnut St

Wednesday, 11/03/21

Denison University TUTTI Festival, Granville OH

100 W. College St

Dates TBD

Sweetwater, Fort Wayne IN

5501 US Highway 30 West

Dates TBD

Northbrook Public Library, Northbrook IL

1201 Cedar Ln

Dates TBD

PUBLIC PERFORMANCES

Rivers Empyrean - Renewal and Rebirth

Pilgrim Chamber Players, Highland Park IL

Highland Park Community House

1991 Sheridan Rd

Sunday, 11/14/21

Rivers Empyrean

Brushwood Center, Riverwoods IL

21850 Riverwoods Rd

Sunday, 9/19/21

SE Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO

1 University Plaza

Sunday, 9/26/21 at 3:00pm

UW Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI

Dates TBD

Luna de Cuernos

Esperanza, Philadelphia, PA

4261 N 5th St

Wednesday, 9/29/21

Notorious RBG in Song

Metropolis Performing Arts Center, Arlington

Heights IL

111 W. Campbell St

Dates TBD

2020-21 Season

SIGNATURE SERIES PERFORMANCES

We Are Good

Peoria Public Library, Peoria, IL
3001 West Grand Parkway
Thursday, 3/25/21, 6:00pm (Virtual)

Augsburg University, Minneapolis, Minnesota
2211 Riverside Ave
Friday, 4/30/21, 6:30pm (Virtual)

Lawrence University, Appleton WI
711 E John St
Monday, 5/3/21, 6:00pm (Virtual)

Kenosha Creative Space, Kenosha, WI
624 57th St.
Tuesday, June 1, 2021 (Virtual)

Rivers Emphyrean

Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL
501 College Ave
Friday, 1/19/21 (Virtual)

Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills, IL
9000 College Parkway
Tuesday, 4/20/21 (Virtual)

Towson University, Towson MD
8000 York Rd
Wednesday, 4/28/21 (Virtual)

Night Out in the Parks, Chicago IL
North Park Village Nature Center Park
5801 N Pulaski Rd
Saturday, 7/31/21

Undertale LIVE

Shenandoah Conservatory, Winchester, VA
203 S Cameron St
Wednesday, 10/7/20 (Virtual/Pre-Recorded)

James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA
800 S Main St
Sunday, 2/7/21 (Virtual)

Twitch

Virtual, Monthly Livestreams

Fresh Voices from Fresh Inc

Northbrook Public Library, Northbrook, IL
1201 Cedar Ln.
Sunday, 5/23/21 3:00pm (Virtual)

Boulangier Initiative, Washington DC
Thursday, 6/3/21 (Virtual)

PUBLIC PERFORMANCES

Fresh Voices

Binghamton University, Binghamton NY
4400 Vestal Pkwy
Friday, 5/14/21 (Virtual)

Sounds of the Chicago River

McCormick Bridgehouse Museum, Chicago IL
376 N Michigan Ave
Sunday, 5/30/21

Fresh Inc Festival, Kenosha WI

June 7-20 (Virtual)

Music Can Tell a Story

House Concert, Highland Park IL
Saturday, 6/26/21

Edgewater Chamber of Commerce, Chicago IL
Guidepost Montessori at Edgewater
6001 N Clark St
Saturday, 7/24/21

2020-2021 Educational Programming

Ignite

In our Songwriting and Music Production program at Ignite, young adults transitioning from homelessness explore of music composition as a means of creating their own original musical compositions. After learning the basics of audio editing software and recording equipment, participants create original loop-based songs inspired by their own personal stories. Integrating with Deep Listening curriculum, 2020-2021 programming at Ignite will also use found and recorded sounds from clients as assets for original songs and soundscapes. Ignite clients also learn about music distribution, basic marketing, and public speaking skills to assist them in sharing their creativity outside of the classroom through platforms like HitRecord.com. The residency concludes with a presentation for other clients and Ignite staff in which the participants debut their original works and share stories about the compositional process.

Inclusion is at the heart of the Ignite curriculum. Highlighting the unique voices that contribute to songwriting helps deepen client understanding of the interconnected parts of the music industry at large. Our goal for this residency is not just to create songs, but to give the participants the opportunity and knowledge to distribute their forms of artistic expression to the world.

An anticipated 30-50 participants will interact with Fifth House Ensemble programming at Ignite in an anticipated 38 visits.

- **Dates:**
 - Weekly programming from 10/06/2020 – 06/01/2021
- **Evaluation Partner:** Loyola University, Center for Urban Research and Learning
- **Subjects Explored:** songwriting, entrepreneurship, public performance, job-readiness, teamwork
- **Location:** Virtual - Ignite Belfort House, Ignite Community Axis Hub
- **Population served:** 15 youth clients per session, ages 17-21

Nancy B. Jefferson Alternative School, Juvenile Temporary Detention Center

In this Deep Listening residency, students learn how to create unique text representations of sound, and to compose their own original works based on their own narratives and works of literature studied in class. The compositional and sound exploration activities serve as tools for emotional expression, further explored by integrating Social Emotional Learning and Deep Listening components into the curriculum. The culminating projects trains confident public speaking skills and performance. Team work in daily activities mirrors the model of chamber music collaboration set forth by the two teaching artists in each visit.

An anticipated 380 participants will interact with Fifth House Ensemble programming at NBJ/JTDC this season in an anticipated 38 visits.

- **Dates:**
 - Weekly programming from 9/11/20 – 06/01/2021
- **Evaluation Partner:** Loyola University, Center for Urban Research and Learning

- **Subjects Explored:** music composition, creative writing
- **Location:** Virtual - Nancy B. Jefferson Alternative School
- **Population served:** incarcerated youth, ages 13-17, English classrooms

Deborah's Place

At Deborah's Place, participants create original music in the form of text scores. Over the course of six visits, participants learn musical concepts and Deep Listening concepts while also exploring the role of art in society. Utilizing a variety of artistic media, this program explores how art can make political and philosophical statements. The women of Deborah's Place are encouraged to find their own voices through creative work and to process past trauma, covering topics such as the empowering journey from homelessness to self-sufficiency, or the struggle of family trouble and solutions to overcome it.

In the past year, Fifth House Ensemble shared the stages of numerous public spaces with members of this residency to jointly advocate for those experiencing homelessness in Chicago.

- **Dates:**
 - Fall Residency: 9/29/2020 - 11/17/2020
 - Winter Residency: January – February 2021
 - Spring Residency: 4/15/2021 – 5/27/2021
 - Summer Residency: 7/1/2021 – 8/19/2021
- **Performance Dates:**
 - Fall Final Performance: November 17, 2020
 - Winter Final Performance: February 2021
 - Spring Final Performance: Early February 2020
 - Summer Final Performance: August 19, 2021
- **Evaluation Partner:** Loyola University, Center for Urban Research and Learning
- **Subjects Explored:** Deep Listening
- **Location:** Virtual - Deborah's Place residences at Rebecca Johnson Apartments and Patty Crowley Apartments
- **Population served:** Adult women experiencing homelessness

Youth Job Center

Youth Job Center (YJC) partners with Fifth House Ensemble (5HE) for a 6-week Deep Listening residency in its newly-formed CEO (Connecting to Economic Opportunity) program, which serves 10 court-involved youth. Curriculum and activities will be co-created with YJC instructors and participants. Based on 5HE's previous work with Cara Chicago, which supported job readiness skills for adults, this 6-visit (1 hour weekly, virtual) residency includes individual mindfulness rituals that participants can use to center themselves, manage stress, and access their creativity and problem-solving at any time. The residency also includes group improvisation and composition exercises which build a deep sense of community through participation.

- **Dates:**
 - Tuesdays and Thursdays in Spring 2020
- **Evaluation Partner:** Loyola University, Center for Urban Research and Learning
- **Subjects Explored:** Deep Listening, job readiness
- **Location:** Virtual
- **Population served:** YJC CEO program students
- **Additional Programming:**
 - Friends of the Forest Preserves/YJC partnership
 - 1 visit, 40-50 students, online Deep Listening and Acoustic ecology
 - Mayor Summer Youth Employment Project
 - 1 visit, up to 100 youth and city of Evanston employees, Global and Cultural Awareness
 - CCT/SW Organizing Project
 - 1 visit, up to 50 students, Social Emotional Learning and Deep Listening
 - Work readiness Training Program Warm-Ups
 - 4 visits, up to 400 students, Deep Listening warm-ups for workshops

Storycatchers Theatre

Fifth House Ensemble combines the graphic score work from our Nancy B. Jefferson High School residency (the school housed within the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center) with the construction of a new musical by Storycatchers Theatre. Students from the Temporary Lockdown Ensemble, JTDC's resident theater company, worked towards writing, rehearsing and performing a complete musical that premiered in August 2018. Fifth House Ensemble worked with the students to score several dramatic scenes using graphic notation. This unique collaborative process between Fifth House and Storycatchers facilitated an increase in the participants' levels of agency, creativity, mindfulness, empowerment, and group decision making.

- **Dates:**
 - Final Performances: September 4-5, 2020
- **Partner:** Storycatchers Theatre
- **Subjects Explored:** Personal narratives gathered through residencies with at-risk youth and adults, sound recording and engineering
- **Location:** Virtual - Juvenile Temporary Detention Center
- **Population served:** incarcerated youth, ages 13-17

Waubonsie Valley High School

Fifth House Ensemble has been chosen as the selected artists for Waubonsie Valley High School's (WVHS) annual Meet the Artist series. Specifically designed for freshman band, orchestra, and choir students, Fifth House will take advantage of COVID-19 social distancing restrictions and hold a 5 visit residency exploring Deep Listening scores as well as facilitating remote sound recording and engineering practices for students to collaborate on performances even during a global pandemic.

- **Dates:**
 - 5 Visits, January 2021
 - 1 Performance, January/February 2021
- **Subjects Explored:** Deep Listening, Remote Sound Recording/Engineering
- **Location:** Virtual – Waubonsie Valley High School
- **Population served:** Freshman Music Classes – 250 students

International Music Foundation

IMF provides high-level live music performance to audiences throughout Chicago through free concerts and in-school programs. Fifth House collaborates with IMF to perform Music Can Tell a Story and Luna de Cuernos programs at designated Chicago Public Schools and the Chicago Cultural Center.

- **Dates:**
 - 5 OneShot! Performances (Dates TBD)
- **Partner:** IMF
- **Subjects Explored:** Luna de Cuernos, Music Can Tell a Story
- **Schools served:** TBD by IMF
- **Population served:** CPS Students, Chicago community

Fresh Inc Residencies/Workshops

As part of its mission, Fifth House Ensemble offers higher-education programs that redefine the training process for emerging artists and create new avenues for community engagement. We work with colleges and universities nationwide that have the following goals:

- Promoting the performance of classical chamber music at the highest possible artistic level
- Training students in chamber music rehearsal techniques, score reading and dramatic analysis
- Providing tools for students to transition from student to professional life
- Encouraging musical innovation and entrepreneurship

We encourage schools to partner with us in creating a residency (either short- or long-term) that serves its students and community at large. Our customized program is designed to respond to the needs of emerging artists and invigorate hosting institutions by sparking new thinking at critical moments of change. Drawing from Fresh Inc's core series of sequenced workshops which guide artists in building careers in line with their own unique vision and values, we are all about making connections that last well beyond each visit.

In addition to on-campus events, many Fresh Inc residencies include community programs at area schools and non-traditional venues, allowing the residency to have community-wide impact and allowing students to see every aspect of our process in action.

Workshop Topics

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Arts Start-Up

For those students who are interested in starting their own ventures, this discussion provides tools and ideas for getting started. After an interactive exercise designed to help participants find their voice and mission, we share our philosophy of taking a service-based approach to entrepreneurship. This workshop explores how to select the business and funding structures that support participants' vision and programs, in both for-profit and nonprofit models. Topics include selecting a business structure, networking, marketing via the web and other sources, and resources for continued learning.

Chamber Music Rules: A Model for Shared Leadership

A symphony orchestra thrives under the centralized leadership of a conductor, while virtuoso soloists are used to calling their own shots. But chamber music—in which a small group of musicians combine their individual parts into an organic whole without the top-down leadership of a conductor—presents truly unique organizational strategies for accomplishing creative work as a team. In this workshop we explore the building blocks of effective collaboration through the lens of chamber music, discussing selecting a great team, rules of engagement, shared leadership, flexible conversational models, and engaging external partners.

Funding Your Dreams

This workshop guides participants through the basics of strategically planning income streams in both for and not-for-profit business models. The discussion includes budget planning, an introduction to foundation, corporate, and individual giving, and the anatomy of a grant proposal. Learn to create a broad base of support for your artistic vision while planning for future growth.

Journey LIVE: Creating Community through Music, Gaming, and Crowdfunding

In 2016, 5HE teamed up with composer Austin Wintory to create the first fully interactive performance version of his Grammy-nominated score to Journey, responsive to live game play. The project was funded on Kickstarter, raising \$52,505 from over 1,100 backers worldwide. In this workshop, we discuss the genesis of this project, which sits at the intersection of art, music and technology, as well as how to build community through an effective crowdfunding campaign.

Pioneering the Art of Chamber Music

Fifth House Ensemble harnesses the collaborative spirit of chamber music to develop meaningful partnerships with collaborators of every type, including living composers, folk musicians, astronomers, agricultural communities, video game designers, visual artists, social service organizations, educational institutions, and workers' rights advocacy groups. Members of 5HE share the process behind their genre-defying performance projects and the ensemble's educational and community-focused work, offering a model for true collaboration and co-creation.

INDIVIDUAL ARTIST DEVELOPMENT

Roundtable Discussion: Transitioning from College to Career

In this roundtable discussion, ensemble members share their experiences making the transition from students to professionals in the music field. Topics include finding freelance and teaching opportunities, building a full career from multiple income streams, the orchestral audition process, networking and self-promotion.

Preparing for Management

What does it mean to have professional management? What's a booking agent? What does a publicist actually do? If you've ever wondered about these and other questions, then this workshop's for you! Join us and learn all the ins-and-outs of the music industry, including what to expect from management relationships, how to know when you need a manager or publicist, and what skills and portfolio you'll need to develop in order to make yourself marketable to the top music managers. The best part of this workshop? All the skills and moves presented here that help prepare an artist for management also make that artist more independent and self-sufficient, whether management is in your future or not! Includes information on typical structures for management agreements and retainers, as well as various career development firms and competitions which can queue up a young musician for consideration among industry professionals.

Taxes and Financial Management for Musicians

Financial advisor and recovering clarinetist Tad Gray leads a session on how individual artists can plan for their financial future. Topics include budgeting, taxes, insurance, and long-term goal setting.

ARTISTIC PROGRAMMING

Artistic Programming

Programming is about so much more than the tasteful selection and ordering of music—yet this is where many program ideas leave off. Are you really telling a story with your programming and connecting it to your audience in the most effective way? Learn how programming relates to venue and site selection as well as how to pick the right partners both within and outside of the arts. In this workshop we'll arm you with the right questions to pose to potential partners, explore the role of commissioning, and survey approaches to programming across a variety of spaces both traditional and adventurous. Your artistic programs will never be stale again after this invigorating plunge into sonic storytelling.

Putting Your Audience Center Stage

As classical musicians, much of what we focus on has to do with crafting programs. Mostly Mozart? Basically Beethoven? Russian Night? Symphony...Fantastic! We know how to create thematic connections between musical works, but is that what it takes to engage new audiences in our art? This workshop teaches the basics of psychographic marketing analysis through hands-on, interactive activities and case studies. Understanding audiences allows artists to put the public at the center of not only their marketing efforts, but also their program design itself, offering a window into how businesses of all kinds can put their customers at the center of their messaging and products. What's next? This session also contains an introduction to social and civic practice as a tool for meaningful community engagement.

Booking and Sales

In pop culture and television shows like *Mad Men* and *Silicon Valley*, everyone thinks selling is all about the moment of "the pitch;" in reality, sales is about relationships and research. This workshop looks at the mindset and preparation necessary for planning sales campaigns, including strategies for touring and block booking as well as how to budget for sustainable success. Learn about the types of presenters, how to approach them, and how to use responsive thinking to pair the right programs in several interactive role-playing pitch sessions. From upstart young ensembles to the practices of top industry booking agencies, we'll explore why, when, and how to score major engagements and how to cultivate those contacts into producing partners and co-commissioners.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Curriculum-Integration on Stage and in the Classroom

5HE demonstrates live examples of the ensemble's curriculum-integrated programming. Feel like a kid again as you participate in small and large-group activities, presented in the same way as they have been in classrooms and assemblies throughout the Chicago area and nationwide. We share our philosophy as teaching artists, techniques for engaging students with limited musical backgrounds in composition activities, and practical examples of how to design lessons that create connections between musical concepts and core curricular subjects.

Arts-Integrated Educational Concert Demo: Music Can Tell a Story

In this assembly-style concert for students grades 4-6, 5HE demonstrates the ways in which music can tell a story through sound, and how composers use a variety of instruments, tempo markings, and other techniques to create character, setting, and plot. The ensemble pairs

chamber music and text, and leads students through a series of small and large group activities. The audience participates in a “choose your own adventure” project at the end of the performance, culminating in a presentation of their original storyline inspired by music.

COLLABORATION AND COMMUNITY

The Cultural Chameleon: Finding Uncommon Connections

5HE’s flutist and Executive Director leads a conversation on how her personal experiences growing up in a multi-cultural, multi-lingual home and family developed her skills as a cultural chameleon. Her current work leverages the capacity to create connections and common language to generate projects that engage international partners, source collaborators from wildly diverse disciplines, and result in genre-defying artistic experiences. This session explores how learning to listen and engage with team members from diverse backgrounds, whether of culture or expertise, leads not just to inclusion but to richly rewarding work.

Building Responsive Programs Through Co-Creation and Civic Practice

Fifth House shares strategies for co-creating artistic programs with non-arts partners through its social and civic practice work. Case studies include projects with juvenile detention centers, workers' rights organizations, and conservation groups. The workshop covers selecting great partners, how to frame introductory conversations, co-creation and design, and evaluation.

Intro to Deep Listening

First pioneered by composer Pauline Oliveros after an inspiring trip to a cistern with a 40-second reverb near Seattle, Deep Listening is a practice with a number of community and education intersections motivated by the idea that making and experiencing music is everyone’s birthright. Through an array of activities including active listening walks, rhythmic machines, improvised text scores, and movement exercises, Deep Listening provides an astonishing array of tools for communal music-making. Strategies for guiding improvised compositions as well as designing musical experiences for participants of all backgrounds will be explored, as we experience how Deep Listening’s emphasis on mindfulness and play can transform people’s sense of agency and bring about new ways of relating to one’s environment.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Connective Statements: Public Speaking for Musicians

Did you know that the fear of public speaking is more common than the fear of death? As an artist, you will have many opportunities to connect with audiences of all types through speaking from the stage. In this session, we’ll share how to select content in a way that is responsive and relevant to audiences of varying ages and experience levels; we call these connective statements. We’ll also share some public speaking tips and tricks from our friends in the acting world to help you warm up your voice and to overcome common obstacles.

Personal Promotion on the Web and in the Real

Tooting your own horn can be a challenge for many young artists, but it’s a necessary part of building a career. Two of the most powerful communication tools you will use as an emerging artist are striking photography and a bio that captures who you are. We’ll share tips and tricks

for creating compelling images (whether you work with a professional or go DIY), workshop your artist bios, and discuss tools and strategies for combining these into effective print marketing materials. We then extend these materials into an engaging online presence, using a website as the centerpiece for a social media strategy across multiple platforms. We'll share best practices for timing, content, and voice, and will also discuss how to build a network through face-to-face interactions.

FOR COMPOSERS

The Gainfully Employed Composer

This workshop is all about the composer's toolbox: sure you know how to compose a great motet, but how do you run a successful business and home studio? Covering topics from the best equipment and software to invest in, to passive income strategies for sales and rentals as a self-published composer, these are the "nuts and bolts" that keep your business running smoothly. Populated by various case studies of both emerging and established composers who inhabit diverse genders and genres, this workshop also sketches out the variety of related employable skills such as music engraving, audio recording, and web design acumen which can become part of the modern composer's "portfolio" career. We'll also trace what professional advancement looks like in terms of growth and income streams for composers building any permutation of entrepreneurial, academic, fine arts, and commercial music careers.

Rights & Royalties

What are the composer's rights? And just as importantly: what are the composer's responsibilities? Covering performing rights organizations such as ASCAP and BMI as well as mechanical royalties, text setting permissions, arrangements, and musical quotation, this workshop engages participants in a dialogue about how authorship is determined, and the artistic, legal, and financial ramifications this visits on a composer's career. We'll also explore the brave new world of social media, memes, and streaming services such as Spotify, in an exploration of what rights savvy composers need to navigate.

Competitions, Grants, and Opportunities for Composers

Young composers just gaining their wings are confronted with an often bewildering array of opportunities, many intensely competitive. How does one remain healthy and thrive in a market with more active composers than ever before? And what inner compass can one rely on to steer them to the opportunities that are right for them? Surveying opportunities from competitions, residencies, foundation grants, and even the most prestigious fellowships for composers, this workshop organizes what opportunities are available and how to ace the application. How to select these opportunities and which ones to go after first will also be covered, as well as writing exercises for crafting proposals and resumes that stand out from the crowd.

Music Notation & Materials

Creating functional and well-designed musical materials is perhaps the most fundamental skill for a career as a professional composer. Clean crisp, clean, effective notation is the foundation of any successful performance, grant application, or recording session: in a world where a new piece by a Pulitzer Prize-winning composer might receive only a few short rehearsals, a composer's content can only be known through their presentation, and inaccuracies in notation waste time, money, and goodwill. What do composers need to know about effective notation, including standards such as

the Major Orchestras Librarian's Association guidelines? What are the best strategies for collaborating with performers on adventurous new playing technique? What do conductors need to see, vs. percussionist vs. the choir accompanist? This workshop is designed to help composers speak their ideas clearly, making sure their best ideas have a chance to be heard.

Creating Compositions with Community

Composing all alone is fine and all, but what about designing projects in collaboration with a community? This workshop explores the exciting world of public practice art, and the skills composers need to weave musical creation into engaging events for communities as diverse as students, non-arts cultural organizations, or vulnerable populations such as the homeless and incarcerated youth. While composers are often cast as the heroes of classical music, designing musical projects with and for the community requires a shift in defining the arts as a form of service; a shift which likewise requires new skills in guiding group improvisations, activities, musical games, and how to program in dialogue with your audience. Learning how to hold space for others most different than ourselves can be the most inspiring part of a composer's work!

The Composer's Online Presence

Is your website calibrated for its intended audience? What are the very best times of day to post on Facebook or Instagram, and how can you more effectively engage your audience with your story? And how do you manage email campaigns and other marketing techniques to connect your individual events into a coherent constellation? In this workshop we'll give you the tools to build a clear and confident web presence that gets your music to the people you most want to engage with it.

Composing for Voice

Opera is becoming one of the biggest homes for contemporary music, and writing for the variety of human voices while deftly setting text is one of composition's greatest challenges; yet composers are rarely prepared for how to take advantage of an opera workshop, or how to develop a project with a director and librettist. Chock-full of case studies from opera's past decade, this workshop provides composers with tools for effective text-setting and, coaching singers, and navigating a production timeline. For composers interested in song, opera, and musical theater, this workshop will give you a head start on staging your dream story!

Building Relationships through Networking

"Networking." Did you shiver just a little? Turns out everyone hates networking, in the sense that no one feels good approaching (or being approached by!) someone who is self-consciously manipulating them for their own end. For anyone who ever thought "networking's not for me", this workshop answers back with fresh strategies for building authentic relationships in music. Focusing on the most important relationships composers need to build in the varied realms of chamber music, orchestra, opera, and top-tier soloists, we'll use interactive exercises that help participants gain comfort and confidence in sharing their work and themselves. Come learn how meeting people can be fun when you do it with genuine interest and begin to cultivate your own community of relationships that can sustain a fulfilling career for years to come.

What Others are Saying about Fifth House Ensemble

"...conviction, authority, and finesse..." — **New York Times**

"Chicago's premiere chamber music group" — **Classical Post**

"Journey Live provided a skillful performance of a fantastic score, paired with the powerful drama provided by the performers playing the game." — **Austin Walker, VICE**

"Fifth House was absolutely amazing...The performance [of Undertale LIVE] was flawless."
— **Antal Bokor, Third Coast Review**

"You have to admire the sheer imaginative chutzpah these young performers bring to their envelope-pushing enterprise." — **John Von Rhein, Chicago Tribune**

"Young chamber groups devoted to shaking up the traditional concert experience are blossoming in Chicago, and one of the best is the Fifth House Ensemble... They are a talented crew, and they brought spontaneity and hair-trigger responsiveness to the music of Black Violet."
— **Wynne Delacoma, Musical America**

"In Fifth House, students had a prime example of young musicians teaming to create careers for themselves; they had relevant personal stories to share as well as talent to exhibit, a potent package. The musicians (five string players, five winds, and a pianist) performed like the talented young pros they are, with enthusiasm and high quality cohesion. I must admit that when the story came to a halt, I yearned for more. I wanted to find out what happens to Violet."
— **Peter Jacobi, Bloomington Herald-Times**

"5HE's performance of *Luna* this past Sunday at Constellation demonstrated the possibilities – and success – of combining music and visual elements into a singular performance. As a quintet, 5HE performed flawlessly and with palpable energy in (Mario) Lavista's *Cinco Danzas Brevas*. Blending interdisciplinary art forms can be a treacherous undertaking, but Chicago's Fifth House Ensemble seems to have a knack for combining music with visual narrative. Becan and 5HE succeeded in creating a cohesive artistic product and transformative concert experience."
— **Elliot Mandel, ChicagoMusic.org**

"Whether it's screening cartoons of a rat braving the plague-ravaged streets of London or performing Messiaen's Quartet for the End of Time against astral projections in Adler Planetarium, 5HE goes all in with kooky, multisensory programs. Now the local chamber troupe turns to a more zeitgeisty add-on: social media." — **Mia Clarke, Time Out Chicago**

"the superb local classical music group Fifth House Ensemble launches another of its beguiling conceptual, multi-media excursions, which function as subversive means to get people to hear classical music too often ignored outside of high ticket venues." — **Peter Margasak, Chicago Reader**

"Tone production was generally beguiling, and the single movement played in unison had precision with the right amount of edge." — **Chicago Tribune**

"Fifth House Ensemble's gorgeously controlled account of Brahms's Clarinet Trio imbued the late work with the quietly compelling voices and guarded pathos of which performances so often deprive it." — **TimeOut Chicago**

"The quartet played an excellent and difficult piece quite wonderfully—with a fine sense of ensemble and a unity of expression that I found quite compelling. Beyond that, I thought the group played with a lovely resonance built both upon healthy individual techniques but also upon a very welcome sensitivity to very highly-developed sensitivity to pitch across the octaves."

— **Donald Casey, Dean, DePaul University School of Music**

"In an era where we risk accountability driving out creativity, it is wonderful to have a program that allows students to learn content at high levels within a fine arts framework. 5HE has demonstrated excellence in using music to do what music does best - reaching minds and hearts."

— **Barbara Kent, Principal, Burley School**

"...constantly moving in unexpected and fantastic directions..." — **Elliot Mandel, Gapers Block**