



MGS Chamber Ensemble Residency 2026

The MGS (Music for a Great Space) Chamber Ensemble Residency is designed to provide performance opportunities and mentorship for an up-and-coming ensemble interested in furthering their own experience as an ensemble as well as expanding opportunities for community engagement. MGS is inviting the next Resident Ensemble to contribute as performing artists in both community and education settings, by:

- Developing compelling and interactive performance programs with the guidance of a mentor ensemble.
- Co-creating and implementing a multi-week music education plan with (GCS) Guilford County Schools teachers and mentor ensemble.
- Performing for K-12 audiences and diverse communities in a variety of settings.

What to expect from the residency program:

Through an application and interview process, MGS will select an ensemble to participate in the 2026 residency.

The ensemble will participate in the 3 components of the residency: mentorship, education, and performance, at times simultaneously. In-person time will include working with students in GCS schools, participating in the MGS Storytelling & Live Music events at public libraries, and presenting performances in community settings, including non-traditional performance spaces, throughout the Greensboro area.

The resident ensemble will have the opportunity to work with a mentor ensemble at the beginning of the residency, with a specific focus on programming and growth as a performing ensemble. The ensemble will then perform as part of MGS programming with all marketing and concert operations provided.

The ensemble will receive a stipend during the residency, the minimum of which will be a total of \$4000 divided evenly into monthly payments. The full scope of funding and performances will be solidified after the interview/audition process. The amount of the funding is not related to the size of the ensemble, or timeline, but based on the number of services involved in the residency.

Residency dates and deadlines:

Call for Applications opens - October 6, 2025

Deadline for Applications - November 3, 2025 (Incomplete applications will not be considered)

Interviews - Nov 10-22, 2025, announcement made late Nov/early Dec

Rehearsal, mentor sessions, and planning process - January 2026

In-school sessions and library sessions begin February 2026

Performances generally take place in April & May 2026

As funding and ensemble is available, additional services may be offered in summer or fall

Resident Ensemble Eligibility:

- Ensembles should demonstrate their creativity and exploration of chamber music and how they will participate in moving forward MGS's commitment to diversifying and expanding audiences. Ensembles should also demonstrate experience in music education and knowledge on how to effectively engage with students in under-served communities and Title 1 schools.
- Ensembles should consist of at least two members and instrumentation that is transportable to various spaces. No instruments or instrument-related equipment will be provided by MGS for performances or education presentations.
- Scheduling of education events will be as flexible as possible around other commitments, but the number of performances agreed upon at the beginning of the residency must be completed within the timeline in order to receive full payment.
- Ensembles will be responsible for transportation to and from events. Additional support for travel related expenses can potentially be negotiated.

Required Application Materials: (to be emailed to education@musicforagreatspace.org by end of day Nov 3, 2025)

- A full resume/vitae for each member of the ensemble
- A link or file of an approximately 10 minute video of the ensemble performing where all performers are clearly visible (professional video not required.)
- Answers to the following questions in a 1-2 paragraph response: (The ensemble should submit one set of answers).
 1. What does audience engagement mean to you?
 2. What is your experience in group education or community settings?
 3. Do you have other commitments, in addition to classes, that will need to be accommodated during the timeline of this residency?

Any questions about residency or application process can be addressed to education@musicforagreatspace.org.