



2021–2022 CREATIVE REACTIONS CONTEST: WRITING

Eighth Annual Contest for Princeton University Students

Dedicated to the memory of Vera Sharpe Kohn

ANNOUNCEMENT

Princeton University Concerts (“PUC”) is pleased to announce the 2021–22 **Creative Reactions Contest** — a contest designed to capture the impact of music, as perceived by Princeton University undergraduate and graduate students. **This year’s contest, limited to writing entries only, asks participants to attend the Dover String Quartet’s “Music of Gratitude and Remembrance” program on April 7, 2022 at 7:30PM in Richardson Auditorium, Alexander Hall, and submit a written reflection on one of two prompts:**

1. **What music do you associate with gratitude and/or remembrance, and why?**
2. **What aspects of gratitude and/or remembrance did the Dover String Quartet’s performance evoke in you as you listened?**

Entries will be evaluated anonymously by a panel of judges from across the Princeton University campus and town community. Preference will be given to submissions that incorporate a specific musical work as a point of reference.

THE PRIZE

A prize of **\$1000** will be awarded to the winner of the 2021–22 contest. Honorable Mention(s) of up to \$250 may be distributed at the discretion of the jury.

The winning entry(ies) will be announced in early May. Princeton University Concerts may incorporate the winning entry(ies) in future print and online materials.

ACCEPTED FORMATS

Reflection on the prompt can take a number of forms—essay, blank verse, prose, poetry, narrative, even lyrics—but participants are encouraged to use a specific musical work as at least one point of reference in the submission and to approach the prompt from a personal perspective. Submissions should be no more than 1000 words and speak to a broad audience. Participants may submit a brief personal statement with their submission, clarifying intention or providing any additional information that may be useful to the jury, such as the title of the referenced musical work(s).

PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY

The Creative Reactions Contest is open to all currently enrolled (Spring Semester 2022) undergraduate and graduate students. *Please note:* If you won first prize in a past Creative Reactions Contest, you are ineligible to enter in the same category for one academic year.

SUBMISSION PROCESS

1. REGISTER

All participants must register to participate in the contest, via the [Creative Reactions Contest page](#) on Princeton University Concert's website. Registrants will receive an email confirmation that will contain a personal ID number to be included with their contest submission, as well as information about checking in at the concert (see below).

2. ATTEND CONCERT

The Dover String Quartet's [performance](#) at Princeton University Concerts on Thursday, Apr 7, 2022 at 7:30PM in Richardson Auditorium, Alexander Hall, should be used as the point of inspiration for all contest submissions. A free ticket will be provided to each participant if requested during registration, pending availability. Participants will be required to check-in at the concert.

3. SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All submissions are due by the end of the day on Thursday, April 21, 2022, uploaded via the [Creative Reactions Contest page](#) on Princeton University Concert's website.

Submission guidelines are as follows:

- Participants are welcome to submit as many entries as they like.
- Entries must be submitted electronically as a PDF document and must be no longer than 1,000 words. Preference will be given to submissions that include a specific musical work as a point of reference.
- Submissions must be anonymously identified by the entrant's Personal ID number in both the submission file title and in the work title.
- Entrants agree to follow Princeton University's honor code, detailed in the [Academic Integrity Booklet](#).

PRIZE ANNOUNCEMENT

The \$1000 prize and any potential honorable mentions will be announced in May 2022. Winners will be notified prior to the announcement.

BACKGROUND

The **Creative Reactions Contest** is hosted by the Student Ambassadors of PUC, a small group of music-loving students whose mission is to increase student interest and participation in Princeton University Concerts programs. The contest is funded by PUC, which presents an annual professional concert series featuring renowned classical musicians from all over the world. The **Creative Reactions Contest** seeks to further PUC's mission by connecting students to the arts and celebrating classical music's unique contributions. The **Creative Reactions Contest** is dedicated to the memory of Vera Sharpe Kohn, a loyal member of the Princeton University Concerts Committee whose support and enthusiasm contributed to the health and well being of Princeton University Concerts.

The winning entries from previous contests are available for viewing on the [Creative Reactions Contest page](#) on Princeton University Concert's website.

QUESTIONS?

For all questions, please email Creative Reactions Contest project manager [Kerry Heimann](#).