



2022-23 EXPRESS THE MUSIC CONTEST: WRITING AND DRAWING
Fourth Annual Contest for Trenton Central High School Students
Sponsored by the Neighborhood Music Project

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Neighborhood Music Project is pleased to announce the 2022-23 **Express the Music Contest**—a contest designed to capture the impact of music as perceived by Trenton Central High School students. **This year's contest, open to writing and drawing entries, asks participants to respond to one of two Princeton University Concerts performances: Jess Gillam, Saxophone (Oct 26) and tenThing Brass Ensemble (Dec 13).** Entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges from the Princeton University Concerts staff.

THE PRIZE

The First Prize winner will be awarded an **iPad, Apple Pencil, and Smart Cover** (\$500 value). Honorable Mention winners will be awarded Jabra Elite 45h headphones (\$100 value).

The winning entry(ies) will be announced and publicly distributed in a printed booklet in summer 2023. Princeton University Concerts and Trenton Arts at Princeton may incorporate the winning entry(ies) into future print and online materials.

ACCEPTED FORMATS

Writing entries can take a number of forms—essay, blank verse, prose, poetry, narrative, even lyrics. Submissions should be no more than 1,000 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 any referenced musical work(s).

Drawing entries can take a number of forms—sketch, painting, graphic design, cartoon, even pencil drawing. 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 any referenced musical work(s).

PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY

The Express the Music Contest is open to all currently enrolled Trenton Central High School students who attend either Jess Gillam's Princeton University Concerts performance on October 26 or tenThing Brass Ensemble's performance on December 13. *Please note:* If you won first prize in last year's Express the Music Contest (responding to Sheku and Isata Kanneh-Mason), you are ineligible to participate in this year's contest.

SUBMISSION PROCESS

1. REGISTER

All participants must register to participate in the contest. Registrants will receive an email confirmation. Registration is non-binding—if you are interested in participating but not sure if you will end up submitting an entry, please register regardless.

[REGISTER HERE>](#)

2. SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All submissions are due by the end of the day on their respective deadlines, emailed to Trenton Arts at Princeton program manager Lou Chen at lychen@princeton.edu.

Submission deadlines depend on which concert you attend:

- Jess Gillam, Saxophone & Thomas Weaver, Piano
 - Concert date: Wed, Oct 26, 2022
 - **Submission deadline:** Mon, Nov 14, 2022

- tenThing Brass Ensemble
 - Concert date: Tue, Dec 13, 2022
 - **Submission deadline:** Mon, Jan 2, 2023

Submission guidelines are as follows:

- Participants are welcome to submit as many entries as they like.
- The body of the submission email should contain the writer's full name, grade level, and small learning community.

[SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY HERE>](#)

PRIZE ANNOUNCEMENT

The first prize and any potential honorable mentions will be announced in summer 2023. Winners will be notified prior to the announcement.

BACKGROUND

For its historic 125th anniversary during the 2018-19 season, Princeton University Concerts brought conductor Gustavo Dudamel to campus as its first Artist-in-Residence for a year-long residency designed to propel classical music forward in a vibrant and socially relevant manner. Celebrated by the campus and broader community, this residency inspired a new outreach program, the **Neighborhood Music Project**, conceived to reinforce Maestro Dudamel's commitment to music as a force for uniting communities, empowering young people, and promoting positive social change. The **Neighborhood Music Project** is a collaboration between Princeton University Concerts and Trenton Arts at Princeton.

The **Express the Music Contest** is inspired by the popular Creative Reactions Contest for Princeton University undergraduate and graduate students. To view the winning entries from the 2021-22 **Express the Music Contest**, click [here](#).

QUESTIONS?

For all questions, please email Trenton Arts at Princeton program manager [Lou Chen](#) at lychen@princeton.edu.