



Rising Stars – Ottawa Chamberfest is thrilled to announce the launch of its annual Showcase for pre-professional classical musicians, performing solo or in a chamber ensemble. Successful applicants will have the opportunity to perform as part of the 2026 summer festival. This showcase is adjudicated by a panel of Chamberfest artists, and scholarships are awarded to the strongest performances, including Anne Presentey Rising Stars Award scholarships in junior (under 18) and senior (18-25) categories. Chamberfest's Rising Stars program, including the showcase concert and scholarships, are presented with the generous support of *Nicole Presentey* in memory of her mother, Anne Presentey. Rising Stars alumni include Bryan Cheng, Silvie Cheng, Mikaela Bennett, Alexander Soloway, Lara Deutsch, David Baik, Anita Pari, Suren Barry, and Anna-Sophie Neher.

ELGIBILITY:

- Must be between 12 to 25 years of age as of July 1, 2026.
 - Junior category will include ages 12-17 as of July 1, 2026.
 - Senior category will include ages 18-25 as of July 1, 2026.
- Must reside in, or be from, Canada's National Capital Region (Ottawa-Gatineau).
- Must be willing and able to participate in this summer's Rising Stars Showcase during our 2026 festival in Ottawa between July 23-August 2 (exact date to be confirmed).

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS:

Application Deadline: **April 17th, 11:59pm EDT**

By the deadline, please submit the following to cbecke@chamberfest.com, with the email subject "[Applicant name] - Rising Stars Application":

- Video recordings of two contrasting works, totaling no more than 20 minutes in length, filmed in the last six months. Please submit these via link to your videos on a platform of your choice (Vimeo, YouTube, etc.). We recommend uploading your videos as 'unlisted' on whichever platform you choose.
- For each video, please specify:
 - The title of the piece
 - Name of the composer
 - When/where the recording was made
- Please include the following information in your email:
 - Applicant's full name (for chamber groups, list each member's name/instrument)
 - Chamber group name (if applicable)
 - Applicant's age
 - Applicant's teacher(s)
 - The name of applicant's collaborative pianist (if applicable)
 - Preferred email contact
 - Current address (for chamber groups, the address of each member)
- For applicants under the age of 18, please confirm that their parent/guardian has provided permission for them to submit their video and perform in the festival if they are selected.

PROCESS:

The Jury for this year's Rising Stars Showcase consists of:

- Nicole Presentey (piano)
- Leah Wyber (cello)
- Karen Donnelly (trumpet)

The jury will review video applications between the 18th and 30th of April. All applicants will be contacted by the **4th of May** and notified if their application was successful or not. If you are successful, Chamberfest will indicate which piece the jury would like you to play in the showcase (selected from the two pieces you submitted), and confirm the date of the performance in the same email. You must confirm your participation by the **8th of May**.

The concert will be juried, with scholarships awarded based on performances, including the Anne Presentey Rising Stars Award scholarships in junior (under 18) and senior (18-25) categories.

Instrumentalists and vocalists requiring a collaborative pianist to perform will be provided an honorarium of \$100 to help cover these costs.



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