

Excellence in the Arts : Entry # 225

Is your organization a 501(c)3 nonprofit?

Yes

According to your 501(c)3 letter, in what town is your official office located?

New Britain

Where will your project be performed or exhibited?

Hartford

Will this activity occur after August 1, 2023?

Yes

Are you a recent grantee?

Yes

Enter your Report Code

116134-Roberts2020

Organization Name

Connecticut Chopin Foundation

Organization's IRS Tax ID #

455228356

Principal Contact Name

Krystian Tkaczewski

Title

artistic director

Email

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Phone

(860) 920-9658

Address

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[Map It](#)

Website

<http://www.chopincompetition.org>

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Amount requested this application

\$8,000.00

What is the organization's mission/vision statement?

The CCF was founded to promote the music of Fryderyk Chopin and expand the opportunity for young world-wide talented musicians to compete and perform at an international level.

The board of directors meets on a quarterly basis. Our primary mission is to promote music of Chopin and attract worldwide young

musicians to expand their careers by providing them with an opportunity to compete at higher standard of international competition. Providing them with engagement opportunities.

Provide a brief history of your organization and its activities.

Chopin Piano Competition was Founded in 2010 by Krystian Tkaczewski to commemorate the bicentennial anniversary of Chopin's birth. Our annual international competition was previously held at the Polish National Home located in Harford, CT. In 2016, the competition changed its venue to the Theater for Performing Arts in Hartford, CT.

Since 2018, Chopin International Piano Competition takes place in Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford, CT. This church has a professional infrastructure, enabling excellent practice and performing

opportunities. In our previous competitions, our participating artists represented five continents and 44 countries. Our laureates consist of prize winners of such competitions as Busoni, Sendai, Bachauer and Horowitz. Our panel of

international judges was represented by such countries as Austria, Brazil, China, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan and USA. The Chopin Competition in Hartford received various recognitions and awards from State and Federal government officials and was hailed

by Fox News as: "the most important musical event in the opening of the year in the State of Connecticut."

The 13th Annual Chopin International Piano Competition took part as a brought back 93 pianists from 13 countries and three continents. Representing countries were:

Albania, Armenia, Canada, Hong Kong, Hungary, Japan, Poland, Russia, South Korea, Taiwan, Ukraine, USA,

The competition received the highest reviews from the judges, audience, and the local media. Judging panel included: Dr. Krystian Tkaczewski, Poland/USA, Prof. Nikita Fitenko, USA, Prof. Adolfo Vidal, Venezuela, Prof. Igal Kesselman, Prof. Pavel Nersessian, USA.

Describe the demographics of your audience/people served by your activities.

Our event attracts the diverse audience. Each year 80 pianists come to Hartford to take part in our contest.

- We invite excellent experts, pianists to Hartford. We brought pianists representing 44 countries and 5 continents.
- We believe that bringing of international experts and pianists has a strong impact on the education of local pianists and students.
- Interest of local audience and musicians.

Each year we distribute many free invitations and tickets for local students and teachers.

Describe your organization's governance.

Michael Kilian- President and Treasurer, Dr. Krystian Tkaczewski, artistic director, Irma Lange, Secretary, Jola Koza, Director, Agnieszka Henel, Director, Jackie Borkowski, Director, Jarlath Paul Ramoya, Director. Board is meeting on the quarterly basis with the annual meeting in October.

Describe the diversity of your board.

Due to advise of Roberts Foundation we engaged into promoting diversity. We expanded our BM with Mr. Jarlath Paul Ramoya born in Kenya, member of Afro-American community. Moreover many of our members have international

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provenance. President Michael Kilian was born in Italy with Polish-Italian parents. Mrs. Irma Lange was born in Argentina and is a representative of Latin-American community. Krystian Tkaczewski was born in Poland. Mrs. Agnieszka Henel has German provenance. Females: 4, Males: 3

What percentage of your board makes personal financial contributions to your organization?

All members of Board of Directors contribute their time into development of the Foundation free of charge. There is no membership fees. Entire Board of Members work on voluntary basis. We don't hire any contractors as financial advisors or marketing experts. All functions are made by members of Board of Directors on the volunteer basis.

Project Name

XIV Chopin International Piano Competition in Hartford, CT

Is this project related to the Visual Arts?

No

Project Description

The competition is open to all pianists, regardless of a nationality and age. All age categories are presented here: Piano Talents- up 10 years, Junior- Up 13, Young Artists-Up 17, Professional – no age limit
The winners will be offered opportunities to perform in concerts, in Poland, USA:
• Chopin Piano Festival in Busko-Zdroj, Poland
• International Festival and Masterclass in Tarnow (Masterclass and Orchestra performance). Jury will include: Dr. Krystian Tkaczewski, Poland/USA, artistic director, Prof. Philippe Raskin, Belgium - Royal Conservatory in Brussels, Prof. Mina Perry, Japan/USA Southern California Music Institute, Prof. Michael Bulychev-Okser, USA- Kaufman Center, Prof. Adolfo Vidal, Venezuela- President of Teresa Carreno International Piano Master Competition.

Total estimated project budget

\$30,300.00

Project start/opening

03/08/2023

Project end/closing

03/12/2023

Project venue

Asylum Hill Congregational Church

Project town

Hartford, CT

Admission fees, attendance, and activity details

XIV Chopin Competition will take place at Asylum Hill Congregational Church: March 8-12, 2023. The winners concert will take place on March 12, 2023, Tickets for winners concert: 25 , Students- 20. Following awards will be distributed to winners: I Prize in Cat. Professional -2000, II Prize in Cat. Professional – 700 III Prize in Cat. Professional- 500, I Prize in Cat. Young

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Artist – 500,

II Prize in Cat. Young Artist 200, III Prize in Cat. Young Artist 100 , Total Special Prizes 1000

How do you intend to promote/market this project?

We will engage in the advertisement of the competition and attempt to gather talented pianists to participate at the 2023 edition of the competition. We continue to work with local media as Hartford Courant, New Britain Herald, CTnow.com in promoting our event. This year we received an excellent article in Hartford Courant Arts section pertaining to the goals and history of the competition.

We will pass the significant number of tickets and invitations to local students and musical teachers.

How is your organization going to use Roberts funding?

If granted a full amount (8000 USD) we plan to distribute the award in following way:

- 4000 USD towards prizes for prize winners
- 2000 USD towards judges' honorariums
- 2000 USD towards hall rental costs

Connecticut Chopin Foundation is extremely grateful for a longtime support of Roberts Foundation. It is a highest honor for us to receive an Excellence in the Arts grant. It helps us in the sustaining the highest level of our competition.

How will Roberts support be recognized?

In last four years we placed Roberts Foundation as a "Diamond Sponsor". Also, in 2023, we will be delighted to place Roberts Foundation as a "Diamond Sponsor" in our promotional materials. The logo of Roberts Foundation will be placed in all official materials as: booklets, posters, programs and competition website. Information about sponsoring will be released in media, newspapers and internet portals. Finally, Roberts Foundation will be mentioned at Awards Ceremony as a diamond sponsor.

What is your organization's definition of artistic excellence?

"I have the simplest tastes. I am always satisfied with the best." This motto of famous Irish poet and playwright Oscar Wilde is the keystone of all our activities and our definition of artistic excellence as well. The Chopin Competition has risen to the level, at which is recognized worldwide as one of leading Chopinesque events. It brings the most talented pianists from the furthest parts of the world to Hartford. I would like to mention that alumni of our competition took an active participation at The XVIII International Chopin Competition in Warsaw most famous piano competition in the world. Six of our winners took part in the competition. Two of them excelled in the competition and gained an acclaim of critics and audience: JJ Bun Bui, Canada became a prize winner of the competition in Warsaw (He was the youngest participant selected out of the group of 500 people). Avery Gagliano, USA- Grand prize winner of Chopin Competition in Hartford, 2012 became a semifinalist (Top 20).

How does this project align with that definition, and how does it advance your mission?

I would like to highlight that our prize winners achieve further successes and great music careers, to mention a few:

- Umi Garrett, USA – Grand Prize winner of Junior Category 2011
- Avery Gagliano, USA- Grand prize winner of junior category in 2012- Winner of National Chopin Competition in Miami

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- Shuan Hern Lee, Australia- I Prize winner of Junior Category 2012
Piano Prodigy. Winner of over 80 prizes in the piano competitions worldwide. First Prize at Van Cliburn Piano Competition in 2019
- Sun-A Park, South Korea- I Prize winner of Professional Category 2013 Winner of famous piano competitions including: Busoni, Sendai, Bachauer.
- Harmony Zhu, Canada- Grand Prix winner, 2015- World International Junior Chess Champion.
- JJ. Bun Bui, Canada- II prize winner, 2016 – Prize winner of most important competition in the world -XVIII International Chopin Competition in Warsaw, 2021.
- Anfisa Bobylova, Ukraine, 2020, Winner of First Prize in Professional Category.

How will your audience and the community benefit from this project?

We invite excellent international experts, pianists to the City of Hartford. In the course of years, we brought world authorities from five continents. It is a rare opportunity for the audience to interact with esteemed artists and listen to their performances. We brought pianists representing 44 countries and 5 continents.

- We believe that bringing of international experts and pianists has a strong impact on the education of local pianists and students who strongly contribute from contacting their international counterparts. Such artistic connections frequently develop into lifetime collaborations.

- Interest of local audience and musicians.

Each year we distribute many free invitations and tickets for local students and teachers. We have many local pianists competing in our competition. Each year this number increases, what can be considered as a raising trend. Finally, we have an increased number of local pianists and musicians interested in attending our Winners Concert.

How will this project be evaluated?

The Chopin International Piano Competition will be judged by international experts:

- Dr. Krystian Tkaczewski, Poland-internationally awarded concert pianist
- Prof. Adolfo Vidal, Venezuela- artistic director of Teresa Carreno International Master Competition
- Prof. Philippe Raskin, Belgium - Professor of Royal Conservatory in Brussels
- Prof. Michael Bulychev-Okser, USA- Professor at Kaufman Center, NY-
- Prof. Mina Perry, Japan- President of Southern California Music Institute

The project will be evaluated as successful with the following criteria: high level of expertise of the competitors, high class of invited adjudicators, number of submissions, positive feedback of the audience and media.

Cover letter

- [img136.pdf](#)

Board list

- [CCF-Board-Members.pdf](#)

IRS 501(c)3 determination letter

- [3.-Connecticut-Chopin-Foundation-501c3-designation-letter-1.pdf](#)

Financial statement

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- [Financial-Statement-12.31.2021-1.pdf](#)

Last year operational budget

- [7.Connecticut-Chopin-FOundation-current-year-operational-budget.pdf](#)

Current year operational budget

- [Operational-Budget-2022-2023-2.pdf](#)

Balance sheet

- [Balance-Sheet-09.30.2022.pdf](#)

Project budget

- [Connecticut-Chopin-Foundation-Project-Budget-2023.pdf](#)

Does your organization produce an annual report?

No

Has your organization adopted a strategic plan?

No

Grant Report

- [Connecticut-Chopin-Foundation-Grantee-Reporting-Form-.pdf](#)

Other materials?

- [BookletHartford2022-compressed-1.pdf](#)
- [Connecticut-Chopin-Foundation-2021-990.pdf](#)
- [Poster2022-1.pdf](#)

Furthermore, we believe the excellence in arts can be only achieved by inviting world-class experts, recognized internationally, not only locally or regionally. To satisfy this statement we have invited famous pianists and piano professors as our adjudicators, to mention a few:

- Prof. Veda Kaplinsky, Israel- Chair of Piano Department of Juilliard School
- Jong Hwa Park, South Korea- Professor of National University in Seoul, South Korea
- Armen Babakhanian, Armenia- winner of Van Cliburn International Piano Competition and Leeds International Piano Competition.
- Prof. Yunjie Chen, China- professor of Central Conservatory in Beijing, China.
- Prof. Matti Reakallio, Finland-Juilliard School
- Adam Golka-Gilmore Prize
- Prof. Stephan Moeller, Germany, University in Vienna
- Professor Jerome Rose, Winner of Busoni Piano Competition

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- Olga Kern, Russia- winner of Van Cliburn Piano Competition
- Stanislav Khristenko, Ukraine-Winner of Cleveland International Piano Competition

Have you contacted the Executive Director by email or phone to discuss this proposal?

Yes

Is your cover letter signed by your senior executive? on your letterhead? with your official office address?

Yes