

For Immediate Release  
August 25, 2015

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## **The Rapido! National Composition Contest Announces Take Four!! Semi-Finalists**

*Fifteen Composers Chosen for Next Round of National Contest*

**August 25, 2015** – The Regional Semi-Finalists for the Rapido!<sup>®</sup> 14-Day National Composition Contest have been chosen. Rapido! was founded in 2009 by the Atlanta Chamber Players and the Antinori Foundation to promote new works for chamber ensemble, and the fourth cycle of the competition includes prizes worth over \$20,000! To complete, the Rapido! composers wrote a new short work in just 14 days.

Five acclaimed chamber music ensembles are participating, representing all corners of the country: **Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings** (midwest), **Boston Musica Viva** (northeast), **Atlanta Chamber Players** (southeast), **Voices of Change** (southwest), and **Left Coast Chamber Ensemble** (west coast).

From June 8-22, over 300 composers worked on a new composition for clarinet, violin, and piano. Each of the regional ensembles chose 3 semi-finalists from their pool of composers.

- **Midwest** (*Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings*)
  - Randy Bauer, Minneapolis, MN
  - Luke Dahn, Orange City, IA
  - Kevin Eppich, Cleveland, OH
- **Northeast** (*Boston Musica Viva*)
  - Louis Cruz, New York, NY
  - J.P. Redmond, Yonkers, NY
  - Nathan J. Stumpff, Northfield, VT
- **Southeast** (*Atlanta Chamber Players*)
  - Eric Benaim, Aventura, FL
  - Nickitas Demos, Atlanta, GA
  - Peter Van Zandt Lane, Athens, GA
- **Southwest** (*Voices of Change*)
  - Mark Buller, Houston, TX
  - Richard Hermann, Albuquerque, NM
  - Alex Luttrell, Lewisville, TX
- **West Coast** (*Left Coast Chamber Ensemble*)
  - Roman Baranskiy, San Francisco, CA
  - Leslie Hogan, Santa Barbara, CA
  - Kenneth Lim, Los Angeles, CA

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Each partner ensemble will host a Regional Semi-Final Concert in October and November to select their one Regional Finalist. All five Finalists will travel to Atlanta for the National Finals concert on January 17, 2016. For regional semi-final concert information and biographies for all composers, visit [rapidocompositioncontest.com](http://rapidocompositioncontest.com).

The Grand Prize winner will receive \$7,500 to expand his/her short work into a piece for performance by *all five ensembles* in 2016-2017 and compose a new orchestral work to be performed by the Grammy-winning [Atlanta Symphony Orchestra](http://atlantasymphonyorchestra.com). In addition, the winner receives a 2-week residency at the scenic [Hambidge Center for Creative Arts](http://hambidgecenter.com) in north Georgia.

For more information, visit [rapidocompositioncontest.com](http://rapidocompositioncontest.com)

About Rapido!® 14-Day National Composition Contest:

*The Atlanta Chamber Players (ACP) founded - with the Antinori Foundation - and nationally directs the 50-state Rapido! Composition Project, which has yielded 1000+ new chamber works to date through three cycles of competition. For more information, visit [rapidocompositioncontest.com](http://rapidocompositioncontest.com)*



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