



from May 26 to June 3, 2026

Call for Applications

***Vibre !* String Quartet Residency and Professionalization Workshops**



1. *Vibre!* Bordeaux International String Quartet Festival and Competition

Vibre ! is both the International String Quartet Competition of Bordeaux, held every three years (next edition in 2028), and an annual festival dedicated to string quartets. Both are organized by the association Quatuors à Bordeaux. In **2026**, the *Vibre !* Festival will take place from **May 26 to June 3**.

Created in 1999, the competition, which takes place every three years, has established itself as an international reference in the chamber music world. Several of the world's greatest string quartets (the Belcea, Ebène, and Leonkoro Quartets, and previously the Ysaÿe or Hagen Quartets) were first revealed there.

Since 2020, the Quatuor Modigliani has been entrusted with the artistic direction and Julien Kieffer with the general management.

2. The Residency

A. Contents of the Residency:



The residency will take place in Bordeaux from May 26 to June 3, 2026 (masterclasses and professionalization workshops) for the four selected international string quartets.

- **Masterclasses** with the **Quatuor Modigliani**
- **Masterclasses** with violist **Hélène Clément** (former member of the Doric String Quartet, viola professor at HEM Geneva)
- **Masterclasses** with violinist **Luc-Marie Aguera** (formerly of the Ysaÿe Quartet)
- **Recording workshop of a quartet movement** under professional conditions, supervised by **Hugues Deschaux**, sound engineer, and a member of the Quatuor Modigliani
- **Listening workshop on the history of interpretation** with musicologist **Jean-Michel Molkhov** (listening and discussion without instrument on a work of each quartet's choice)



- **Injury-prevention and posturology workshop** with **Tony Zanghi** (physiotherapist to numerous musicians and to the dancers of the Paris Opera)

- **Workshop with lawyers from the Bordeaux Bar**, addressing two aspects of the profession:

- Legal matters: industrial and intellectual property, contract law, sponsorship law, neighboring rights in recordings, image rights (photo shoots, social media, etc.)

- Project presentation techniques (pitching, etc.), public speaking skills when addressing the press, an audience, potential sponsors, and more.

B. The obligations of the Quatuors à Bordeaux association:

Each young quartet will receive a €500 transport allowance.

Accommodation is provided in beautiful Bordeaux houses and apartments by the Quatuors à Bordeaux association, from **May 25 to June 3**.

A lunch allowance will be granted to each quartet.

C. The obligations of the young quartets :



Mandatory attendance

- Be present at the residency location from **May 25, 2026 before 6:00 p.m. until June 3, 2026 inclusive**.

Paid concert

- Perform a paid concert lasting approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes.
- The musicians must provide their repertoire to *Vibre !*
- Each musician will be paid €175 gross. No additional agent fees will be paid for this concert.

Concert-encounter

- Take part in a concert–encounter lasting about 1 hour in total, including: 30 minutes of music and 30 minutes of discussion, within a social and cultural outreach framework.

Masterclasses and interpretation workshop

- Send Quatuors à Bordeaux a list of two works that the participants wish to work on: one for the masterclasses and one for the interpretation-history workshop led by Jean-Michel Molkhou.

Recording

- Submit to Quatuors à Bordeaux the work and movement chosen for the recording during the residency.

Legal workshop

- Indicate, for reference, the subjects or themes that the participants would like to address during the legal and public-speaking workshops.

3. General admission requirements

- The residency is open to string quartets of all nationalities.
- Each member of the four applying quartets must be **under 35 years old** as of **May 26, 2026**.
- Four young quartets will be selected for the residency.

4. Application procedures and deadlines

Registration for the *Vibre !* festival is done exclusively online and is considered complete only upon submission of:

A. Complete the online application form using the link below:

***Vibre !* 2026 Residency Application Form:**

<https://forms.gle/vA6Siw3uy7qAEfws9>

*All required documents listed below, including video files via direct link (unlisted YouTube), must be received through the Google Forms application no later than **11:59 p.m. on Friday, January 16, 2026**. **

B. Submit, via the application form, the following documents and materials:

- 1 ID document for each member of the quartet (national identity card or passport).
- 1 biography presenting the quartet, its past and future projects, and including biographical information about its members.
- 3 recent HD photographs (300 dpi) of the quartet (horizontal and vertical formats).
- 1 recommendation letter for the quartet, written after 1 September 2025 by a recognised personality from the music world.
- 1 motivation letter from the quartet, outlining the reasons for applying and the artistic objectives linked to the residency.
- 1 video** containing a recent recording of:
 - A quartet of the applicant's choice, performed in its entirety, with a minimum duration of 15 minutes.
- If the quartet is under exclusive representation (in France or internationally) by an agent or similar organization, or has signed an exclusive contract with a recording label: a letter from said agents/organizations stating that they consent to the quartet fulfilling all obligations arising from its participation in the Festival, in particular those specified in Art. 2 of the residency regulations.

* Applications that are incomplete or submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

** Video files must be accompanied by a self-certification statement indicating the date and place of the recordings.

Any further questions may be submitted to the following email address:

production@quatuorsabordeaux.com

5. Selection and admission procedure

Based on the documents received, the members of the Quatuor Modigliani, artistic director of Quatuors à Bordeaux, will select, at their sole discretion, a maximum of four string quartet ensembles.

Notification of the selection will be sent by email to the address provided in the application form no later than **Monday, February 2, 2026**, and published on the festival's website.

The Quatuor Modigliani will assess applicants on the basis of the materials required for the application. It will have full authority in choosing the candidates invited to participate in the residency.

6. Legal jurisdiction

A. The regulations exist in two languages (French and English); however, only the French text shall be considered legally binding.

B. The Quatuors à Bordeaux association reserves the right, in all cases and at its sole discretion, to decide to cancel the residency and to take any decisions relating to the conduct of the events and the participation of the applicants.

C. In the event of any legal dispute, jurisdiction shall lie with the courts of Bordeaux.

7. Organization

The residency is managed by the Quatuors à Bordeaux association:

Quatuors à Bordeaux Association:

Non-profit association under the French 1901 law

SIRET number: 422 438 275 00014

Registered office and address: 71 rue de Saint-Genès, 33000 Bordeaux (France)

Board of Directors of the Quatuors à Bordeaux association:

Co-President: Élisabeth VIGNÉ

Co-President: François HENROT

Vice-Presidents: Jean-François MOUEIX and Antoine TCHEKHOFF

Secretary General: Bernard LUMMEAUX

Treasurer: Charles CHEVALLIER

Members: Pascale BERNHEIM, Pierre-Marie CHAUVIN, Thierry FOUQUET, Alain MEUNIER, Alain PICHON, and Daniel PICOTIN

Organizational team:

Artistic direction: Quatuor Modigliani
with Amaury COEYTAUX, Loïc RIO, Laurent MARFAING, François KIEFFER
General Director: Julien KIEFFER
General Delegate: Chantal MARTIN-PARDIGON
Production Manager: Angèle TACHET
Administrative Manager: Margot OGER
Musician Hospitality Manager: Anaïs PONTY
Communications Manager: Léa POËCKER

8. General rules and processing of personal data

This call for applications and the corresponding forms are published on the following page:

<https://vibrefestival.com/registering/>

Submitting an application implies full acceptance of this notice.

Sending the required attachments constitutes authorization to use the submitted material in any manner deemed appropriate by the organizers for promotional purposes. The decisions of Quatuors à Bordeaux regarding the selection process, the application, and the interpretation of this call for participation are final.

In accordance with Art. 13 of GDPR No. 679/16 as amended and supplemented, the personal data provided and collected within the framework of this call for participation will be used solely within the scope and for the purposes of this document.