

**Greater Columbia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists**  
**YOUNG ORGANIST COMPETITION 2019**  
**Saturday, March 9, 2019**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**Rules of the Competition**

Eligibility

The competition is open to students currently enrolled in Grades 8-12 who are studying organ. Membership in AGO is not required. Transportation and housing for the competitors must be arranged and paid for by the contestants. Participants younger than 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Previous first place winners are ineligible to compete. Three contestants are chosen from the entries to compete in the final round on **March 9, 2019**.

Competition Dates

If you are chosen as a finalist, you will come to Columbia SC for the final round, which will take place on **Saturday, March 9, 2019** beginning at **10:00 a.m.** Finalists will be assigned two hours of practice on the competition organ on **Friday, March 8, 2019** and twenty minutes warm-up on the instrument on the day of the competition. The student alone is allowed to practice and set registrations.

Repertoire Requirements

1. A major work by J.S. Bach of at least 5 minutes duration.
2. A piece from the 19<sup>th</sup> century **OR** a contemporary piece.  
The pieces must be original compositions for pipe organ. Total performance time for the two solos should not exceed 30 minutes. Memorization is not required.
3. Finalists in the competition will receive a hymn packet and should be ready to play an introduction and two stanzas of all four hymns contained therein. An alternate harmonization (either the student's or a published one) is appropriate on the second chosen verse. On arrival in Columbia (March 8), the finalists will be assigned the hymn which they must play in the competition. A separate award is given for the hymn playing.

How to enter

The student must complete the application form for *The Young Organist Competition 2019* as found on the Columbia AGO website. The student must pay the \$35 entry fee (**check payable to the Greater Columbia AGO Chapter**) and submit a CD of the required repertoire as listed above. Competitors should perform the same repertoire on the CD and in the live competition. Students should also send a brief biography. All materials must be sent to the chair of the competition and postmarked by **February 1, 2019. DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON THE CD. The recording must have no speaking on it, and each piece must be a continuous, unedited performance.**

Frances M. Webb  
Chair, *Young Organist Competition 2019*  
92 Currant Lane  
Columbia SC 29210-3521

Deadlines

The postmark deadline for submission of the application, the \$35 entry fee (**check made payable to the Greater Columbia AGO Chapter**), the CD, and the biographical information is **February 1, 2019**. The semi-final round will be judged by a committee of organists from the Greater Columbia AGO Chapter. Students will be notified of audition results by **February 16, 2019**.

## Photocopies

The use of photocopied or other illegally reproduced copyrighted scores without the written permission of the copyright holder is prohibited and will disqualify a competitor from participation in the competition. (Exceptions to this rule apply only to reductions for performance and to pages duplicated for the purpose of facilitating page turns. In such cases, the competitor must have the original score with her/him.) Upon request, a page turner will be provided for both the practice session and the competition.

## Recordings

Personal recordings and photographs are not allowed during the competition. The competition will make an official recording of the competition. Students may request that a copy of the CD be mailed to them.

## Applause

The competition is open to the public. No applause is permitted between the two compositions and the hymn but applause is encouraged at the end of each student's complete performance.

## Prizes

The first place winner will receive \$1500, the second place winner \$1000, and the third place winner \$750. The hymn-playing award will be \$250 and is given separately from the repertoire award. The award for the best performance of a work by Bach is \$250. The winner of the first place award will be expected to return to Columbia during the next AGO program year to perform a solo recital. A write-up of the event and picture of the winners will be submitted to the AGO magazine, *The American Organist*.

## Disqualification

A competitor will be disqualified for failure to abide by the rules. Disqualification will be determined by the Committee on *The Young Organist Competition 2019*.

## Withholding Prizes

The judges shall reserve the right to withhold any or all prizes

## Ties

In the event of a tie for first place, a run-off shall be held immediately. Competitors shall repeat their entire programs.

## Results

The judges will deliberate immediately following the performances, and winners will be announced promptly