

American Guild of Organists – Twin Cities Chapter

2024 Competition in Organ Performance

Eligibility

1. Competitors must reside (either home or school) in the North Central Region: Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska.
2. Competitors must be under 24 years of age as of August 1, 2024
3. Previous First Prize winners of this competition may not compete again.

Registration

1. Competitors must submit the following items as application to the competition chair via a secure link provided by TCAGO.
 - official online registration form
 - official proof of age (photocopy of driver's license, birth certificate or passport)
 - \$25 non-refundable registration fee (online payment)
 - biography (PDF)
2. Applications must be submitted by **10:00 pm, CST, Sunday, February 18, 2024.**
3. Membership in the American Guild of Organists *is* required to compete.

Repertoire

1. REQUIRED: A prelude and fugue OR two contrasting movements of a Trio Sonata by J.S. Bach. (BWV 582 is acceptable; BWV 553-560 and 572 are not acceptable.)

Select from *two* of the categories below:

2. A work composed between 1800 and 1900 (a single movement of a larger work is acceptable).
3. A work composed between 1900 and 2000 (a single movement of a larger work is acceptable.)
4. A work composed between 2000 and 2024

Works chosen in categories 2, 3 and 4 must be contrasting in style, mood and technique.

Competition Performance

1. Total performance time of the three works must not exceed 40 minutes.

2. The three works may be played in any order preferred by the competitor.
3. Competitors will be screened from the view of the judges but may be visible to the audience.
4. Once submitted, changes in repertory are not permissible.

Practice Schedule

1. Three hours of practice time on the competition instrument will be given to each competitor. The competitors may be given additional practice time to be divided equally among all the competitors if there is sufficient time.
2. The competition chair will contact competitors approximately 3 weeks prior to the competition to set up practice times.
3. The practice schedule determined in advance of the competition cannot be changed, unless there is an emergency or other unforeseen circumstance.
4. When competitors arrive for their practice time they will be assigned memory level(s) and draw lots for the order of performance.

Day of the Competition

Competitors will be given 15 minutes to warm-up on the competition instrument. The competition chair will determine a schedule for warm-up and performance and inform the competitors of their assigned warm-up and performance time once the lots have been drawn.

General Rules

1. The recording of performances is not permitted during the competition.
2. Applause is not permitted during the competition.
3. The use of photocopied scores is strictly prohibited and will disqualify the competitor. Exceptions to this rule apply to reductions and pages duplicated for the purpose of facilitating page turns.
4. Competitors may play from a tablet or other digital device. If so, they must certify the following:

If the performance is from a tablet/digital device using electronically/digitally stored and accessed scores, the scanned copy must be the competitors legally owned or downloaded copy, which includes 3 possible scenarios:

- A scan made from the competitor's legally owned physical paper score.
- A digital score purchased by the competitor from a publisher.
- A downloaded IMSLP score or other score that is in the public domain and free to use without copyright restriction.

5. The competitor may arrange for an assistant, other than their teacher, to play brief passages with various registrations so the competitor can judge the balance of the instrument in the room during the practice period, and to turn pages during practice and performance. The competition chair will secure this assistant if requested to do so with no less than one weeks notice.

Assistants may not give any kind of assistance in the way of pulling stops, engaging pistons or reversibles, etc during the competition performance. The assistant is prohibited from advising the competitor in any way.

6. The competition chair will provide the judges with scores for each work to be performed. The competition chair may request additional scores from the competitor for this purpose. All borrowed scores will be returned at the conclusion of the competition.

7. A competitor may be disqualified for failure to abide by these rules or for actions in conflict with the spirit of the competition. Disqualification will be determined by mutual agreement between the chair of the competition and the dean of the TCAGO.

8. The judges may choose to withhold either or both prizes.

9. The competition will be held even if there is only one competitor.

Judges

1. Three judges and an alternate will be selected by the competition chair and approved by the Executive Committee of TCAGO.
2. No past or present teacher of a competitor, or any other teacher associated with a school attended by a competitor, will serve as a judge of the competition.
3. No judge or member of the competition committee will stop the performance of any competitor.
4. The competitor's score will be reduced if the 40 minute time limit is exceeded.

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