



## The Arthur Poister Scholarship Competition in Organ Playing

301 Crouse College, Syracuse University  
Syracuse, New York 13244-1010  
[poistercompetition@gmail.com](mailto:poistercompetition@gmail.com)  
[www.syracuseago.org](http://www.syracuseago.org)



August, 2017

2018

Dear Colleague:

The Syracuse Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, in cooperation with the Syracuse University Setnor School of Music, is pleased to announce the 2018 Arthur Poister Scholarship Competition in Organ Playing. The 2018 competition reflects significant changes in the rules in order to make the finals a more exciting and rewarding experience for both finalists and audience members. The following is a summary of the changes:

- **Three finalists** will be chosen to compete on Friday, April 13, 2018 at a public event at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Syracuse, NY. Finalists will be in full view to the judges and audience throughout the finals.
- The following prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of the finals:
  - First Prize: \$3500, funded by the Arthur Poister Endowment Fund of Syracuse University, and a recital engagement on the historic and fully restored Crouse College Holtkamp organ at Syracuse University's Setnor School of Music in Autumn 2018.
  - Second Prize: \$1000, funded by the Arthur Poister Endowment Fund of Syracuse University.
  - Third Prize: \$500, funded by the Syracuse Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.
  - Audience Prize: \$500, funded by the Syracuse Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

We are pleased to announce the judges for the final round will be Katharine Pardee, faculty member and fellow of the University of Oxford, England; Andrew Scanlon, Assistant Professor of Organ and Sacred Music at Eastern Carolina University; and Todd Wilson, Head of the Organ Department at the Cleveland Institute of Music. As in the past, the preliminary round will be judged anonymously by local judges.

Organists who have not reached their 30<sup>th</sup> birthday before April 13, 2018 are eligible to compete. Contestants are to submit a recording on CD of their chosen compositions from the required categories. All entries must be postmarked by February 3, 2018. A non-refundable entry fee will cover the cost of returning recordings and the judges' critiques.

An application and detailed contest rules are enclosed. The enclosures may be reproduced as necessary. Copies of this entire mailing are also available for download on the Syracuse AGO website: [www.syracuseago.org](http://www.syracuseago.org)

Very truly yours,

The 2018 competition committee:

Will Headlee	Ben Merchant
Anne Laver	Jared Shepard

Enclosures

Application  
Certification of Recorded Performance  
Rules for the Preliminary Competition  
Rules for the Final Competition  
Arthur Poister Obituary (TAO, May 1980)