

**THE ARTHUR POISTER SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION
IN ORGAN PLAYING
RULES FOR THE FINAL COMPETITION
2018**

1. Finalists must notify the Competition Coordinator of their willingness to compete by March 5, 2018. If any finalist declines to participate, the next highest ranking competitor may be eligible.
2. Finalists will compete on Friday, April 13, 2018 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Syracuse, New York. A specification of the 2002 Quimby organ is available on the Syracuse AGO website: www.syracuseago.org. Each finalist will play the same compositions presented in the preliminary competition. Total time at the bench, excluding initial piston preparation, shall not exceed 30 minutes. The finalist will determine the order of the pieces.
3. Each finalist will receive three hours of practice time on Thursday, April 12, 2017 and two hours on Friday, April 13, 2017. No one may be present with the finalist during the practice times. Upon request, a member of the competition committee will be available to play passages to allow the contestant to assess balance and registration from the audience. Personal recorders are allowed during practice. The organ has an early recording/playback sequencer.
4. Finalists may have the assistance of a page turner, provided by the Competition Committee, but not an assistant for registration.
5. The order in which the contestants perform will be determined by drawing numbers upon their arrival in Syracuse.
6. Finalists are allowed to play from photocopies or reduced scores, but must demonstrate possession of a published score for all material under copyright. The competition committee may request additional copies of hard-to-find scores for judges (these may be published scores or fair use photocopies).
7. The following prizes will be awarded by the at the completion 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.
 - Audiece Prize: \$500, funded by the Syracuse Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.
8. The judges for the finals are 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. Judges' and finalists' biographies will be posted on the Syracuse AGO website prior to the finals. Finalists will be in full view to the judges and audience throughout the finals.
9. All finalists must provide a short biography and a color headshot of portrait/reproduction quality in JPG format, for publicity purposes by March 5, 2018.
10. Every effort will be made to house the finalists in Syracuse AGO members' homes (three nights maximum), if requested. Travel expenses incurred by finalists, to a maximum of \$200, will be reimbursed upon submittal of receipts. The Syracuse Chapter will not assume responsibility for any additional expenses incurred by the finalists.
11. Failure to abide by any of these rules will result in the disqualification of the competitor.