

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

1. Organists who have not reached their 30th birthday before April 13, 2018 are eligible to compete. Previous first place competition winners are not eligible.
2. Contestants are to choose three sharply contrasting compositions for organ solo consisting of:
 - a. a major work by J.S. Bach (i.e. a Prelude/Toccatina/Fantasia and Fugue, Concerto, or a Trio Sonata)
 - b. a work by a romantic composer
 - c. a work composed after 1930.

NOTE: one of the selections must be in a quiet lyrical style. Every effort should be made to select contrasting pieces for categories 'b' and 'c' in order to create a varied program.
Total performance time shall not exceed 30 minutes.
3. Performances of the chosen compositions are to be submitted on a stereo CD-R. Be advised that a poor quality recording may make it impossible to accurately evaluate your performance. Personal recorders are suspect and poor microphoning is detrimental. The recording is to be continuous; that is, there is to be no editing or splicing within each composition or movement. For purposes of this competition, partitas or sets of variations are considered to be a single movement. The recording may be stopped only between movements or compositions. There must be no speaking voice on the recording. **The CD-R should be labeled only with the names of the compositions, in the order of the performance.** Nothing shall have been recorded before December 1, 2017. Use of any electronic or computer means *for preparation of the playing on the recording* (including, but not limited to, MIDI, sequencers, computer programs, etc.) is absolutely prohibited.
4. In addition to the recording, the following items must be submitted:
 - a. a completed application.
 - b. the Confirmation of Recorded Performance, with signatures. *One of the signatories should have been present during the recording. This might even be your page turner, though we'd prefer one of the people listed on the form. Adjust the form as needed.*
 - c. a proposed recital program of approximately 60 minutes which the contestant would be prepared to play in Autumn 2018 in Syracuse on the Holtkamp organ in either Crouse Auditorium or Hendricks Chapel. *Your name should not be on the program.*
 - d. a photocopy of a birth certificate, driver's license, or passport. (giving date of birth)
 - e. a stoplist(s) of the instrument(s) used for the recording with the builder's name and year, without reference to location or opus number of the organ.
 - f. the non-refundable entry fee of \$50.00, in the form of a personal check or money order (US banks only), payable to "Syracuse AGO, Poister Fund". Entries are to be **postmarked** no later than February 3, 2018. Mail to: Poister Competition, c/o Prof. Anne Laver, 301 Crouse College, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 13244-1010. Recordings received without items listed above will not be judged.
5. Submitted recordings will be judged by the Poister Competition Committee. Three finalists will be chosen to compete on April 13, 2018. Competitors will be contacted by February 26, 2018 as to whether or not they have been selected as a finalist.
6. Preliminary contestants are asked to provide one copy of any organ score to which the preliminary judges might not have easy access. *When in doubt, send a score.*
7. Failure to abide by any of the above rules will result in disqualification.