

## 2009 AGO/QUIMBY REGIONAL COMPETITIONS FOR YOUNG ORGANISTS

THE PURPOSE OF THIS COMPETITION IS TO ENCOURAGE YOUNGER ORGANISTS TO PURSUE EXCELLENCE, TO GAIN PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE AND TO RECEIVE RECOGNITION FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS. THESE COMPETITIONS BEGIN AT THE CHAPTER LEVEL AND CONCLUDE AT THE NINE REGIONAL CONVENTIONS. THE WINNER OF EACH REGIONAL COMPETITION WILL BE INVITED TO PERFORM AT THE 2010 NATIONAL CONVENTION IN WASHINGTON, D.C. THE AGO/QUIMBY REGIONAL COMPETITIONS FOR YOUNG ORGANISTS ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY A GENEROUS GRANT FROM MICHAEL QUIMBY, PRESIDENT, QUIMBY PIPE ORGANS, INC.

### JUDGES' INSTRUCTIONS:

Each judge is expected to provide signed comments to competitors concerning their performances. These comments should be of a positive and constructive nature rather than destructive, and should in no way ridicule the performer. It is our goal to make these auditions both motivating and encouraging – please remember to point out what is done well in addition to what needs work. Judges should allow for a tasteful difference of opinion in matters of style, interpretation, registration, etc. The coordinator will tell you the order in which each competitor's pieces will be played before he or she begins. Please write comments for each piece performed. Verbal discussion with the competitors is also encouraged.

Things to consider:

- Accuracy
- Rhythmic security and freedom
- Tempo
- Phrasing and articulation
- Registration
- Awareness of stylistic period
- Musicianship and imagination

Assign points for EACH PIECE according to the following guide:

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|----------|--|
| 90 – 100 | Outstanding performance, with few or no accuracy problems. Excellent sense of tempo, articulation, style, etc. All factors working together! |
| 80 – 89  | Very good in most respects, but still needs work in one or more areas.   |
| 70 – 79  | More problems with accuracy, rhythm, etc.; needs even more work.   |
| 60 – 69  | Many difficulties.   |

Please remember that outstanding performances can occur at any playing level – points should be given based on the quality of the performance, not the difficulty level of the music. The focus should be on achieving excellence at whatever level the competitor plays at, not about rewarding ambition that results in a compromised performance.