

The American Guild of Organists

announces the

2018 AGO STUDENT COMMISSIONING PROJECT

**Grants of \$1,000 awarded to four collaborative composer-and-organist pairs
for the composition and performance of new works for the organ**

ELIGIBILITY

All applicants—composers and organists—must be enrolled as full- or part-time students at an accredited U.S. college, university, or conservatory. There are no restrictions with regard to compositional style, and the composer need not be an organist. Membership in the AGO is not required. In addition to creative vision and performance ability, applications will be judged on the evidence of a sound working relationship between the composer and organist.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Each composer-and-organist pair will submit one joint application. The following application materials must be submitted online at Agohq.org/ago-student-commissioning-project/. Each completed application will include:

1. One sample score demonstrating the composer's best work in any genre.
2. A statement (not more than one page) by the composer, describing the proposed work and expressing his or her interest in writing for the organ.
3. A statement (not more than one page) by the composer and/or organist, describing how their specific partnership will enhance the compositional process and the performance.
4. A sample recording by the organist, no longer than twelve minutes in length, demonstrating his or her performance abilities. Repertoire performed may be in any style.

DEADLINES

Application materials must be received at AGO Headquarters on or before September 30, 2017. Grant-winners will be announced before October 31, 2017. The completed score must be approved by the New Music Committee on or before April 1, 2018.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

- Four grants of \$1,000 will be awarded to four composer-and-organist pairs. Each award will be shared evenly between the composer and organist (\$500 each), half of which (\$250) will be presented upon selection for the award; the other half will be presented to both parties upon successful execution of the premiere and two subsequent performances within six months.
- The project is an exercise in creative partnership over the course of the 2017–18 academic year. Accordingly, an existing work will be ineligible for submission.
- The project embraces new creative approaches in music making and encourages applicants to “think outside of the box.” It is expected that each composer and organist will already be familiar with his or her partner's goals and skills, and that they both embrace the challenges and opportunities of working as a duo.
- The premiere of the new work must be completed before June 1, 2018, with two subsequent performances completed before August 31, 2018. In the event of failure to submit the score and/or complete the performances by the above deadlines, the awarded funds must be repaid in full.
- Information regarding award-winners, performances, and completed compositions will be provided at Agohq.org, on the page for New Music. Awarded composers will be given the option of posting their full compositions for free download from the website, or sample pages alongside contact information for interested parties to purchase scores directly from the composer.

Eileen Hunt, AAGO

Vice President/Councillor for Competitions
eileenhunt.ago@gmail.com

Randall Harlow

Committee on New Music
randallharlow@hotmail.com