

The AGO Committee on New Music is pleased to announce the
**2020 AGO/ECS PUBLISHING AWARD
IN CHORAL COMPOSITION**

Seventeenth Biennial Competition

Award

- \$2,000 commission for a new work for SATB choir and organ with congregational participation, utilizing the text of either of the two poems below.
- Performance at the 2020 AGO National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia
- Publication by ECS Publishing Corporation

Commission

Composers will propose a commission for a work for SATB choir and organ with congregational participation, utilizing the text of either of the two poems below. The piece should be between five and eight minutes in length, and the organ must play a significant role. There are no restrictions with regard to compositional style. The submitted proposal should reflect the composer's compositional strength and interests. The work should be of the highest quality and suitable for concert and liturgical performance by moderate to advanced choirs.

Eligibility

Composers of all ages are welcome to enter, and the applicant need not be a member of the American Guild of Organists. Previous winners of the AGO/ECS Publishing Award in Choral Composition may not enter. Prior organ composition experience is not necessary and will not hinder consideration of an application.

Application Materials and Deadline

A completed online application has four parts (see Agohq.org/new-music-competitions-commissions):

1. An application form.
2. A proposal for commission—not longer than two pages. The proposal should explain why the proposed commission would be an important addition to the repertoire as well as provide insight into your creative thinking as a composer.
3. A one-page résumé.
4. Two sample scores, at least one of which must be less than three years old. One score must demonstrate command of writing for choir. The other must demonstrate command of writing for a keyboard instrument. You may also submit corresponding sound files with either of the scores.

The ancients voice their ageless call;
Through time and space they whisper long
That God is good, and loves us all,
We all belong, we all belong.

In silent, still serenity
God's love is deep, like waters calm
That merge into a rippling sea
Of tender care and healing balm.

For God, through time and endless days,
Bestows on all abundant grace,
And binds us close in countless ways.
For in God's truth we find our place.

In silent, still serenity,
Ancestral voices echo on
And call us to eternity
Where in God's truth we all belong.

July 22, 2011 © Marilyn Biery

Star light, burning bright,
sign of hope in this dark night,
sign of peace and joy and love,
shining in the sky above,
promising, lest we forget,
God is with us, even yet,
calling us to live Love's way,
to be Love's light on earth today.
Gloria in excelsis deo!

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All application materials must be submitted online on or before July 1, 2018. The winner of the commission will be announced on or before September 30, 2018.

Judging and Commissioning Guidelines

A panel of professional composers and performers will evaluate all applications, selecting as a winner a composer who holds the highest potential for producing a lasting contribution to the choral repertoire as well as one that is meaningful to the AGO membership. An advance payment of \$1,000 will be awarded at the time of commissioning. The remaining \$1,000 will be awarded upon receipt of an autographed copy of the completed score, due no later than June 30, 2019. If the commission is not completed on time, the commission advance must be repaid. Arrangements for publication of the winning composition will be made between the composer and ECS Publishing Corporation.

For more information, contact AGO Headquarters or visit the AGO website.

2020 AGO/ECS Publishing Award in Choral Composition
American Guild of Organists
Agohq.org

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