The American Guild of Organists

announces the

2022 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, applications will be judged on evidence of a sound working relationship between the composer and organist.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

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

1. One sample score demonstrating the composer's best work in any genre.
2. A short statement of not more than one page by the composer, describing the proposed work and how working with an organist will facilitate its creation.
3. A short statement of not more than one page by the 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, 2021. Grant winners will be announced before October 31, 2021. The completed score must be approved by the New Music Committee on or before April 1, 2022.

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.
- The project is an exercise in creative partnership over the course of the 2021–22 academic year. Composers without a composition already in mind can propose a creative process that will result in the final composition. An existing work is 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 work must be accepted by the AGO New Music Committee by April 1, 2022, and premiered (or at least performed) by June 1, 2022. The organist must provide a video recording for posting on the AGO website. In the event of failure to submit the score or perform the work by the above deadlines, the awarded funds must be repaid in full.
- Information regarding award winners, performances, and completed compositions will be posted on AGOhq.org, in the Competitions and New Music section of the website. 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.

AGO Committee on New Music
Louise Mundinger, *Director*
David Hurd • Carol Feather Martin • Alexander Meszler