

## **AGO Scholarship Audition Rules 2020**

Due to the current coronavirus situation and social distancing requirements, the San Diego AGO Scholarship Auditions on May 9 and the AGO/Spreckels Honors Concerts at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion (originally scheduled for May 31 and June 14) as live, in-person events have been cancelled.

We will be hosting “virtual” auditions this year instead of live auditions. Students will submit video recordings of their performances for review by the San Diego AGO Education Committee. This will allow students to show a sample of the work they have accomplished this year. Students will also submit a short, written statement about their musical work this year and what they hope to accomplish in the upcoming year. All students who submit a video recording and statement will receive a scholarship (amounts will vary by performance category: Novice, Intermediate, Advanced).

These virtual auditions follow the social distancing requirements that we all must practice at this time.

### **APPLICATION FEE**

We have eliminated the application fee to make the auditions available to all interested students, regardless of their current financial situation. We want to encourage students to begin or continue their organ studies and work toward a goal of musical excellence during these difficult times.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Applicants must be residents of San Diego County or study regularly with a San Diego AGO member teacher. Applicants may be of any age.

### **LITERATURE**

Music which you have previously performed for San Diego AGO Scholarship Auditions is not eligible.

### **AWARDS**

Scholarship awards will be sent directly to the student’s teacher. Teachers must be members of San Diego AGO.

**REGISTRATION OPENS:** May 1, 2020

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** June 1, 2020

**HOW TO APPLY:**

- 1) Complete the registration form online at:  
<https://lesliewolfrobb.wufoo.com/forms/z9trkl1vtz9t7/>
- 2) Once we receive your registration, you will be sent instructions for submitting your video.

**WHAT TO PERFORM:**

Instead of our usual requirements (2 pieces and a hymn for organists), each applicant will play just ONE piece, regardless of whether he/she has already studied organ or not. Since we know that not everyone has access to an organ during COVID-19, applicants may play a piano piece or an organ piece. Applicants who do not have access to an organ may play just the “hands” part of an organ piece and perform it on the piano. All students in a level will receive the same scholarship amount - this is not a competition.

**VIDEO RECORDING GUIDELINES**

- Your recording device may be a cell phone, tablet, camera, etc. You do not need to rent or buy fancy recording equipment. We will refer to the recording devices as "cameras."
- Find an optimal fixed point of view for your camera with you as the main focus. Leave the camera in one location for the entire duration of your performance. Do not pan, zoom or move the camera. Use of a tripod or stand is recommended to stabilize the image.
- Use a side view that shows hands, fingers, and pedals.
- Ensure the recording captures a good quality image as well as good quality sound.
- When recording with a tablet or cell phone, use the landscape/horizontal mode for best results.
- Make sure that no background noise will interfere with your recording or interrupt the performance. Turn off beeping devices, televisions, and be aware of noisy talking or pets.
- Review your recording before submitting to check sound and video quality.