

Birmingham Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
The Myrtle Jones Steele Organ Award Competition Guidelines

1. A competitor must be under 24 years of age as of August 1, 2020, and must be a permanent resident of the Southeast Region of the American Guild of Organists or a student at a school in this region. AGO membership is not required to participate in the competition.
2. Repertoire: Competitors will perform the following four selections:
 - a. A prelude (or toccata or fantasia) and fugue *or* two contrasting movements of a trio sonata by Bach. BWV582 is acceptable; BWV553 – 560 and 572 are not acceptable.
 - b. Any one work, composed after 1750, of the competitor's choice (A movement of a larger work, such as a symphony, is acceptable.)
 - c. One hymn of the student's choice

The student will introduce the hymn and play all verses as if accompanying a congregation. Published or improvised arrangements may be used for the introduction and any other verse, if desired.

Total performance time should not exceed 40 minutes, including piston setting.

3. A first prize of \$1000 will be granted to the student demonstrating the highest level of technique and musicality for his/her grade. Honorable mention may be awarded in lieu of a monetary prize if the judges deem that none of the candidates are playing on the level that deserves a first place award.
4. The award will be paid directly to the student.
5. Each contestant must provide three copies of the music they will play. Photocopies of the music are acceptable for the judges; however, the performer must have a published copy of their music at the competition.
6. The winner will be selected by three judges.
7. Each contestant will be allowed a maximum of three hours of practice time on the competition instrument.
8. Applications, together with a \$25.00 non-refundable registration fee, should be postmarked no later than two weeks prior to the date of the competition.