

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, 2018, 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 he/she will play. Photocopies of the music are acceptable for the judges; however, the performer must have a published copy of his/her music at the competition.
6. The winner will be selected by three judges.
7. Each contestant will be allowed a maximum of three hours practice on the competition instrument.
8. Applications, together with a \$25.00 non-refundable registration fee should be postmarked two weeks prior to the date of the competition.