



Youth Representative to the Board
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THEATRE ORGAN STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Recognizing a theatre organ student who has demonstrated exceptional commitment to and improvement in his/her theatre organ studies

APPLICATION RULES, PROCEDURES & GENERAL INFORMATION

(Revised January 2012)

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

- 1) The candidate must be a theatre organ student age 27 or younger as of July 1st of the year in which the award will be granted.
- 2) The award is intended for amateur theatre organ students. A candidate will be considered a professional, and thereby ineligible for consideration for the award, if he or she has done any one or more of the following:
 - (a) Appeared as a featured organist at any ATOS convention other than in connection with a competition or contest sponsored by ATOS;
 - (b) Received compensation in the aggregate for any organ performance(s) in a total amount greater than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) during any one calendar year, excluding any prize money received from organ competitions and/or scholarships. Playing the organ for services in a liturgical setting does not constitute an "organ performance" under these rules;
 - (c) Sold or offered for sale to the general public organ recordings of his or her playing for the organist's financial benefit; OR
 - (d) Performed or performs regularly on the theatre organ for pay before the general public in any restaurant, pizza parlor, theatre, or other public entertainment venue.

- 3) The candidate must be actively in continuous study with a professional theatre organ teacher for at least one (1) year.
- 4) The candidate must have demonstrated a significant dedication and a desire to advance his/her skills as a theatre organist.
- 5) The candidate must have demonstrated a significant improvement in his/her abilities as a theatre organist within the year preceding nomination for the award.
- 6) Any candidate who has previously received this award in the last two (2) years shall be ineligible for further consideration.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

In order to be considered for this award, a candidate must be nominated by either him/herself or by a third-party nomination from an organ instructor, friend, parent, or other ATOS member. If a nomination is made by a third-party, that party must be a member in good standing with ATOS.

If a candidate wishes to nominate him/herself, the applicant must submit the following materials to the Youth Representative:

- 1) A Student of the Year application, completing pages one and three only, typed or neatly written in blue or black ink;
- 2) An essay and/or résumé not to exceed a total of two (2) double-spaced typed pages describing his/her experiences and why he/she qualifies for this award.
- 3) A letter of recommendation from the candidate's primary theatre organ teacher. The letter should discuss his/her interest and dedication to theatre organ studies, the level of his/her involvement or enthusiasm in the theatre organ world, and any other information that would be helpful for the selection committee. The recommendation letter should be signed, and the address and phone number of the writer should be included.
- 4) If the applicant so desires, he or she may include any additional information that he/she feels should be considered.

If a candidate is nominated by a third-party (i.e. organ instructor, parent, friend), the person making the nomination must submit the following materials to the Youth Representative:

- 1) A Student of the Year application, completing pages one and two only, typed or neatly written in blue or black ink;
- 2) A letter recommendation discussing the candidate's interest and dedication to theatre organ studies, the level of the candidate's involvement or enthusiasm in the theatre organ world, and any other information that would be helpful for the selection committee. The recommendation letter should be signed and dated.
- 3) If the person making the nomination so desires, he or she may include any additional information about the candidate that he/she feels should be considered.

All applications and supporting materials must be emailed or postmarked no later than TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2012.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

- 1) The Youth Initiatives Committee, along with the Youth Representative, shall evaluate each candidate's submission and shall select the recipient of the award not later than May 20 of each calendar year. If the Committee and Youth Representative feel that no candidate meets the eligibility requirements, no award shall be presented in that year.
- 2) If any member of the Youth Initiatives Committee has recommended a candidate for the award, he or she shall not participate in the evaluation or selection of the recipient of the award.

Other Information

- 1) A wooden plaque will be presented to the recipient at the ATOS Annual Convention Awards Ceremony.
- 2) The recipient will receive one-year complimentary membership to ATOS.
- 3) The recipient will receive a complimentary banquet ticket in order to personally accept the award at the Convention Awards Ceremony. If the recipient is not in attendance at the Convention and is unable to personally accept the award, the plaque will be mailed to the recipient.
- 4) The recipient of the award is strongly encouraged to submit an article for publication in THEATRE ORGAN regarding his/her experiences in studying the theatre organ
- 5) Any questions about this award should be directed to the Youth Representative to the Board.