

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

MARGARET SMITH McALISTER SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

The American Guild of Organists, Tampa Chapter, in order to assist and promote the study of the organ as a classical and/or ecclesiastical instrument, is offering scholarship support for qualified students to begin private lessons. The awarding of a scholarship will be governed by the following guidelines:

CANDIDATES

1. Will be under twenty-one (21) years of age at the time of taking up the scholarship.
2. Will reside in Hillsborough or Pasco County (unless attending school out of the area).
3. Will be a non-organist or a beginning student of the organ.
4. Will have attained a reasonable level of piano proficiency (see audition requirements below).
5. Will be able to demonstrate a serious interest in organ study and an appropriate willingness to dedicate the necessary time and energy to this end. A minimum of 5 – 8 hours of practice per week is expected.

THE SCHOLARSHIP

1. Will be in the amount of \$750.00 and will cover the cost of as many lessons as may be agreed upon by teacher and student. All other costs or materials will be the responsibility of the student.
2. May be applied only to study with qualified instructors as approved by the Guild. The Guild will supply a list of such instructors upon request.
3. Will be paid by the Guild directly to the instructor. The instructor will be expected to bill the Guild and to submit a brief progress report at least quarterly.
4. Will be withdrawn should the student fail to attend lessons regularly or to maintain the expected level of practice allotment.

SELECTION FOR A SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

1. Interested candidates must submit an entry form to the Guild to the address above or scanned to vbhoward@gmail.com. This form includes a statement of intent, a description of the candidate's previous musical experience, and a plan as to where and how much the candidate intends to practice. At least one letter of recommendation from the present instructor or someone else familiar with the candidate's musical background and abilities should accompany the proposal.
2. On the scheduled audition date, the candidate(s) whose entries have been accepted by the Guild will be auditioned at the piano. *Candidates may play any part of their audition at the organ at their discretion.* Candidates will be expected to perform all of the following:
 - A) one of the Two-part Inventions of J. S. Bach, or an equivalent work demonstrating hand independence.
 - B) a hymn in four voices, selected from one of the five hymns included with this material.
 - C) a piece of the candidate's choice, at the level of early Mozart or Haydn.
 - D) a brief passage of sight-reading, at a level similar to the above.
3. It is expected that the scholarship award recipient(s) will begin study no later than six (6) months following the audition/award date.