

**2021 AGO / QUIMBY REGIONAL COMPETITIONS FOR YOUNG ORGANISTS
“SCRIPT” FOR CHAPTER COMPETITION COORDINATORS**

Remarks prior to competition performance:

- Welcome to the competition.
- Announce the performance schedule of the competitors.
- Generous sponsorship of the AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists comes from Michael Quimby, President of Quimby Pipe Organs, Warrensburg, Missouri.
- RCYO is a two-part process:
 - Each contestant participates in a chapter-level competition held in the Region between February 12th to mid-April this year.
 - Name the states (and countries, if applicable) included in the Region.
 - First-place winner at the Regional level is invited to perform as a “Rising Star” at the 2022 National Convention in Seattle Wa. RCYO ends at the regional level, and competitors do not advance to a national competition.
- No recording is allowed.
- Judges may not speak to audience members until after the competition results have been announced.
- Each competitor’s program should be announced; for example, “Competitor X will play the following pieces in this order...”. Be careful to **not** refer to competitors as he or she.

Remarks after competition has concluded & coordinator is ready to announce results:

- Introduce and thank the judges and competitors.
- Encourage the competitors to speak with judges about their performances.
- Comment sheets will be distributed later by the Competition Coordinator.
- Announce the winners: second-place, then first-place.
- Reiterate that the first-place winner at the Regional level is invited to perform as a “Rising Star” at the 2022 National Convention in Seattle Wa.
- Encourage chapters to sponsor the winner of the Regional Competition in recitals throughout the region following the competition. These future recitalists should be remunerated appropriately if they do not have a set fee.

2021 AGO/Quimby RCYO Instructions for the Judges

The purpose of this competition is to encourage younger organists to pursue excellence, to gain performance experience, and to receive recognition for their achievements. These competitions begin at the chapter level and conclude at the seven Regional Conventions. The winner of each regional competition will be invited to perform at the 2022 National Convention in Seattle, Wa. The AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists are made possible by a generous grant from Michael Quimby, President, Quimby Pipe Organs, Inc.

Judges' Instructions: Each judge is expected to provide signed comments to competitors concerning their performances. These comments should be of a positive and constructive nature rather than destructive, and should in no way ridicule the performer. It is our goal to make these performances both motivating and encouraging – please remember to point out what is done well in addition to what needs work. Judges should allow for a tasteful difference of opinion in matters of style, interpretation, registration, etc. The coordinator will tell you the order in which each competitor's pieces will be played before he or she begins. Please write comments for each piece performed. Discussion with the competitors is encouraged at the conclusion of the competition.

As you judge, consider:

- Accuracy
- Rhythmic security and freedom
- Tempo
- Phrasing and articulation
- Registration
- Awareness of stylistic period
- Musicianship and imagination

Assign points for EACH PIECE according to the following guide:

90 – 100	Outstanding performance, with few or no accuracy problems. Excellent sense of tempo, articulation, style, etc. All factors working together!
80 – 89	Very good in most respects, but still needs work in one or more areas.
70 – 79	More problems with accuracy, rhythm, etc.; needs even more work.
60 – 69	Many difficulties.

Remember that outstanding performances can occur at any playing level – points should be given based on the quality of the performance, not the difficulty level of the music. The focus should be on achieving excellence in performance at the level the competitor plays and not ambition that results in a compromised performance.

2021 AGO/QUIMBY RCYO OFFICIAL JUDGING FORM

While there is no mandatory method of judging, each judge must be consistent, using the same method of evaluation for all competitors.

Each judge is to assign points for each piece, based on the scale in the judges' instructions. Following the competition, the judges will total their points for each competitor and rank them 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. based on the point totals. The competition coordinator will then total the rankings (not the total points). In the event of a tie for the lowest ranking point total, the judges will decide the winner by consensus. First and second prizes will be awarded according to the order of ranking point totals (lowest to highest) unless the judges decide by consensus to withhold either prize due to lack of merit.

Comments: Each judge is expected to provide written comments to competitors concerning their performance. These comments should be of a positive and constructive nature rather than destructive. Judges should allow for a tasteful difference of opinion in matters of style, interpretation, registration, etc. Comments should be signed by the judges. Verbal discussion after the competition is also strongly encouraged.

Competitor (# in order of appearance): _____

Bach work _____
Points _____

A work composed after 1750: _____
Points _____

Sonata in Sea _____
Points _____

Hymn (circle one of the following): Hanson Place, Slane, Dix

The competitor is expected to introduce the hymn and lead the audience in the singing of all verses; at least the first stanza of the hymn must be played from the version downloaded from Agohq.org. Published or improvised arrangements may be used for the introduction and any subsequent verse, if the competitor desires.

Competitors are to prepare the hymn (in matters of registration, tempo, etc.) as though accompanying a normal Sunday congregation for the competition's given building and space. A competitor's performance is evaluated on execution (consistency of tempo, accuracy of notes, etc.) and appropriateness of artistic choices in relation to tune and text. The competitor is not penalized if planned registration choices do not comfortably coalesce with the size of the singing assembly gathered for the competition itself.

Points _____

Signature of Judge: _____

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Instructions for the Judges for Tallying Points

Each judge will award points for each piece performed, on a 100-point scale as indicated in the judging instructions. Following the competition, **each judge will total the points for each performer and, based on those totals, rank the competitors 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.**

The Competition Coordinator will tally the **rankings** for each competitor and announce the ranking point totals to the judges. First and second prizes will be awarded according to the order of ranking point totals (lowest to highest) unless the judges decide by consensus to withhold either prize due to lack of merit.

Example:

	Ranking from judge 1	Ranking from judge 2	Ranking from judge 3	Total Ranking points	Prizes
Competitor A	1 st	2 nd	4 th	7	Second Prize
Competitor B	3 rd	3 rd	3 rd	9	
Competitor C	2 nd	1 st	1 st	4	First prize
Competitor D	4 th	4 th	2 nd	10	

Order of ranking points, from low to high:

Competitor C: 4 First prize

Competitor A: 7 Second prize

Competitor B: 9

Competitor D: 10