

# ***Electronic Theatre Organ Competition***

## ***2005 Competition Rules***

### **The following rules and requirements have been established for the Competition:**

1. The purpose of the Competition is to showcase the talents of our many talented ATOS members, provide an opportunity for those entering to receive constructive feedback from highly qualified judges, and to have FUN!
2. Participants in the Competition must be at least 13 years of age as of April 20, 2005. Age divisions for entries will be as follows:
  - a. Youth Division, 13 - 21
  - b. Adult Division, 22 and over
3. Up to three places (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup>) may be awarded in each division based on the number of entries. If there should be insufficient entries in any one division, divisions may be combined at the discretion of the Competition Committee. The judges and Competition Committee reserve the right to determine if an entry in any particular division is of high enough standard to win a place in the Competition in a given year.
4. A first-place winner in a division may not enter in that same age division again.
5. The Competition is open to ATOS members and their dependents. For purposes of eligibility, ATOS membership must be current as of the official Competition deadline date of April 20, 2005, and be kept current until the conclusion of the 2005 annual convention. Members may verify the expiration dates of their ATOS membership by checking the "label" on their journal, *Theatre Organ* which lists the expiration date.
6. This is intended to be a competition open to amateur theatre organists. For the purposes of this rule, an entrant will be deemed to be a professional theatre organist, and thereby ineligible for competition, if he or she has done any one of the following:
  - a) appeared as a featured organist at any convention or concert(s) sponsored by ATOS, other than in connection with a "competition" sponsored by ATOS; OR
  - b) appeared as a featured organist, other than in connection with an ATOS-sponsored convention or concert as provided in paragraph a, in an organ concert or other organ performance that
    - a. was open to the general public;
    - b. was advertised to the general public as featuring the entrant; and
    - c. was a performance for which the entrant was compensated in an amount above and beyond that which would reasonably be necessary for reimbursement of travel-related expenses.; OR
  - c) sold or offered for sale to the general public professionally marketed theatre organ recordings for his or her financial benefit; OR
  - d) performed regularly on the theatre organ for pay before the general public in any restaurant, pizza parlor, or other entertainment venue.If your particular situation requires clarification please contact the Committee Chair.
7. Each entrant should be sponsored by an ATOS Chapter whose elected officer will certify that it is a true recording of the entrant under the conditions specified in these rules. ATOS members in areas where there is no ATOS Chapter, or where local Chapter officers are unable to certify an entry for logistical reasons may make alternate arrangements for certification by any ATOS Officer, Committee Member, or the Competition Chairperson.
8. This is a competition featuring music played in a "theatre style" presentation on the organ. All entries must be played in this style on an instrument having no less than two 61-note manuals and 25 pedals. Registration for the submitted selections should resemble as closely as possible those that would be used for the same arrangement played on a theatre pipe organ. The use of

electronic features not traditionally found on a theatre pipe organ will result in disqualification. Such features shall include, but not be limited to, sequencers, playback devices, rhythm units, multi-tracking, and other similar musical enhancement devices. Entries containing the use of any such features will be disqualified.

9. Entry recordings must be submitted on analog cassette tape, mini-disc (MD-80), CD, or DVD. It has been noted in past ATOS competitions that insufficient attention was given to the recording preparation. Talking, traffic or building construction noises during the recording should be minimized to ensure that the recording is of the highest possible quality. This will allow the judges to focus totally on the musicianship of the entrant. A "Recording Requirements and Suggestions" information sheet is included in the entry packet.
10. The following selections will be performed on the recording in the order shown. In all cases, the entrant must supply the title and composer of the selections played. In addition, please indicate the arranger of the music played, i.e., one of the artist, improvised, a teacher's arrangement, a printed arrangement, etc.
  - a. Up-Tempo number or rhythmic selection that could be used as an opening number in a concert.
  - b. Ballad from composers such as Gershwin, Porter, Kern, or the writers of contemporary ballads suitable to be performed on the theatre organ.
  - c. Entrant's Choice selections that the entrant chooses to further demonstrate his/her playing ability.
11. The total combined time for the three selections must not exceed ten (10) minutes exclusive of pauses or breaks between selections. Please allow a 30 second or so break between selections if your entry is submitted on tape.
12. There will be two or more judges who will be knowledgeable in the theatre organ style of playing. The judges' decision will be final. The identity of the judges will be confidential until the conclusion of the Competition. Judging will be accomplished using a point system.
13. Entries must be received by the Committee Chair no later than April 20, 2005 and MUST include the following:
  - a. Recording on approved media
  - b. Completed, signed, and certified official Competition Entry Form

A convenient checklist is provided on the rear of the entry form in order to help insure that your entry is complete.
14. The identity of each entrant will be kept confidential and known only to the Committee Chair. Entries forwarded to the judges will contain only a coded identification number, the make and model of the instrument used, and the selections played. Unless there is an objection by the artist or Chapter submitting the recording, all entries submitted will be sent to the ATOS Archives/Library as a permanent record of the artist's program and entry into the Competition.
15. Each selection will be judged using the following areas and points will be totaled to determine the overall judge's score for each entry. The total score awarded by each of the Competition judges will then be averaged to determine placement in the Competition.
  - a. Accuracy of playing
  - b. Phrasing and dynamics
  - c. Appropriateness of registration and registration changes
  - d. Overall musicality and audience appeal
16. Recognition will be provided to the first, second, and third place winners in each category. Winners will receive an official ATOS Certificate honoring their achievement at the Annual ATOS Convention. For winners unable to attend the convention, the certificates will be mailed to the entrant, or provided for presentation at a local Chapter function. All winners and the judges will be recognized in *Theatre Organ*.