



Tuesday Competition | July 4

Noon-3:00 PM

AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists (RCYO)



Church of St. Louis, King of France

Casavant Frères (1998), III/47

The AGO regional competitions began with the 1992-1994 cycle as an offshoot of the AGO National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance (NYACOP). Prior to 1992, younger players were able to enter NYACOP; however, as NYACOP became more demanding, it was apparent that a separate competition was needed for younger players. Since 2002, the AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young

Organists have been made possible by a generous grant from Michael Quimby, President, Quimby Pipe Organs, Inc. The RCYO competitions are held in odd-numbered years, in two separate stages. The competitions are sponsored and administered by the seven regions of the American Guild of Organists.

Regional Prizes

First Place: \$1,000

Second Place: \$500

Regional Round Repertoire

Competitors will perform five selections, the first three listed below being the same three repertoire selections from the chapter round:

- ▶ A prelude (a toccata or fantasia is acceptable) and fugue, or two contrasting movements of a trio sonata by Bach. BWV 582 is acceptable; BWV 553-560 and 572 are not acceptable.
- ▶ Any one work, composed after 1750, of the competitor's choice. A movement of a larger work, such as a symphony, is acceptable.
- ▶ A contemporary piece of the competitor's choice published after 1950. When choosing this work, competitors should keep in mind the balance of the program.
- ▶ An additional work of the competitor's choice. When choosing this additional work, competitors should keep in mind the balance of the program.
- ▶ A hymn chosen from EVENTIDE, MONK'S GATE, WESTMINSTER ABBEY

The competitor will introduce the hymn and lead the audience in the singing of all verses. Published, improvised, or transposed arrangements may be used for the introduction and any subsequent verse, if desired.

2023 RCYO Committee

Vivienne McKay, Director
Colin MacKnight
Ann Posey



RCYO Competitors

Aaron Looney

Aaron Looney is currently a junior at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Music in church music with an organ emphasis under Catherine Rodland. A native of Bridgewater, Virginia, Aaron's musical interests began at the age of five on the piano before shifting to a passion for organ and choral singing. Aaron performs regularly at St. Olaf and in the Twin Cities on the organ and has the privilege of singing with and managing the St. Olaf Choir. Aaron serves as Student Organist at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in Excelsior, Minnesota.



Laura Smith

Laura Smith is a rising junior organ performance major at Baylor University. A native of Wichita, Kansas, she began her musical studies in kindergarten, and continued to study organ and piano through high school with Anna Jeter and James Knight. In 2020, she won first prize in the Young Organists' Competition hosted by the Greater Columbia, South Carolina, chapter of the AGO. In her first year at Baylor, Laura was honored to perform as a soloist in the School of Music's Centennial



Collage Concert and compete as a finalist in the organ division of the Semper Pro Musica competition as a student of Isabelle Demers. In her sophomore year, she studied with Margaret Harper, and she will study with Jens Korndoerfer in the fall. She is looking forward to participating in the Oundle for Organists summer program in England later in July!

In addition to her studies at Baylor, Laura is the organ scholar for St. Alban's Episcopal Church. When she's not practicing, she enjoys singing with Baylor Bella Voce, dancing, and reading. A life-long writer, Laura recently won a Dorothy Scarborough Prize in Fiction for her short story submission to the 2023 Beall Poetry Festival.

Trevor Good

Trevor Good is an undergraduate student at the University of Kansas majoring in organ performance under James Higdon. He began his organ studies in Springfield, Illinois, under the late Grigory Frederick Guzasky and continued to study under Dale Rogers. Trevor was the winner of the 2021 University of Illinois-Springfield Solo Competition on piano and performed the first movement of Grieg's Piano Concerto with the collegiate UIS Orchestra. He has given recitals in Springfield, both at Westminster Presbyterian Church and on John Brombaugh's renowned Opus 35 at First Presbyterian Church.

