

# Harrisburg Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO)

## Guidelines for Throne Scholarships for Adult Educational Enrichment

### What is the Throne Fund?

In 2011 a gift was given to the Harrisburg Chapter AGO from Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Churchtown from a bequest of Ida Enck Throne who served that congregation as organist. The money was given to help train organists. The Harrisburg Chapter earmarked this fund to promote adult education.

### Purpose of the Throne Fund:

- To provide or help provide assistance for education and / or certification of adult members of the Harrisburg Chapter AGO.
- Training and materials for certification of Harrisburg Chapter AGO through the AGO. This may include but is not limited to:
  - Paying teachers to help prepare and guide through the process.
  - Paying for registration and materials needed to be certified.
- Providing scholarships to the Pipe Organ Encounter Plus (POE+) for adults.  
See additional details below.
- Providing registration assistance for Harrisburg Chapter AGO members to attend educational conferences and workshops on organ related topics.

### What is a POE+

- A 4-5 day event organized by a local AGO chapter under the sponsorship of the national organization.
- A national program sponsored by the American Guild of Organists. Students are admitted to POE+s on a first-come, first-served basis, regardless of attendance at prior POEs, and regardless of state or country of residence, as long as they meet the following eligibility guidelines: Students should be 19 or older, want to play the organ or currently play the organ in a church or synagogue, and be interested in improving their organ skills.
- An event open to organists ranging from beginners (proficient pianists who will learn the basics of organ playing) to advanced.
- Offers instruction in basic technique, pedaling, improvisation and registration for beginners, and skills such as hymn playing, sight reading and transposition (which may lead to qualifying as a candidate for the AGO Service Playing Certificate) for more experienced students. Other topics include a general overview of organ literature, history, and pipe organ construction and design.
- Provides an opportunity for participation in ecumenical worship, so as to experience the role of the sacred musician.
- Most of all, provides a unique opportunity for participants to meet and interact with peers who have similar interests.

**(Continued)**

## **Terms of the Throne Scholarship**

- Applicants must use the attached application.
- Applicants are responsible for registering for event or exam.
- Applicants are responsible for transportation to and from events or exams.
- Applicants must attend events sponsored by the AGO.
- Applicants are responsible for music, organ shoes, and / or other supplies required by teachers and events.
- Applicants will give a written report of their experience to the Harrisburg Chapter Dean upon completion. Submit to Brett Terry, 310 N Third Street, Harrisburg PA 17101 or email to [dean@harrisburgago.org](mailto:dean@harrisburgago.org) (Electronic file emailed is preferred).

**Application form attached.**

**Applications are accepted year-round as opportunities present themselves.**

**Application for assistance should be received at least thirty (30) days before the event to be attended or Certification Exam date. Submit to the Education Chair listed on the guideline application below.**

**Harrisburg Chapter of the American Guild of Organists  
Application for Throne Scholarships**

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Years Studying Piano \_\_\_\_\_ Organ (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Teacher(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Other Instruments Studied \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Years \_\_\_\_\_

For AGO Certification:

AGO Certification Level \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Exam \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Teacher / Coach \_\_\_\_\_ Phone / Email \_\_\_\_\_

Cost of the Certification \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Requested from Throne Fund \_\_\_\_\_

For Other Seminars / Workshops / Etc.:

Which event do you hope to attend? \_\_\_\_\_

Web Address or other information on the event \_\_\_\_\_

Date of the Event \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsoring Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Cost of the Event Registration \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Requested from Throne Fund \_\_\_\_\_

**Commitment statement from student:**

As a participant in this event / certification applicant, I will work to learn about the organ. I will endeavor to bring home what I learn, and, if I am able, to continue to study and work toward proficiency at the organ.

Signature of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Send the completed application to Chapter education chair, Chris Prestia, 750 Greenfield Rd, Lancaster, PA 17601, or email to [chris.prestia@gmail.com](mailto:chris.prestia@gmail.com)