



First Presbyterian Church Music Series

300 West Wayne Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802
260.426.7421

2022 National Organ Playing Competition

Rules governing the 2022 National Organ Playing Competition

1. The finalists who are chosen in the Preliminary Competition will be notified by email immediately following the Preliminary Competition that they are eligible to participate in the Final Competition if they can meet the following additional requirements:
 - a. Finalists must be available to compete in the First Presbyterian Church of Fort Wayne on Saturday, March 26, 2022 beginning at 1:00 p.m. Confirmation must be made no later than March 1, 2022.
 - b. Finalists must agree to complete advance practice and registration of Final Competition works on the Aeolian-Skinner organ in the First Presbyterian Church of Fort Wayne in advance of Saturday, March 26, 2022.
 - c. Finalists must be available to return to play the winner's recital at First Presbyterian Church of Fort Wayne on a Sunday afternoon in the Fall of 2022.
 - d. The first-place winner is required to arrive in Fort Wayne no later than midnight, two days prior to the announced recital date, in order to devote one full day plus the day of recital to prepare the recital.
2. Finalists will be required to play the three works listed on their application, all of which were recorded for the Preliminary Round. Trio Sonatas must be played with all repeats with deference to rule number 4.
3. Finalists will be given 5 hours of practice time on the Sanctuary organ split between Thursday the 24th and Friday the 25th. Each finalist will be given fifty levels of memory and the ability to use the play back system so that they can hear their own playing out in the room. Additional practice time will be scheduled on the Chapel organ and other downtown instruments. On the morning of the Contest Day, March 26, each finalist will have forty-five minutes available on the Sanctuary organ for last-minute preparation. During the competition itself, each contestant will be allowed forty-five minutes total time for setting pistons and playing. Any contestant who continues to play after the forty-five minute period has expired will be asked to stop playing.
4. If a finalist cannot register and perform the three contest pieces in a maximum of forty-five minutes, reasonable "cuts" must be pre-determined. Finalists are required to provide three copies of each of their contest pieces, excluding the Bach piece, for the use of the

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Brent L. Neuenschwander, Director of Music Ministries and Organist
Kathryn A. Miller, Assistant Organist

judges; and any “cuts” must be marked in the judges’ copies. Finalists must, however, be prepared to play the sections marked as “cuts” if requested by the judges.

5. Finalists may have the assistance of one other person in the Sanctuary during rehearsal periods to help in determining proper balance in registrations, as many recitalists normally do. However, this person cannot be anyone directly related to the judging or administration of the Preliminary or Final Competition. On the day of the competition, finalists may have a page turner; but this person cannot be the finalist’s present or former organ teacher. If you would like, the competition committee can provide a page turner for you. No one other than the finalist and page turner will be allowed in the organ loft during the contestant’s performance. The duties of the page turner are to turn pages only and not help with registration in any way.

6. All contestants are required to remain on the grounds of First Presbyterian Church until the winners have been announced. If the judges’ point scores indicate a tie for first or second place, the judges will be obliged to decide how they wish to break the tie. Sometimes the judges elect to invite two contestants to repeat a performance of one of their pieces, so it is important that the contestants be available.

7. The first-place winner of the 2022 National Organ Playing Competition will be presented in recital in the fall of 2022, as a recitalist on the 2022-2023 First Presbyterian Church Music Series. The competition winner and a representative of the Music Committee prior to the recital date will sign a contract for this engagement. Presentation of the \$2000.00 cash award will be made following the recital.

8. The second-place winner will be awarded a cash prize of \$1000.00, which will be mailed immediately following the competition.

9. The third-prize winner will be awarded a cash prize of \$500.00, which will be mailed immediately following the competition.

10. The audience prize winner will be awarded a cash prize of \$500.00, which will be mailed immediately following the competition.

11. All finalists will be sent checks following the March 26, 2022 competition to cover travel expenses up to \$200 with well documented receipts. In addition, housing will be provided with either church members or local organ enthusiasts, unless a contestant wishes to arrange hotel accommodations at his/her own expenses.

12. The first-place winner will be requested to prepare program notes for the recital program.

13. The first-place winner of the National Organ Playing Competition will be ineligible to enter this contest in the future.