

First Presbyterian Church
2018 National Organ Playing Competition
Preliminary Competition Rules

Required Repertoire:

- A. One of J.S. Bach's Six Sonatas, BWV 525-530
- B. A work in the Romantic idiom
- C. A contrasting work to the piece chosen for categories A and B, that is written by a different composer, and demonstrates the competitor's ability to present a stylistically varied program incorporating both **lyrical** and **virtuosic** elements.

Rules

1. Contestants are eligible if they are 35 years of age or younger on March 17, 2018.
2. Preliminary contestants are required to submit a CD or digital .mp3 recording of performances of the three required pieces. In the Preliminary Competition, work "B" is to be a single movement only, but it may be a movement from a multi-movement work. Compositions employing additional instruments will not be accepted. Digital recordings may be emailed to cvaught@firstpres-fw.org; or sent via Dropbox, Google Drive or any other file sharing source.
3. Entries must arrive on or before Thursday, February 1, 2018, and must meet all of the requirements specified in the stated rules to be accepted as entries in the preliminary round. Recordings received without items 5a through 5f listed below will not be judged. You will receive an email confirmation once your recordings arrive. **All submitted recordings must consist of performances recorded no earlier than August 1, 2017.**
4. The recording of each composition must be continuous. There is to be no splicing or editing within each piece. It is permissible to stop the recording between movements of the Bach Trio Sonata. The recording must contain no speaking by anyone.
5. In addition to the recording, the following must be submitted (files may be scanned and emailed as a .pdf):
 - a. Contestant's Application form providing all requested information and signatures.
 - b. A completed and properly signed Confirmation of Recorded Performance form.
 - c. A proposed recital program of no less than 60 minutes and not more than 75 minutes playing time, which the contestant would be prepared to play on a recital as part of the First Presbyterian Church Music Series in fall of 2018. Please include at least two of your contest pieces in the proposed program. Organ works for both the competition and the recital will be subject to the approval of the First Presbyterian Church Music Staff.
 - d. A biographical sketch describing musical training, a list of public performances, competition experience, positions held, career goals, etc.

- e. A stop list of the organ used for the recording including builders name and year
- f. A seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) entrance fee, paid via Paypal or mailing in a check or money order. If you would like to pay via Paypal, go to the church website at www.firstpres-fw.org, click donate, mark that this is a special gift and specify organ competition. Checks may be mailed to:

National Organ Playing Competition
First Presbyterian Church
300 West Wayne St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

- 7. Recordings entered in the Preliminary Competition will be judged by a panel of musicians and three finalists will be chosen to compete at the First Presbyterian Church on Saturday, March 17, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. Travel expenses will be covered for the finalists. Another panel of musicians will judge the Final Competition. Judges at the Preliminary and Final Competition will not be informed of the contestant's identity until the judging has been completed.
- 8. Preliminary contestants will be notified as to whether or not they have been selected as finalists immediately following the Preliminary Competition. If any preliminary contestant who is selected as a finalist is unavailable to compete on Saturday, March 17, 2018, or if any preliminary contestant who is selected as a finalist chooses for any reason not to participate in the Final Competition, the next-highest-ranking contestant will be eligible to compete in the Finals.