**The 2021 Lois Conboy Memorial Young Artist Award**

The Rhode Island Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (RIAGO) is pleased to announce its **2021 Lois Conboy** **Young Artist Award**.

The Reverend Thomas Conboy, Jr. wanted to memorialize his wife, Lois, by having RIAGO grant awards in her name. Read Lois’ biography in the succeeding pages. It is the Chapter’s desire to support young artists who wish to pursue the organ as a career.

***Eligibility***

The Award is open to any undergraduate, graduate student or graduate who is a New England native or resident, and is or has been or will be enrolled in a program of organ study at a University, Conservatory or College, or is a graduate of any music program.

**Required Application Materials**

Digital video recordings may be provided via a private YouTube link, along with all other applications documents in standard email.

1. ***Digital video recording:*** Prepare a high-quality digital video recording on a pipe organ to include the following repertoire in the order listed. Separate movements may be recorded in separate takes; however, there is to be no splicing or editing within movements or compositions. The Bach selection and the Romantic/20th century selection may be recorded on different instruments (please provide specifications for both instruments). Total playing time must not exceed 30 minutes.

**Repertoire Guidelines**: One complete piece (or movement) from each category:

a. **Baroque.** Any Prelude/Toccata/Fantasia and its appropriate Fugue by J. S. Bach (including the “8 Little Preludes and Fugues" often attributed to Bach) or two movements (slow and fast) from one of the six Trio Sonatas by Bach.

b. **Romantic/20th Century.** One complete movement (or one complete shorter piece) from symphonies, sonatas, chorale-based pieces, etc., by composers whose works are representative of the 19th- and early 20th-century idiom.

c. **Hymn.** An introduction and two (2) verses of a hymn of your choosing, as you would play it to accompany congregational singing. Photocopy of the hymn as printed. Do not include more than two verses in your submitted recording.

2. ***Organ Information Sheet.*** Please include the location, stop list, number of manuals and stops/ranks, and builder of the pipe organ used for your recording.

3. ***Confirmation of Recorded Performance.*** Complete the Confirmation of Recorded Performance Page. It must be signed by the performer and a witness to the performance. If two different organs are used, complete a separate form for both recording sessions. This document with signatures can be scanned and sent with other required materials via email or Dropbox.

4. ***Written Essay.*** Write a brief essay (100-300 words) in which you address the following topic:

The Young Artist Award is created in part to address a decline in the number of young people entering the music profession as organists. Upon completion of your studies, how do you envision yourself contributing to the viability of organ performance and/or church music as a sustainable career choice? Are you involved in any such activities at the present time?

5. ***References.*** Two references from current or recent organ teachers or music professionals, with their contact information (e-mail and telephone).

**Application Checklist**

🞏 Digital Recording YouTube private links

🞏 Organ Information Sheet

🞏 Hymn photocopy

🞏 Application Form (two pages)

🞏 Confirmation of Recorded Performance

🞏 Written Essay

🞏 References

*PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT MORE THAN THE REQUESTED MATERIALS/DOCUMENTATION*

**Electronic Submission**

Contact the Awards Coordinator at [RIAGO.Awards@gmail.com](mailto:RIAGO.Awards@gmail.com) if you have any questions on uploading your digital video to YouTube and/or making it an ‘Unlisted’ link. This email address can also be used for any questions you have with the submission process. When submitting your application please write YOUNG ARTIST APPLICATION SUBMISSION in the subject line.

**Deadline:**

All materials MUST be received at the email address above by May 1, 2021. Incomplete/late applications will not be considered.

**Judging:**

All materials will be reviewed by the Lois Conboy MemorialAwards Committee and a Panel of Celebrity Judges. A decision will be made on or before June 1, 2021. If, in the opinion of the Committee, no applicant meets the criteria and standards for this award, no award will be given. All applicants will be notified by mail/telephone/email of the results of this award. The judgment of the Committee is final.

**Award:**

One Young Artist Award of $1,200.00 will be given to the applicant who demonstrates the strongest skills as an organist and musician, with regard to musical sensitivity, playing style, appropriate registration for each piece, and potential for future growth and development. The Young Artist Award winner will be asked to submit a photo and short biography for publicity purposes and will be invited to perform in a RIAGO sponsored recital in the fall of 2021 at a mutually convenient date and time for both parties at a venue chosen by RIAGO. In addition, in the future the recipient will be asked to write a brief article for the RIAGO Newsletter, telling us about how the award helped your advancement.

**Questions?**

Write to [RIAGO.Awards@gmail.com](mailto:RIAGO.Awards@gmail.com) and address your questions to the Awards Coordinator regarding requirements of the Awards or any other questions.

**Lois Conboy** started taking organ lessons in Junior High School. She attended Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey, focusing on Organ and Choral Conducting. Her education was interrupted upon marrying The Reverend Thomas Conboy, Jr., and was completed by her graduation with a degree in Education from California State University (PA) and a later Master of Education. Moving to Rhode Island in 1972 when Rev. Conboy became Pastor of Calvin Presbyterian Church in Cumberland, Lois oversaw the selection and installation of the new organ in their newly constructed church. She served as volunteer Organist/Choir Director at Calvin for over 15 years, and during those years spent every “vacation Sunday” playing at other churches. After retiring from Calvin, Lois served as interim, and in her last years in RI served as Organist/Choir Director at the Community Church of Providence. Lois loved RIAGO and was active in workshops and conventions, but most of all, she enjoyed and cherished the friendship and fellowship of the Guild.

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**APPLICATION FORM**

*Primary Contact Information*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Date |  |
| Address |  |
|  |  |
| City/State/Zip |  |
| Email |  |

*Student Status (check on and complete)*

|  |
| --- |
| * I am a high school student and have been accepted to attend \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the fall of 2021. My intended major is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I expect to graduate in (year) \_\_\_\_\_ with a (degree) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. |
| * I am enrolled (as of fall 2021) as an undergraduate at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. My major program is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I expect to graduate in (year) \_\_\_\_\_ with a (degree) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. |
| * I am enrolled (as of fall 2021) as a graduate student at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. My major program is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I expect to graduate in (year) \_\_\_\_\_ with a (degree) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. |
| * I have graduated from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ degree, majoring in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Other pertinent information or clarification: |

*School History (list schools attended, with dates, and names of organ/piano teachers with whom you studied during that time)*

|  |
| --- |
| High School/end date/teacher(s): |
| Undergraduate/end date/teacher(s): |
| Graduate/end date/teacher(s): |

*Repertoire Submitted*

|  |
| --- |
| Bach: Complete title/BWV/Edition Used – |
| Romantic/20th Century: Title/Composer/Dates/Edition Used – |
| Hymn: Title/Composer/Dates/Edition Used – |

*Personal/Professional References*

|  |
| --- |
| Reference No. 1: Name/Relationship to you/Address/Email/Phone – |
| Reference No. 2: Name/Relationship to you/Address/Email/Phone – |

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**CONFIRMATION OF RECORDED PERFORMANCE**

This is to confirm that the submitted recording of the two required organ pieces being sent to The 2021 Lois Conboy MemorialAwards Committee is an unaltered, representative performance made on

(date) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at (location) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (print name of applicant)

hereby declare and confirm that the submitted recording is an unaltered recording of my own performance that is continuous, and that is unedited within each piece.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature Date

WITNESS

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (print name of witness)

hereby declare and confirm that the submitted recording is an unaltered recording of each piece, the performance that is continuous, and that I was present during the recording session.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness Signature Date

NOTE: If the recordings submitted have been recorded on different dates and locations, please submit this page in multiples as needed.

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**WRITTEN ESSAY (100-300 words)**