

**Rules Governing the Wells Competition for Young Organists
First United Methodist Church
Lubbock, Texas**

Saturday, April 18, 2009

1. Eligibility

Competitors must have been born in or between the years of 1984 and 1991.

2. Preliminary Taped Round

The competitor shall send in a CD, which must arrive in Lubbock, Texas before **January 30, 2009**. The recording must have been recorded between the dates of November 1, 2008 and January 30, 2009. The recording must contain the unedited playing of the competitor only. A completed and signed application must accompany the CD along with a \$30 non-refundable registration fee and a photocopy of an official document with proof of the competitor's date of birth. Competitors failing to meet these requirements will not be considered. The preliminary round is anonymous; therefore, the recording should not be labeled with any information about the competitor.

3. Repertoire for Preliminary Recorded Round

Competitors will perform four works:

- a. Two contrasting movements from a Trio Sonata of J. S. Bach.
- b. Sonata No. 3 by Felix Mendelssohn (in its entirety)
- c. A work written after 1930

The recorded entry shall not exceed 30 minutes.

4. Repertoire for the Final Round

- a. Any major Prelude and Fugue by J. S. Bach
- b. A work written between the dates of 1870 and 1970
- c. A work written since 1970

Total performance time, including space between pieces shall not be less than 30 nor more than 40 minutes. Failure to comply strictly with time limits will count against the contestant.

5. Notification

Three finalists will be chosen from the Preliminary Recorded Round. Competitors will be notified of the judging decision no later than February 27, 2009. The Preliminary Judging Committee reserves the right to cancel the contest if there are not enough suitable applicants. If chosen as a finalist, the competitor must be able to compete in Lubbock on **Saturday, April 18, 2009**.

6. Transportation and Lodging

Each of the finalists will receive assistance for transportation and lodging. Travel expenses to and from Lubbock will be reimbursed up to \$600. The Wells Competition for Young Organists will provide transportation and lodging within the city of Lubbock.

7. Practice Time/Forrest Memorial Pipe Organ

Each finalist will be allotted a maximum of four hours of practice time on the Forrest Memorial Pipe Organ on the Thursday or Friday preceding the competition (April 16 or 17, 2009). Each finalist will receive the complete specifications of the Forrest Memorial Pipe Organ. Each competitor will be assigned an ample number of memory levels and must register the repertoire without assistance.

8. Competition

Each competitor will receive 30 minutes of warm-up time on the morning of the competition. The competition will be open to the public; applause, however, is not permitted. An experienced page-turner will be provided for each finalist during the actual competition. The performance time (including bench adjustments and registration settings) shall not exceed 40 minutes. Competitors will be screened from the judges but will be visible to the audience.

9. Awards

Each competitor will attend the awards ceremony immediately following the competition. The awards shall be distributed as follows: a.) \$2,500 Grand Prize, b.) \$1,200 Second Prize and c.) \$800 Third Prize. The Grand Prize winner may also be invited to perform for First United Methodist Church's Vesper Concert Series.

10. Judging

Both the Preliminary Recorded Round and the Final Round will be judged by a set of three judges (different for each round). Memorization of the selections is not required and will not influence the decision of the judges. The chosen judges will be knowledgeable in the areas of musicianship and performance practice. Timothy Albrecht will chair the panel of judges for the Final Round. The decision of the judges is final and they reserve the right to withhold any and all prizes.