

IL-ACDA Choral Composition Contest

Entry Requirements and Guidelines

All composers with an Illinois connection – i.e. residency, education, employment - are invited to submit works to Illinois-ACDA's annual Choral Composition Contest to earn a \$1000 prize!

The winning composition will be premiered at the Illinois-ACDA Retreat in Summer 2020.

Entry Deadline is April 1, 2020.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER?

- a) All composers with an Illinois connection (see above) who are age 18 or older by the entry deadline.
- b) Anyone who is not currently an officer of IL-ACDA.
- c) Anyone who has not previously won the IL-ACDA composition contest within five preceding years.

WHAT ARE THE COMPOSITION CATEGORIES AND PRIZES?

- a) A \$1,000 prize will be awarded to the winning composer. Only one prize will be awarded.
- b) The winning composition will be premiered at the IL-ACDA 2019 Summer Convention/Retreat.
- c) Composers may submit as many compositions as they wish. Each composition must be treated as a separate entry, accompanied by the required entry materials.

WHAT ARE THE COMPOSITION REQUIREMENTS?

- a) Duration: approximately 3-8 minutes.
- b) Voicing for 2020 Contest: or SATB voicing, divisi acceptable
- c) Accompaniment options: 1. Unaccompanied/a cappella 2. Piano 3. Organ
- d) Text may be secular or sacred and may be in any language. An English translation must be provided for any text not in English.

e) If the composer is not the author and copyright holder of the lyrics submitted or the lyrics are not in the public domain, the composer must enclose a written statement of permission signed by the copyright holder.

f) Composers are at liberty to choose the composition's style and form.

WHAT ARE THE ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

In addition to meeting the composition requirements above, submitted works:

a) Must be original, not an arrangement of another composer's work.

b) Must not be a commissioned work.

c) Must currently be unpublished and must not be published prior to July 1, 2020, including self-published.

d) Must not be performed publicly prior to July 1, 2020.

e) Must not be recorded or broadcast prior to July 1, 2020.

f) May not have won or placed (second, third, honorable mention, etc.) in any prior composition contest.

g) Must not be entered in other contests between entry to IL-ACDA and July 1, 2019.

WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF MATERIALS?

a) The following items must be submitted with each composition:

1. Electronic submission in pdf format via e-mail

2. A legibly completed entry form.

3. Additional documentation (if applicable):

a) English translation for any text not in English.

b) Written statement of permission signed by the copyright holder, if the text is under copyright protection. Entries printed using music notation software are encouraged. Legibly handwritten entries are also acceptable. A manuscript size of 8-1/2"x 11" is preferred.

c) The composer's name and any other identifying information must not anywhere on the music.

d) The composer's name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address should appear only on the entry form. The judge will not have access to the entry forms until the final decisions have been made. No recordings will be accepted.

e) Compositions must be e-mailed. Faxed applications will not be accepted.

f) Each composer will be notified by e-mail of receipt of the entry.

- g) The following will be considered ineligible: 1. Late entries 2. Incomplete entries 3. Illegible copies 4. Any entries with composer identification on the scores 5. Entries which do not follow submission requirements.
- h) All decisions of the contest committee are final and may not be discussed with the applicants.

HOW WILL THE ENTRIES BE JUDGED?

- a) Entries will be judged by the Choral Composition Contest Committee of IL-ACDA.
- b) If, in the opinion of the judges, no composition meets the expected standards, no award will be given.
- c) Criteria for selection include evidence of a unique creative voice and of choral compositional ability, as well as suitability for performance.
- d) The decision of the contest committee will be final and no correspondence may be entered into regarding the award.

HOW WILL THE APPLICANTS BE NOTIFIED OF RESULTS?

- a) All applicants will be notified of contest results by mail no later than June 1st, 2020.
- b) A public announcement of the winning composers will be made at the IL-ACDA Summer Retreat/Conference in June 2020. Winners also will be announced after July 1st, 2020 on the IL-ACDA website.
- c) Each winning composer will be contacted by IL-ACDA to follow through on details about:
 - 1. Distribution of prize money. A check will be awarded upon completion of items b and c below, at the IL-ACDA Summer Retreat/Conference.
 - 2. Agreement of rights. The composer will be required to sign a form confirming the items stated in sections 8) and 9) below.
 - 3. Final version of score and parts. The composer must provide a new score bearing the composer's name and appropriate dedication. (see section 8a)

WHAT RIGHTS ARE GRANTED TO ACDA-ILLINOIS?

- a) The following dedication must be included in all subsequent manuscript and published editions of the winning compositions:
Winner of the 2020 ACDA Illinois Choral Composition Contest
- b) IL-ACDA will have the right to make copies for distribution to the members of the summer 2020 IL-ACDA performing chorus, its conductor, and accompanist. Use of the winning composition will be strictly limited to the Retreat/Conference, unless permission of the composer is granted.
- c) The winning composer will be asked to provide biographical information for publicity purposes. IL-ACDA will have the right to use the composer's name and composition title in the future IL-ACDA communications.
- d) The winning composer will be asked to be present for the award in person, if possible, at his/her own expense.

WHAT RIGHTS ARE GRANTED TO THE COMPOSER?

- a) Copyright ownership will be retained by the composer.
- b) Publication rights will be retained by the composer.
- c) The composer will be given the privilege to display/advertise other compositions at the IL-ACDA Retreat.

WHAT IS THE CONTEST CONTACT INFORMATION?

E-mail: [**donald@donaldfraser.com**](mailto:donald@donaldfraser.com)

Phone: **(608) 219-2814**

Donald Fraser, Chair, Illinois-ACDA Choral Composition Contest