



THE GUILD OF TEMPLE MUSICIANS

Ben Steinberg Young Composer's Award

2020 Information Page

Purpose of Award: The Intention of the GTM Ben Steinberg Young Composer's Award is:

- ♫ To encourage gifted young Jewish composers to create worthwhile and appealing music for Jewish worship and Jewish concert programming;
- ♫ To encourage the composition of musically literate, Jewishly appropriate musical settings which will be of lasting, practical use for religious services or concert performances, following the compositional form and design to be announced each year;
- ♫ To encourage Jewish communities throughout North America and beyond, to listen to, perhaps participate in, and above all to value Jewish musical expressions of quality which are reflective of its own time.

Composition Requirements:

The 2020 requested work is a piece (or pieces) 3 - 8 minutes in duration for an advanced volunteer choir (adult or children's), with keyboard accompaniment. A cappella works are admissible but must include a rehearsal keyboard part. The piece may include a cantor solo and can include the addition of a single instrument.

Text can be taken from any Jewish source (liturgy, sacred or study texts, poetry). Text can be in Hebrew, English, Yiddish, or Ladino or any appropriate combination of these languages.

While we encourage applicants to explore using Jewish modes and traditional nusach in their work, we will be looking at how pieces demonstrate sensitivity in text setting, combining accessibility with sophistication.

Because of the length of the requested work, and in our attempt to create new music that is usable in today's synagogue and by other musical institutions such as school choirs, an option for applicants to consider is submitting multi-movement pieces, where each movement can be performed grouped together or on their own as individual pieces.

1) Scores must be notated in full by the composer and contain all necessary dynamics, tempi, etc. (chorded "charts" or tapes are unacceptable). Composers must submit pdf files of their scores (with the composer's name appearing only on the first page of the score) and a recording of a live performance or MIDI rendition of their submission.

2) Candidates may submit more than one entry in any given year. A previous winner of the award may submit new work in future years, but no candidate may win the award more than twice.

- 3) Submitted pieces must not have received an award in any other competition and be unpublished at the time of the scheduled performance in San Diego at the ACC/GTM conference.
- 4) The jury reserves the right not to award a prize in any given year, or to declare co-winners and/or honorable mentions.

The Award:

- ♪ Cash prize between \$1,500 and \$2,500 (the jury will determine the amount of the award based on merit and if there is a desire to award more than one composer);
- ♪ A performance of the winning piece(s) or a portion of the winning piece(s), at a North American Jewish Congregation or at the American Conference of Cantors/Guild of Temple Musicians National Convention in San Diego between June 28 - July 2, 2020 (specific place and date of premiere to be determined by the GTM);
- ♪ Transportation and accommodation costs within North America for the winning composer to attend the premiere, at which he/she agrees to be present;
- ♪ Automatic submission of the winning piece to Transcontinental Music, for publication consideration;
- ♪ One year's free membership in the Guild of Temple Musicians.

Qualifications of Candidates:

Applicants should be Jewish composers from any country, at least 18 years of age by the submission date, and born on or after January 1, 1984.

Criteria For Selection of Winning Entry:

- 1) Musical worth (the value of the piece's potential contribution to the field of Jewish Music);
- 2) Judaic appropriateness (Hebraic accuracy, stylistic understanding etc.);
- 3) Practical usability (the possibility of further performances).

Submission Directions:

Submissions (pdf versions of the score, BSYCA Application and recording files) are to be sent via email to David Shukiar, GTM Vice President in charge of Special Programs at: david.shukiar@thegtm.org AND dshukiar@adatelohim.com.

*If further questions arise, David Shukiar may be reached by e-mail at david.shukiar@thegtm.org and dshukiar@adatelohim.com. Submission deadline for pieces: **NO LATER THAN** Friday, August 2, 2019 at 11:59 pm, pacific standard time.*