

San Diego AGO Scholarship Auditions 2026 Rules and Policies

Date: Saturday, May 30, 2026

Location: Clairemont Lutheran Church

Application Dates:

Applications open April 1, 2026 and must be submitted online at <https://agosd.org/education> The application deadline is Friday, May 1, 2026. If a participant is under 18 years of age, a parent must submit the application.

Application Fee:

Application fees (\$40.00 per student) should be paid online at <https://agosd.org/education> The deadline is May 1, 2026.

1. Organists may be of any age and will play two pieces in contrasting styles and a hymn. The maximum performance time is 15 minutes. It is not necessary to use the entire 15 minutes. Please prepare to play an introduction and two stanzas of the hymn, as for congregational singing. **Please note the requirements for the hymn at each level.** At the Intermediate and Advanced levels, pieces must be from two different periods or in contrasting styles.

Please refer to the **AGO Scholarship Repertoire Requirements** for details (available on our website at <https://agosd.org/education>). Literature in the repertoire requirements is intended to serve as a guide to entering a student at the appropriate level. It is not necessary to play a piece that is listed. Memorization is not required.

2. Pianists may be of any age and will play one piece. The maximum performance time is 5 minutes. Pianists will be auditioning for introductory organ lessons with a qualified AGO instructor. Pianists may only receive an award once for participation on piano. To be eligible for an award in the second year, participation in the second year must be on the organ. Memorization is not required.

3. Adjudicators' comments will be sent to teachers.

4. Performers 21 years or older may participate in the auditions as many times as they wish, but will only be allowed to receive tuition grants a maximum of three times.

5. Students must use their scholarships to study with a teacher who is a member of San Diego AGO or to assist with the cost of attending an organ workshop or camp. Students who need financial assistance to attend a Pipe Organ Encounter are strongly encouraged to apply for a scholarship from AGO National. See <https://agohq.slideroom.com/#/login/program/86003> for details. At the present time our teachers do not teach farther north than Rancho Bernardo, farther east than Santee, or farther south than downtown San Diego. Students who are not able to travel to one of these locations for lessons should consider participating in a different AGO chapter's auditions. A complete list of chapters in our region is available at <https://www.agohq.org/Ago/Ago/About/Chapters.aspx?hkey=7b124631-8cdb-4c69-8bd3-751e4856e916>

6. Participants must be residents of San Diego County or study regularly with a San Diego AGO member teacher.

7. Practice time will be available at the host church so that teachers can help their students prepare.

8. Tuition checks for students who receive awards will be mailed directly to the teacher, POE site or other organ camp of the student's choice by June 30, 2026.

9. The highest-performing organists (high school age and younger) from each division will be invited to perform in an honors recital as part of a Sunday 2:00 pm concert at the Spreckels Organ Pavillion. These concerts will be on June 7 and June 14.

10. The Spreckels Organ Society will present additional awards to the top student in each of the divisions (Novice, Intermediate, Advanced). These will be presented as part of the San Diego International Organ Festival concerts (Monday evenings in the summer).

11. If you have questions, please contact Leslie Wolf Robb, San Diego AGO Education Coordinator, at education@agosd.org. Our goal is to create an event that will be a positive experience for all who participate. Let's work together to continue to encourage organ study in San Diego! Thank you in advance for your participation.

San Diego AGO Education Committee