

different from the two hymns chosen for S2 and S5. He or she will play two stanzas as though leading a large, enthusiastic congregation. Use of pedals for at least one stanza is mandatory. Some contrast in the presentation of the two stanzas is expected, as is sensitivity to the text.

S10. (10 points) Postlude repertoire, one piece from the group not chosen for S1 or S7.

EXAMINATION DATES

Service Playing Test: October 1 of the current year through April 30 of the following year.

ELIGIBILITY

Members in good standing of both AGO and NPM are eligible for the Service Playing Test. (Non-members of AGO are also eligible, but there is a surcharge. Membership in NPM is required for NPM certification.)

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Write to the American Guild of Organists National Headquarters (address below), after annual membership dues are paid in NPM, for application forms and a manual of procedure. *Specify on the completed form your request for dual certification.* The completed application may be submitted between September 1 of the current year and March 1 of the following year. Tests are to be taken at any AGO chapter where a suitable organ and recording equipment are available, since the tests are recorded and the recordings are sent to AGO National Headquarters for evaluation.

Association Addresses

American Guild of Organists
National Headquarters
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260
New York, NY 10115
Phone: (212) 870-2310
Fax: (212) 870-2163
E-Mail: info@agohq.org
Web: www.agohq.org

National Association of Pastoral Musicians
962 Wayne Avenue, Suite 210
Silver Spring, MD 20910-4461
Phone: (240) 247-3000
Fax: (240) 247-3001
E-Mail: NPMSing@npm.org
Web: www.npm.org

EXAMINATION FEE: \$100

Surcharge from non-members of AGO: \$100. All checks must be sent to AGO National Headquarters and be made payable to the American Guild of Organists. Fees should be sent with completed application forms. Checks must be dated by application deadline. Requests for cancellation of any examination must be received by AGO Headquarters one full month prior to the examination date, in order for a refund to be issued. In the case of all examinations, there is a non-refundable portion (\$20) of the fee. The same AGO fee applies for re-examination.

CERTIFICATES

Service Playing Certificates will be issued to those who obtain at least 50% of the points for each item within a section and 70% of the total maximum marks within each section.

PREPARATION

A *Service Playing Certificate Test Study Guide* and other preparation materials may be obtained from AGO National Headquarters.

EXAMINATION WORK SHEETS

Candidates for the Service Playing Test will receive judges' comments as a matter of course.

EXAMINATIONS FOR THE VISUALLY CHALLENGED

Examinations for the visually challenged are available. Requests for such examinations must be received in writing by February 1.

NPM/AGO

Service Playing Certificate

for Roman Catholic Organists



This revised American Guild of Organists service playing exam allows members of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) to choose specific examples typical of the musical demands in Roman Catholic parishes. The candidate's exam is recorded on CD or cassette and sent to be graded by both NPM and AGO representatives.

Candidates who successfully complete the exam will be awarded joint certification from NPM and AGO. Exam requirements and procedures are described in this brochure.

Certificates will be issued to those who obtain at least 50% of the points for each item within a section, and 70% of the total maximum marks within each section.

Information for October 1, 2010, to April 30, 2011. Updates may be found after July 1 at www.agohq.org.

Service Playing Requirements

AGO MEMBERS WHO ARE ALSO members in good standing of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) may obtain Service Playing Certification in both organizations by earning a passing grade on this test. If a candidate intends to pursue dual certification, this must be indicated on the candidate's initial application to AGO Headquarters. In addition, NPM candidates should be careful to prepare the items on the test which are specifically required for dual certification; these are indicated below. The complete tests of candidates seeking dual NPM/AGO certification will be graded by examiners from both organizations. There is no additional fee for this service.

As of October 2009, the contents of the Service Playing Test remain the same as in previous years, but the order in which items appear on the exam is different—more closely approximating their possible ordering in an actual church service. The repertoire pieces are no longer played first as a group of three but separately in the beginning, middle, and conclusion of the test. The candidate will prepare and perform one work (and only one) from each of Groups A, B, and C. The Service Playing Certificate Test shall be recorded on CD or cassette tape at a site with suitable organ and recording equipment, then sent to AGO National Headquarters for evaluation by two national examiners. A proctor will be appointed and will be the only person in the room with the candidate when the test is given. (If a singer is employed for question S3, he or she will be permitted in the room only at that time.)

GROUP A

Any chorale prelude from Bach's *Orgelbüchlein*.

Any fugue by Bach, including the fugues from the so-called "Eight Little Preludes and Fugues," sometimes attributed to Bach.

Any chorale prelude with pedal by Buxtehude (any edition).

GROUP B

A single movement from any work by Mendelssohn other than the hymn-like opening sections of Sonatas 5 and 6.

Any movement with indicated pedal from Vierne's *Vingt-quatre Pièces en style libre* (Durand, Masters Music Publications).

Any one of the Eleven Versets from *Dans la Gloire des Invalides (In the Glory of Les Invalides)* by Dupré, improvisations reconstructed by David A. Stech (Wayne Leupold Editions WL600189).

Any piece from Reger's *30 Kleine Choraltvorspiele*, Op. 135a (Peters No. 3980, or any edition).

GROUP C

Any one of Schroeder's *Six Chorales (Sechs Orgelchoräle)*, op. 11, Schott/Hal Leonard 49003685).

Any movement from Langlais's *Organ Book* (Elkan Vogel 463-00006).

Any piece from *Saint Augustine's Organbook* by Gerald Near (Aureole Edition, AE 86, distributed by MorningStar Music).

Any one of Bloch's *Six Preludes* (G. Schirmer 50328700).

Wayne L. Wold: Trio on People, Look East, from *Light One Candle* (Augsburg Fortress 11-10720).

Candidates seeking NPM certification should either choose a work from the Dupré collection as their Group B piece or a work from the Near collection as their Group C piece. (Or they may choose both.)

S1. (10 points) Prelude repertoire. The

candidate will prepare and perform one work from either Group A, B, or C.

S2. (10 points) Opening Hymn with two transpositions. The candidate will select and use *one hymn* from the 2007 or the 2009 *Revised Examination Hymn Booklet*, which may be requested from AGO National Headquarters. He or she will transpose the hymn into two keys, not more than a major second in either direction. The keys will be chosen (and announced on the recording) by the proctor. The transposed versions are not to be written out in advance, and the hymn is not to be played in the original key first.

S3. (10 points) The candidate will select one of the four psalm accompaniments in the 2007 or 2009 *Revised Examination Hymn Booklet* and will play refrains and two verses of the psalm as though it were being sung in a service of worship. Depending on the candidate's choice of psalm, a singer may be required in order to render a satisfactory performance on the test. (The aforementioned *Revised Examination Hymn Booklets* indicate which psalms require a singer.) If a singer is needed, the candidate may engage (at his or her own expense) any singer, including one with whom he or she performs regularly. Neither the candidate nor the examination proctor may serve as the singer. (The singer will be permitted in the examination room only during this portion of the test.) The identity of the singer will not be revealed on the recording to examiners, in order to preserve the candidate's anonymity. For NPM certification candidates, the required psalm selection is either Psalm 22 (Guimont) or Psalm 33/34 (Gelineau).

S4. (10 points) Choice of one anthem from the following anthem list. The candidate will play the accompaniment as though accompanying a competent choir.

Mathias—As Truly as God Is Our Father (Oxford 9780193853768). (The candidate may choose to play choral parts during the pauses.)

Haydn—Awake the Harp (from *The*

Creation) (G. Schirmer 50293660) or Oxford edition (Creation vocal score, 9780193354715).

Mendelssohn—How Lovely Are the Messengers (from *St. Paul*) (E. C. Schirmer No. 1134).

Near—Adam Lay Ybouden, No. 1 of *Two Carols* (Aureole/MorningStar No. AE 145). The composer suggests a quarter-note tempo of about 120 at the two Allegro sections (m. 12 and m. 39), not 84 as published.

Franck—Panis Angelicus (Bread of the Angel Host) (Oxford 9780193417915, ed. Rutter).

S5. (10 points) Middle Hymn, no required transposition. The candidate will select and use one hymn from the 2007 or the 2009 *Revised Examination Hymn Booklet*, different from the hymn chosen for question S2 above. He or she will play two stanzas as though leading a large, enthusiastic congregation. Use of pedals for at least one stanza is mandatory. Some contrast in the presentation of the two stanzas is expected, as is sensitivity to the text. NPM candidates are required to select "Sing of the Lord's Goodness" from the *Revised Examination Hymn Booklet* to play for S5.

S6. (10 points) Choice of a second anthem from the list at S4. The candidate will play the accompaniment as though accompanying a competent choir.

S7. (10 points) Offertory repertoire, one piece from a group not chosen for S1.

S8. (10 points) The candidate will sight-read a short passage of music. The candidate's grade will be based on his or her ability to maintain the indicated tempo with accuracy of notes and rhythm. (The sight-reading question and information regarding examination procedure will be sent from AGO Headquarters to the chapter dean prior to the test date.)

S9. (10 points) Closing Hymn, no required transposition. The candidate will select and use one hymn from the 2007 or the 2009 *Revised Examination Hymn Booklet*,