



# THE GUILD OF TEMPLE MUSICIANS

## Ben Steinberg Young Composer's Award

### 2017 Information Page

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#### 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 2017 requested work is a piece (or pieces) 4 - 8 minutes in duration for an advanced volunteer SATB choir, a capella (with rehearsal keyboard) or with keyboard accompaniment. The piece may include a cantor solo and can include the addition of a single instrument. Text can be taken from any Jewish source but must be in Hebrew (we encourage composers to consider how their piece(s) could be included during a Shabbat worship experience). 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. 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 and combines accessibility with sophistication. Applicants should consider one or more of the following musical approaches/techniques: use of counterpoint, interesting rhythmic ideas, and innovative interplay of the voices and/or harmonies.

- 1) Scores must be printed in full by the composer and contain all necessary dynamics, tempi, etc. (chorded "charts" or tapes are unacceptable). Pdf files are preferable to hard copies. The composer's name should appear only on the first page of the score. Midi recordings are welcomed as well;
- 2) Candidates may submit more than one entry in any given year. New submissions may be sent during succeeding years, but no candidate may win the award more than twice;
- 3) Submitted pieces must have been written no earlier than one year before the submission date, and be unperformed as well as unpublished at the time of the scheduled premiere; Applicants

must also ensure that the piece(s) are submitted only for the YCA and no other competitions. The GTM holds exclusive rights to the premiere of the winning composition.

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 premiere 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 Las Vegas between June 25 - 29, 2017 (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, 1981.

### 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 midi files) are to be sent via email to: [david.shukiar@thegtm.org](mailto:david.shukiar@thegtm.org) AND [dshukiar@adatelohim.com](mailto:dshukiar@adatelohim.com) or via snail mail to David Shukiar, Chairman, GTM Young Composer's Award, c/o Temple Adat Elohim, 2420 East Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362.*

*Applicants intending to submit a work should notify the Chairman when this decision is made. If further questions arise, David Shukiar may be reached by e-mail at [david.shukiar@thegtm.org](mailto:david.shukiar@thegtm.org). Submission deadline for pieces: **NO LATER THAN** Friday, July 29, 2016 (postmarked).*