HOW DO I APPLY FOR A CAZAGO SCHOLARSHIP?

Fill out the form https://cazago.org/docs/CAZAGOScholarships.pdf and email it to the Scholarship Chair at scholarship@cazago.org.

Make sure you provide a recommendation letter, preferably from a music teacher but we will consider all applicants and their recommendations.

Finally, meet the Committee to interview and/or audition. The content of your interview/audition will be decided depending on your level of playing. The Committee seeks to maintain a friendly and encouraging atmosphere – making music is sharing passion and beauty, and we all appreciate those who are learning!
DID YOU KNOW THAT CAZAGO OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS TO LEARN HOW TO PLAY THE PIPE ORGAN?

WHAT IS CAZAGO?
CAZAGO stands for Central Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (CAZAGO.org). It is the Phoenix chapter of the AGO, a national professional organization which has been around for over 100 years serving the organ and choral community (AGOhq.org). The AGO has around 15,000 members, and ours is one of approximately 300 chapters around the world. Its mission is to promote organ music, improve members’ proficiency through education, and exchange vast knowledge about organ building, its music and use.

WHAT IS THE PIPE ORGAN?
The pipe organ has a keyboard similar to the piano called a manual, as well as a separate keyboard for the feet to play, called a pedal. Organs are most often found in churches, but they also are in concert halls throughout the world. Pipe organs consist of many pipes, one or more keyboards, a wind system to deliver air to the pipes, and a huge variety of stops (i.e. sounds). With different stops the organ is able to imitate the sound of various instruments, such as oboes, trumpets, violins, flutes, as well as chamber ensembles and orchestras. Some stops create sounds from nature. Really, anything you could dream of!

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT THE ORGAN AND WHY TAKE ORGAN LESSONS?
You can find pipe organs everywhere in the world, and every instrument is completely different. Organists often travel far to play on special, unique or famous instruments. Every organ is like a new book – it has its own fascinating story. The organ has been named the queen of instruments; it can produce a massive and very impressive sound all created by one performer! The large variety of sounds of the organ inspires creativity, and your imagination is the only limit. The organ itself is often a work of art and a hall that contains an organ is a stunning, beautiful sight. If you take lessons and regularly go to a place of worship which has an organ, you will learn how to successfully lead a congregation in singing and how to make music which inspires and transforms people.

WHY DO I NEED A SEPARATE ORGAN TEACHER IF I ALREADY TAKE PIANO LESSONS?
You can easily apply your knowledge of how to play piano to playing the organ. However, the touch of the organ and the way the sound is produced is different than the piano and requires training. It takes training to be able to access all possible combinations of sounds in a given organ, as well as how to play efficiently with your hands and feet at the same time. Your organ teacher will share her/his expertise with you.

WHO IS THIS SCHOLARSHIP FOR?
Anyone who is 18 or under and seriously interested in learning to play the organ can apply for a scholarship!

HOW DO I FIND AN ORGAN TEACHER?
Contact our Scholarship Chair at scholarship@cazago.org or check the current list here https://cazago.org/docs/CAZAGOSubList.pdf. Once you have been approved for the scholarship, the Scholarship Chair and Committee will help you pick an organ teacher.