



## **American String Teachers Association**

### **2010 MERLE J. ISAAC STUDENT COMPOSITION CONTEST GUIDELINES and APPLICATION**

#### **PURPOSE**

To encourage students to engage in the composition of performance quality music for the string orchestra.

#### **PROGRAM**

Student composers, through the age of 18, are invited to submit an original, unpublished composition that is suitable for string orchestra at the elementary/middle or junior high school level. Materials must be postmarked by January 15, 2010.

#### **PRIZE**

Winner.s name will be announced at the National Conference and will receive a cash prize of \$500. The winning composition may be published by any publisher jointly agreed to by the composer and ASTA. Should the winning composition, at some point be published, the publication must carry the designation: .Winner, 2008 Merle J. Isaac Student Composition Contest. on the score and each part. Upon publication, all royalties will remain the sole property of the composer.

#### **SPECIFICATIONS**

Only one entry per composer will be allowed. Manuscripts are evaluated by score analysis and through computer realization, so it is recommended that the composer use one of the primary music writing software programs. The manuscript and parts must not contain any identification of the composer. Length of composition should be appropriate to age level. The manuscript must be clear and legible.

#### **COMPONENTS**

Application - Four (4) copies of the score and three (3) sets of parts (string set 1/1/1/1/1) are required. Application fee: \$25 (non-refundable).

**SELECTION**

The application must include a teacher/mentor recommendation. The teacher/mentor will be required to provide their ASTA membership number. All approved entries will be screened by thorough score analysis by a panel of judges. Compositions selected for the final round will be given a hearing by way of computer realization (see under Specifications). Only the winning composer's name will be announced. The identity of all other contestants will be held in strict confidence. ASTA reserves the right to declare that a winner does not exist if the entry requirements and musical standards are not fulfilled.

**LIABILITY**

Although every effort will be made to protect and safeguard all manuscripts, neither ASTA nor anyone connected with this contest will assume responsibility for loss or damage. It is strongly recommended that contestants keep the original copies of the score and parts.

**2010 MERLE J. ISAAC STUDENT COMPOSITION CONTEST APPLICATION**

Applicant/Composer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Title of Composition: \_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

ASTA ID (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I accept the contest guidelines and terms of publications, and I guarantee the enclosed manuscript is my original work and sole property. This piece is not a commissioned work.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Information**

Check No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Please make check payable to ASTA

Credit Card:  VISA  MasterCard

Card No: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit application to:  
**Merle J. Isaac Junior Composition Contest**  
**ASTA**  
**4153 Chain Bridge**  
**Fairfax, VA 22030**