



THE 2017 CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL ORGAN COMPETITION

NEW \$12,000 AWARD FOR TOP CANADIAN SPONSORED BY THE THE SIR ERNEST MACMILLAN MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

Montreal, March 15, 2016 – Less than a year before the deadline to apply for the 2017 Canadian International Organ Competition (CIOC), the CIOC and the Sir Ernest MacMillan Memorial Foundation are proud to announce a **\$12,000 award for the top Canadian competitor participating in the 2017 CIOC.**

The winner, as chosen by the CIOC jury on behalf of the Foundation as the top Canadian in the semi-final or final round of the Competition, will be announced during the CIOC 2017 Gala Concert.

In addition to recognizing the remarkable talent of the winner this award will **commemorate the exceptional career of Sir Ernest MacMillan (1893-1973) and celebrate the excellence and great potential of young Canadian artists** as part of the **150th anniversary of Canadian confederation**. As CIOC Artistic Director John Grew states, “together, we are building pride in being Canadian musicians, and showing the world the stature of our young organists.”

To be eligible, competitors must include MacMillan’s *Cortège académique* in their program for the semi-final round during the 2017 CIOC. The deadline to **apply for the competition is January 30, 2017**. The Canadian International Organ Competition **covers the cost of travel, accommodation, and provides a daily stipend for all of the candidates selected** to compete in the live rounds of the competition. More information can be found on ciocm.org/register_2017.

THE SIR ERNEST MACMILLAN MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

The Sir Ernest MacMillan Memorial Foundation was created in 1984 to assist young musicians in their advanced education, and in so doing commemorate a great Canadian and his unique career. Past recipients include Jonathan Oldengarm (2000), Marc-André Doran (1989) in organ, Bernard Labadie (choral and orchestral conducting, 1987), Jens Lindemann (trumpet, 1991), as well as Geneviève Leclair (orchestral conducting, 2010), among others.

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The Canadian International Organ Competition, directed by the eminent Canadian organist, John Grew, CM, is a pillar of excellence for the pipe organ in Quebec and around the world. It celebrates the incredible versatility of the King of Instruments with an **annual festival in Montreal each October**, and during their **prestigious triennial international competition**. The next **competition** will take place in **October 2017**. www.ciocm.org.

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