

*Tenth annual*  
~ MUSICAL COMPOSITION CONTEST ~

In 2007, the Wagner College Theatre and Music Departments collaborated to create a musical composition contest in celebration of the Stanley Drama Awards in observance of their fiftieth anniversary. The tenth annual Musical Composition Contest will be judged by a professional panel, a work selected and the winning composition will be performed at the Stanley Drama Awards at the Stanley Drama Awards at the Players Club, 16 Gramercy Park, Manhattan, on March 14, 2016 at 6 PM. Excerpts from the piece may be used on the Stanley Awards Web site for the year following.

GUIDELINES

- **Eligibility.**  
The competition is open to College Community members and alumni, regardless of age.
- **Instrumentation.**  
Works should be for three instruments or less. (A piano is available. The eventual make-up of the ensemble performing the premiere may depend on the availability of musicians.)
- **Duration.**  
The work should be of no more than four minutes duration.
- **Style.**  
The work may be in any musical style but must be written out in a common notational system.
- **Rules for Submission.**  
Works should be submitted under a pseudonym (score and midi file) with an attached envelope, also labeled with the pseudonym. The real name and contact information of the contestant should be sealed inside the envelope. (Midi file on a travel drive or submitted anonymously by email to <rwesby@wagner.edu>)
- **Deadline.**  
Written scores with accompanying midi files should be submitted to Mrs. Gina Mannino, of the Music Department, Campus Hall 109, no later than 4 PM on February 23, 2016.
- **Prize.**  
The winner will be presented with a special certificate and the new work will be premiered at the Stanley Drama Awards at the Players Club, 16 Gramercy Park, Manhattan, on March 14 at 6 PM.
- **Conditions.**  
The winner must agree to the use of his/her music by the Stanley Awards on its web site during the year following the premiere of the work. The work must be newly composed and not have been performed previously.
- **Parameters.**  
The panel of judges will judge the works on their musical quality, originality, and their appropriateness to an occasion and ceremony of this type.
- **Judges.**  
The panel of judges will include faculty from the Music and Theater Departments, a student and two judges from outside the college community.
- **Première Performance.**  
The winning composer should attend the première and may need to assist in procuring musicians/singers for the premiere of the work. The composer is encouraged to attend as many rehearsals as possible and to offer guidance and suggestions.

It was the intention of the founders of this contest that it become an annual event. It has, and the quality of the works and the creativity the contest has sparked have exceeded expectations.

## The Stanley Drama Award

The national competition, administered by Wagner College Theatre Department, was established in 1957 by Mrs. Alma Timolat Stanley, to encourage and support aspiring playwrights. The award carries with it a \$2000 monetary prize as well as the distinction of joining an illustrious list of past winners that includes playwrights such as Lonnie Elder III, Jonathan Larson, and Terrence McNally.

When the original foundation was dissolved in 1987, an endowment was distributed to Wagner College with the charge to use the funds generated to continue the annual Stanley Drama Award. The competition is advertised in several national publications and the number of submissions ranges from 50 to 200 plays annually. The award is offered for an original full length play or musical, or a series of two or three related one-act plays which have not previously been professionally produced or published.

Past judges have included such notable playwrights as Edward Albee and Paul Zindel, actresses Geraldine Page, Kim Stanley, and TV producer David Suskind. Terrence McNally (Tony Award-winner for *Ragtime*, *Master Class*, *Love! Valour! Compassion!*, *A Kiss of the Spiderwoman*), also a 1962 Stanley Award-winner, was the Stanley Award Guest of Honor and Presenter in 1999. In addition to playwrights Elder, McNally and Larson (*Rent*), past winners include Megan Terry and Adrienne Kennedy.