

Mother Mendon Sings Composer's Competition

The deadline for competition entries has passed. (1/15/17)

All applicants should have received a confirmation email of their submission.

*If you have not received confirmation please contact us IMMEDIATELY at
mendon350@mendonma.gov or 508-506-1667*

**Our panel will review the submissions
and we will announce a winner by Mid-February**

**All applicants will be informed as to the status of their entry in writing by
3/1/17 at the latest.**

**We thank you for your interest in the Mother Mendon Sings Concert and the
Mendon 350th Celebrations.**

**For more info on 350th events please visit www.mendon350.com/events
And for more info on the Mother Mendon Sings Concert please visit
www.mendon350.com/mendon-sings**

350th Committee Co-Chairs

Jonathan Dudley
Kevin Rudden



350th Committee Members

Dan Byer - *Secretary*
AJ Byrne

Theresa Clifton
Sharon Cutler

Sorcha DeFrancesco

Dick Ferrucci

Jeanne Fichtner

Kathleen Sedgeley Nicholson

Alan Tetreault

Wayne Wagner

MENDON'S 350TH ANNIVERSARY

Sponsored by:

THE MENDHAM BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH

mendon350.com

20 Main St, Mendon, Massachusetts 01756

mendon350@mendonma.gov

Mendon 350th Composers' Competition

Preamble

The year 2017 marks the 350th anniversary of the establishment of the Town of Mendon, Massachusetts. By following Heine's poetic adage *where words leave off, music begins*, to properly celebrate and secure a fittingly legacy for this occasion, the Mendon 350th Anniversary Committee (aka Mendon 350th) warmly invites all interested parties to submit an original children's choral composition based on the provided text. The text - an excerpt of a formal toast written in 1867 by Putnam W. Taft of nearby Worcester, Massachusetts, namesake of Mendon's Taft Public Library, for Mendon's 200th anniversary celebration - and has been selected to celebrate Mendon's history as a microcosm of American civilization's trials and triumphs. Suitable compositions should be tailored to the abilities of an amateur children's chorus, while contributing an innovative choral score that communicates the content and significance of the text in an authentic and meaningful way.

The selected composition will be premiered by a children's chorus comprised of regional school students, professional accompanist Wayne Ward and conducted by Simeon Morrow. This premier will take place at the "Mother Mendon Sings" concert on March 25, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the Valley Chapel in Uxbridge. The aforementioned composition will be performed during the second half of the Mendon 350th concert on March 25, 2017. At that time, the composer of the selected composition will be awarded \$1000 (in his/her presence or *in absentia*).

Rules

1. Entries must be received by the 350th Committee **BEFORE January 15, 2017**.
2. The duration of the work should be between two (2) and five (5) minutes duration.
3. The work must be based on the provided text and make use of it **in part or in its entirety**.
4. The work must employ children's chorus. Preference will be given to compositions that are accessible to non-trained, school-aged children, the likes of which will premiere the selected composition.
5. The available accompaniment instrumentation is one piano accompanist.
6. Entries must be original and unpublished works.
7. Participants are encouraged to send in a maximum of two other works for SATB chorus and accompaniment for future projects of Mendon 350th. These works will not be considered as entries in the competition.
8. A committee consisting of Samuel Adler and Richard Carroll (Distinguished Jurors), Simeon Morrow (Conductor), Wayne Ward (Accompanist), Joyce Firth and Bill Moffett (Event Subcommittee Members), Kevin Rudden (Mendon 350th Co-Chair) will select the winning work.
9. Digital submissions must be provided in PDF format. The composer's name, his/her correspondence address, and the title of the work must be written on the score. A biography of the composer is requested (in English) along with a headshot. A commentary on the work would be helpful.
10. If the work is selected for performance the composer will provide the performance material before February 1, 2016, preferably by email (in PDF format).
11. The winning composer must agree to the terms of the attached commission agreement and will be required to sign it. The composer agrees to grant the exclusive right to premier the work at the Mother Mendon Sings Concert on 3/25/17. Such performance shall not result in any licensing fees, for the performance, audio or visual recording of the event, and subsequent distribution of those recordings.
12. The composer will retain their copyright on the work but must grant to the Town of Mendon and Mendon Upton Regional School District a perpetual license without any fee or royalty to copy, perform and record the work in a non-commercial and/or educational setting (i.e. School Use and Future Anniversary Celebrations).
13. Scores and questions should be addressed (digitally or by post) to the following address. (Any item sent by post will NOT be returned unless enclosed with a self-addressed pre-paid envelope)

Mendon 350th Composers' Competition
C/O Dan Byer, Mendon 350th
20 Main St.
Mendon, MA 01756

Email: mendon350@mendonma.gov

Mendon 350th - www.mendon350.com

Provided Text

The people learned, on the Sabbath day,
 The golden rule of love,
At the little church with the spire upraised
 Towards the arching blue above:
They built the school-house down by the hill,
 Though the winds blew cold and drear,
The children came, with willing feet,
 From the homesteads far and near.

And the village grew and prospered too,
 Was a place of great renown,
And they sought a name worthy the fame
 Of their busy thriving town;
When the fathers gazed, with conscious pride,
 On each brave and stalwart son,
They gave it a name which suited it well,
 The one it still bears - Mendon(e).

With pleasure to-day we've turned aside
 From the vexing cares and strife,
From the troubles which shadow every path
 'Long the weary march of life;
Our youth days come *back* with magic power,
 As we see each well-known face,
And hearts grow *light* as we gaze upon
 Each well remembered place.

(from a Toast given by Putnam W. Taft, of Worcester, on May 15th, 1867)

MENDON 350th MOTHER MENDON SINGS - COMMISSIONING AGREEMENT

The Mendon 350th Anniversary Committee (hereinafter referred to as “Mendon 350th”), has selected _____ (hereinafter referred to as “THE WORK”) composed by _____ (hereinafter referred to as “COMPOSER”) as the winner of the Mother Mendon Sings Composer Competition.

As conditions of this selection, The Mendon 350th and COMPOSER, both agree to the following terms:

- The WORK is an original and unpublished work.
- The COMPOSER hereby grants to the Mendon 350th the exclusive right to present the premiere performance of THE WORK at the Mother Mendon Sings Concert on March 25th, 2017. In the case of any change of date, the COMPOSER further grants the Mendon 350th the exclusive right to premier THE WORK until January 1st, 2018.
- The COMPOSER hereby grants the Mendon 350th, The Town of Mendon, and the Mendon Upton Regional School District a perpetual license to duplicate, perform, and record THE WORK for non-commercial purposes. This perpetual license shall not result in any fee or royalty charge to the Mendon 350th, Town of Mendon or Mendon Upton Regional School District.
- Three sets of parts and scores of THE WORK shall remain in the possession of the Mendon 350th/Town of Mendon.
- All rights, excepting those noted above, including, but not limited to, ownership of the copyright, title and interest to THE WORK shall remain the property of the COMPOSER.
- The manuscript and all printed editions of THE WORK, as well as scores and parts shall include on the title page or the first page of music, the following inscription: *Commissioned by the Mendon 350th Anniversary Committee for the Mother Mendon Sings Concert on March 25th, 2017 conducted by Simeon Morrow.*
- The COMPOSER agrees to use their best efforts to have the above credit appear on subsequent recordings of THE WORK, the parts and the scores, and in all publicity materials and programs notes for performances of THE WORK.
- The Mendon 350th shall pay the COMPOSER a prize sum of \$1,000 upon the premier performance of the work. The COMPOSER will be considered an independent contractor and this payment is not an offer of employment with the Town and the COMPOSER shall not be entitled to receive any benefits of employment with the Town of Mendon, Mendon 350 and Mendham Brush Association including without limitation salary, overtime, vacation pay, holiday pay, health insurance, life insurance, pension, or deferred compensation.
- The COMPOSER is invited to attend said premier performance to take place on March 25th, 2017 at the Valley Chapel in Uxbridge, MA.
- This agreement constitutes the entire understanding of the parties concerning THE WORK and supersedes any prior oral or written understanding. This agreement may not be modified or amended except by written document signed by all of the parties and shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- If any provision, paragraph, word, section or article of this agreement is invalidated by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions, paragraphs, words, sections and articles shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect.”

Parties	Signature	Date
Mendon 350 th Committee Co-Chairs		
Composer		