

Professor Meilahn P. Zahn Memorial Scholarship

Information Form

for the Advancement of Lutheran Worship in Christian Education

The Zahn family established this scholarship in 2015 in memory of Professor Meilahn Paul Zahn (1905-1982), who served as a professor of music at Dr. Martin Luther College from 1962 to 1977.

Biography: Professor Zahn grew up on small dairy farm near Pickett, Wisconsin. He worked on the farm after finishing elementary school, and years later was persuaded by his piano teacher to attend high school. He enrolled as a high school freshman on his 21st birthday. His pastor saw his musical abilities and arranged for him to continue his high school education at Dr. Martin Luther High School, which led to college at DMLC. He was involved in all things musical in New Ulm and started a choir of 12 men called the Marluts (from MARTin LUTher), which became a fixture at concerts for several decades. He also earned the nickname Smilin' Meilahn.

He served at St. Peter-Fond du Lac WI, Grace-Oshkosh WI, Trinity-Menasha WI, and Michigan Lutheran Seminary before he was called to DMLC, where he directed the traveling choir, taught conducting class, and served as music department chair 13 of his 15 years.

Scholarship winners are undergraduate students who demonstrate God-given abilities in music through the creation of a work that promotes Lutheran worship and/or Lutheran music education. The work may be musical, textual, visual, pedagogical, or technological, including but not limited to the following:

- musical composition (hymn, psalm, anthem, liturgical song)
- visual artwork (liturgical banners, program or bulletin covers)
- textual creation (hymn text, liturgy, essay)
- pedagogical design (curriculum units, Sunday school materials)
- technology tool (website, application, online tool)

Submissions will be judged in a blind competition based on four criteria:

- Purpose: Work will enhance Lutheran worship and/or Lutheran music education.
- Application: Work can be used by multiple people in multiple church or school settings.
- Creativity: Work is creative, innovative, and interesting.
- Quality: Work is of professional quality.

Prizes: Estimated award amounts are between \$500-\$1500 depending on the number of awards given. Up to three prizes may be awarded. *The selection committee retains the right NOT to award a prize, if the submissions do not rise to the required level of excellence.*

Name:

Mailing Address:

Email Address:

Phone:

I am an MLC [first-year, soph, jun, sen]

Name of entry:

Type of entry [check one]:

- ☐ musical composition (hymn, psalm, anthem, liturgical song) **submitted using Finale Software*
- ☐ visual artwork (liturgical banners, program or bulletin covers)
- ☐ textual creation (hymn text, paper, or essay)
- ☐ pedagogical design (curriculum units, Sunday school materials)
- ☐ technology tool (website, application, etc.)
- ☐ other _____

Describe your entry (up to 500 words): *attached document

Explain how your entry can enhance Lutheran worship and/or Lutheran music education (up to 500 words): *attached document

Note that the jury will judge your work based on four criteria:

- Purpose: Work will enhance Lutheran worship and/or Lutheran music education.
- Application: Work can be used in multiple church or school settings.
- Creativity: Work is creative, innovative, and interesting.
- Quality: Work is of professional quality.

Attach/Upload your entry as a pdf, mp3, jpg, video, or other. Or hand it in to the Financial Aid Office. Compositions must use Finale Software.

(Remove your name.)

Terms: By entering the contest, I agree that my submission becomes the property of Martin Luther College. MLC will retain the copyright and has permission to publish, display, or otherwise use my submission at the college at other WELS institutions, in MLC publications, and in other WELS publications, as seen appropriate by MLC. I understand that my submission will be credited to me whenever it is used.

☐ I have read these terms and agree to follow them.

Signature: _____

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Judging Rubric

Submissions Supervising judge enters names of submissions. Applicant names should not be included.	Purpose 1 – 10 (10 best) Work can enhance Lutheran worship and/or Lutheran music education.	Application 1 – 10 (10 best) Work can be used in multiple church or school settings.	Creativity 1 – 10 (10 best) Work is creative, innovative, and interesting.	Quality 1 – 10 (10 best) Work is of professional quality.	Total (max: 40)
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					

Judge's Name: _____

Judge's Signature: _____

Date: _____