AGO Professional Certification Workshop

Dates
SPC from October 1 through March 31
CAGO in mid-November or mid-May
ChM in early June (two parts: a.m. & p.m.)
AAGO & FAGO in early June (three parts: both days a.m. & one day p.m.)

Application deadline
SPC between September 1 and February 1
CAGO by September 15 for November exam, by March 1 for May exam
AAGO, FAGO & ChM by April 1
NPM (National Association of Pastoral Musicians) joint certification available for SPC and CAGO

Fees
SPC $150
CAGO $175 full, $150 single section
AAGO, FAGO & ChM $300 full, $250 single section
Student rate less $25 (except ChM and FAGO)
Nonmembers add $100

Certification
Must receive 50% points each item and 70% points overall
SPC pass each item and entire test by minimum score

Preparation (www.agohq.org)
SPC & CAGO study guide
AAGO, FAGO & ChM ear training example
All levels: past exams (or examples), TAO articles, bibliography, Manual of Procedure
2013 Examination Hymn Booklet (SPC, CAGO, ChM)

Prizes
CAGO $300
AAGO & ChM $500, FAGO $600; also S. Lewis Elmer Award $500
Both sections at the same time, at least 85% overall score

Literature, Hymns, Accompaniment
Confidence and accuracy
Sensitivity to:
  historical period (registration, articulation)
  needs of singers (including meaning of text)
Recordings

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60 second review

1 Key
2 Tempo
3 Rhythm
4 Pitches
5 Harmony
6 Technique

Steady pulse
DO NOT STOP

PLEASE RETURN THIS SHEET TO HEADQUARTERS WITH TEST TAPE.

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Key: B-flat major or G minor?

Tempo?

Andante

Probably G minor

Smallest note value

Distinguish dotted rhythm from triplets

Quite busy

Ends on G
C7. (10 points) Transpose the following passage of music up a whole-step and down a half-step. Do not play it first in the original key.

1 Keys/scales
2 Accidentals
3 Harmonies
4 Cadences
5 Technique
6 Steps/common tones

One sharp  \[ G \quad G \quad C \quad D7 \quad C6 \]
\[ I \quad IV \quad V^7 \quad ii^6 \]

Four sharps  \[ E \quad A \quad B7 \quad A6 \]
3A

1 Key
2 Modulations/cadences
3 Non-chord tones
4 Harmonic rhythm/implied harmony

Melody taken from 2021 CAGO exam
Melody taken from 2021 CAGO exam

3B

1 Key
2 Modulations/cadences
3 Non-chord tones

D major or B minor?

PT?

Modulation to A
Cadence

G natural

Return to D major
Cadence

Ends on D
3C

4 Harmonic rhythm/implied harmony

Primary chords: tonic, dominant, subdominant

Lead sheet style:

Roman numeral style:
Melody taken from 2021 CAGO exam

Root position and first inversion doublings

RH close position triads

LH bass line only

Root position chords
Contrary motion
Process for Improvised Modulating Bridge

From the 2021 CAGO exam: *Provide a modulating bridge of about 30 seconds’ length between LAUDA ANIMA and ALABARÉ. Begin by playing the final phrase of the first hymn; after the bridge, conclude by playing the first phrase of the second hymn.*

1. Cadence formula: $\text{ii I}^4 V^7 I$
2. $F: \text{ii} = \text{G minor} \iff \text{G minor} = D: \text{iv}$
3. Progression: $D: I \quad \underline{\text{iv}} F: \text{ii} \quad I^6 \quad V^7 \quad I$
4. Chords: $D \quad Gm \quad F/C \quad C7 \quad F$
5. Measures: $4 \quad 4 \quad 4 \quad 2 \quad 2$
6. Use end of second tune at cadence

Play beginning of second tune
First tune

15. Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; To His feet thy tribute bring;
   Evermore His praises sing; Alleluia!

   Angels, help us to adore Him; Ye behold Him face to face;
   Dwellers all in time and space. Alleluia!

2. Evermore His praises sing; Alleluia!
   Praise the everlast ing King.
   Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.
13. Alabaré
ALABARÉ (Oh, I Will Praise)

A - la - ba - ré,  a - la - ba - ré.
Oh, I will praise, oh, I will praise;
I’ll praise the name of my God.

A - la - ba - ré a mi Se - ñor.
A - la - ba - ré,
I’ll praise the name of my God.

1. John saw the number of all the re-deemed, and
2. All were to-geth-er, joy - ful - ly sing-ing.
End of Lauda anima

Bridge

Gm

Gm

Gm

Gm

F/C

F/C

F/C

End of Alabaré refrain

Beginning of Alabaré
End of Lauda anima

Bridge

End of Alabaré refrain

Beginning of Alabaré
How to practice...

...Sight-reading
Sight-read frequently
Work slowly at first, very short examples
Variety of textures
Look ahead
Brush up on music theory
Practice scales
Practice cadences
Make a checklist
Synthesis
Replicate the exam conditions

...Transposition
Transpose frequently
Work slowly at first, very short examples
Look ahead
Brush up on music theory
Practice scales
Practice cadences
Make a checklist
Synthesis
Replicate the exam conditions

...Harmonization
Harmonize frequently
Work slowly at first, very short examples
Think ahead
Brush up on music theory
Harmonize scales
Practice cadence patterns
Make a checklist
Synthesis
Replicate the exam conditions

...Improvisation
Improvisate frequently
Work slowly at first, very short examples
Think ahead
Brush up on music theory
Practice scales
Harmonize scales
Practice cadence patterns
Make a plan
Synthesis
Replicate the exam conditions