

So You Want to Go to a POE?

Strategies for Personal Fundraising for P.O.E. Students



1. Family -- Perhaps you're a returning POE student, or you've already heard about the POE program. A POE tuition fee makes a great gift for any occasion.
2. Religious Institutions -- Talk* with the clergy of your own place of worship. Present the POE brochure and explain that this program is to help you become a better organist, and that it introduces others to the pipe organ for the first time. Clergy will most likely be inclined to assist in funding your POE tuition.
3. School -- Talk with the arts coordinator (or principal if there is no arts personnel). Explain the purpose of the POE, and inquire if the school might sponsor a small scholarship for you (keeping in mind that POE tuition is a fraction of the cost of most major music camps).
4. Local piano/organ dealership -- Talk with the owner of a nearby piano/organ dealership; knowing that you might be a potential customer down the road might make them inclined to provide a portion of the tuition fee.
5. Local AGO Chapter -- Most chapters have a certain amount of funding set aside for sponsoring POE students. Talk with the chapter dean about funding assistance for yourself. Do not limit yourself to the AGO only. Other national or local music/arts organizations may be willing to assist you including the American Choral Directors Association [ACDA], Chorus America, the Music Teachers National Association [MTNA], and the National Association for Music Education [MENC].

*In lieu of speaking with these people, you can also send a letter. Be sure to be polite, specific, and grammatically correct in your correspondence to make a positive impression on the reader. Also, be sure to include a copy of the POE brochure in your mailing.

**RULE #1 of FUNDRAISING:
"You must ask if you wish to receive."**

