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Graduate student wins Rome Prize Competition

By Linda B. Glaser

Jesse Jones, a doctoral candidate in the field of music, is one of 30 winners of the 116th annual Rome Prize Competition held by the American Academy in Rome. The winners’ names were announced April 26 at the Janet & Arthur Ross Rome Prize Ceremony held in New York City.

The Rome Prize is awarded to approximately 30 individuals who represent the highest standard of excellence in the arts and humanities. Prize recipients are invited to Rome for six months to two years to immerse themselves in the academy community where they can expand their own professional, artistic or scholarly pursuits, drawing on the resources that Italy, Europe and the academy have to offer. Jones will be in residence at the academy for 11 months, writing orchestra music.

Jones’ music has been performed across North America, Europe and Asia, and he was featured on the popular radio program “A Prairie Home Companion.” He has received a Barlow Endowment commission, the Susan and Ford Schumann Fellowship from the Aspen Music Festival and School, and the Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He has also been awarded the Peter Tommaney and Mary Greves Fellowships from the Tanglewood Music Center and the Sage Fellowship from Cornell.

In addition to composing, Jones is also a conductor and mandolinist. His choral music is published internationally by Earthsongs.

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