



Vol. 25, No. 4 Dec., 2019/Jan. 2020

## TCAGO Events for December and January

#### La Nativité du Seigneur Sunday, December 15, 2:30 p.m. St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, Minneapolis

Resident Canon Musician Raymond Johnston reprises his popular performance of Olivier Messiaen's suite for Christmas, *La Nativité du Seigneur*, on the Foley-Baker pipe organ at the Cathedral. Free/donation.

St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral 519 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis



#### **Winter Workshop**

The Workshop on Certification and Improvisation, presented by Stephen Self and Mary Newton, has been noted for the month of January. At this point, the exact place and date have not been determined. Since there is no separate issue of *Pipenotes* in January, please check the TCAGO website for updates.

### Dean's Column

David Jenkins

#### AGO survey regional results

Last summer the national AGO leadership sent out an online survey to all members. The purposes of the survey included assessing the vitality of chapters, examining member engagement in various levels of AGO activities and programs, and learning about the experiences and needs of chapter volunteer leaders. As a chapter leader, I participated recently in a webinar report on the findings of the survey for members in our North Central region,



which encompasses Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Many of you must have responded to the survey, because the North Central response rate was 42%, the highest of any region! I am basing my report here on summary notes provided by our Regional Councilor, Karen Black. The

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#### Chapter Events 2019-2020

Sunday, September 22 Opening Concert and Members Dinner James D. Hicks, organist

Monday, September 30 Jean-Willy Kunz, jazz performance presenter Tuesday, October 1 Jean-Willy Kunz, organist; Branford Marsalis saxophonist

Thursday, October 10 Adam Brakel, organist

Paul Manz Centennial Commemoration Friday, October 25 John Schwandt, organist Saturday, October 26 Talks and Workshops – Paul Westermeyer, David Cherwien, Mark Lawson, presenters

Saturday, November 2
Pipedreams Scholarships Auditions

Sunday, November 17 Chelsea Chen, organist, Rochester

Sunday, December 15 La Nativité du Seigneur Raymond Johnston, organist

January tbd Certification & Improv Workshop Stephen Self, Mary Newton, presenters

Vierne Festival Friday, February 7 Eric Plutz, organist Saturday, February 8 Workshop – Jon Laukvik, presenter

Saturday, February 23 Pipe Organ Discovery Day Saturday, March 21

Bach's Birthday Bash
Friday/Saturday, March 27/28
Cameron Carpenter, organist

Minnesota Orchestra
Saturday, March 28

Tuesday, April 21 Dean Billmeyer, organist

Student Competition

Friday, April 24 Olivier Vernet and Cédric Meckler, organ duo

Sunday, June 7 Members Recital demographics of respondents point to an aging membership: only 12% of the respondents were under 40 years old, 58% were 60-79. Almost half of the respondents, 45%, do not have some form of academic degree in music, reminding us that we need to provide programming for all levels of training. In terms of engagement, it appears that we are mostly meeting or exceeding members' expectations. However, one area for improvement was the concern of 37% of respondents that the AGO was not meeting their expectations for AGO young organists.

Over half of the respondents have been in leadership positions in the last five years. 48% answered "no" to the statement that "AGO provides excellent guidance and support" for leaders. I believe the AGO is already taking steps to improve support to chapter leaders. There are a number of helpful documents related to chapter leadership and planning on the AGO national website. And hopefully the recent hiring of Elizabeth George as national Director of Member Engagement and Chapter Support will improve this situation. Comments about last June's regional convention in Milwaukee were very positive. I would concur with most respondents that Larry Reynolds and his chapter hosted an excellent convention.

The survey concluded with a "customer loyalty" rating called Net Promoter Score, which is shown to correlate with organizational success. The question measured how likely respondents are to promote our organization by recommending it to a friend or colleague. The North Central region members' rating was near the top of the "Good" category, or 28 points. (The calculations for the "Good" category range from 0-29.) The consultants who administered the survey emphasized that this is indeed a good score, and that higher scores are rare.

This survey was one of the strategies of the AGO's Strategic Growth Plan 2018-2021. I will be sharing the survey results and the Plan to the Board, as discussion points for improving our programming and service to our chapter's members.

#### **Our Common Life**

I am pleased to announce that our former dean, Laura Edman, has taken on the important post of chapter Membership Coordinator. She is already working closely with our registrar, Jayson Engquist, to assist in getting our membership rolls updated and contacting members who need a reminder to renew.

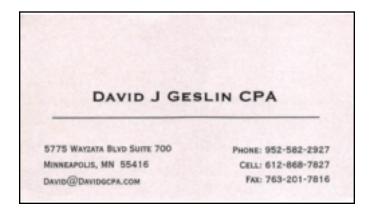
An important new development for our chapter is the beginning of a new standing committee on Historical Concerns. Chair Nils Halker will lead the committee's efforts to build upon the interest in historical instruments and their preservation generated by the successful OHS convention held in the Twin Cities two years ago.

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## Current AGO Membership Categories

The National AGO includes several categories for membership opportunities.

**Student Members** are full-time students enrolled in institutions of higher education.

**Young Members** are post-graduates, but age 30 and under.

**Regular Members** are defined by National AGO as 31 to 64 years of age. These members pay full dues and receive all mailings and (in print) the national monthly magazine, *The American Organist* (TAO).

**Special Members** are defined by National AGO as 65 years of age and up and may choose to take advantage of this discounted category. These members may choose to receive national TAO magazine (in print) or have online access.

**Volunteer Members** is a new category for those who volunteer at their institutions (churches, synagogues, schools, etc.). This category was launched to encourage musicians from smaller institutions, where they aren't paid a salary, to join the AGO.

**Chapter Friends** are defined by National AGO as nonorganists and enthusiasts who wish to receive local news of events and meetings. Chapter friends are non-voting adjunct members. TCAGO chapter members who wish to be included as organ substitutes are not eligible for this category. All active organists (including subs, teachers, etc.) should be either Regular or Special members of our TCAGO chapter.

If you have any questions, please contact our Registrar, Treasurer, or Membership Coordinator. They are listed online and in the annual directory.

## Annual Directory Update

The cutoff date to be included in the TCAGO 2019-2020 *Membership Directory* was October 15. The directory takes about a month to produce, typeset, proof, print, and mail out. All members in good standing as of October 15, 2019, will receive a copy at the address listed in their profile. All members are encouraged to go to the website, set up a profile (if you have not), and check your information. Please keep your information up-to-date. If any of that information changes, please update your profile, or let us know so we can update on your behalf.

You will notice the Professional Directory (back of the booklet) has been revised. If you list an Employer (or more than one), please list only institutions (churches, synagogues, schools, related institutions) where you are employed. Do not list yourself (on the Employer line) as Self-Employed, Substitute, Teacher, etc., unless it is through an institution where you are actually employed. The list is included as a cross-reference to the institutions for quick searches.









A note of clarification for our Professional Directory. All institutions have been updated to be consistent. For instance, if the former listing was something like: The Church of...; The Parish of...; Church of...; or a variety of other names, we have (for our purposes of cross-referencing) changed them to: St. John's, Church of...; St. Hildegard, Cathedral of... to keep all congregations listed with their patron's name. Those with other names like Central... or Calvary...; or Lyndale Avenue...; will still be listed as such (in an alphabetical search).

All Teachers and Substitute organists appear in our resource area on the website. Since these categories often change throughout a year, they are updated on the website. The listing of subs and teachers is available to the public (to encourage our members being contacted by prospective students and congregations). As you know, we are no longer able, as a Guild, to advocate for fees or promotion. This is the ruling of the IRS following a long anti-trust litigation period. Any questions may be addressed to the National Office or your Chapter Officers.

## A Holiday Program of Organ Duets

# Tuesday, December 3, 7:30 p.m. Elizabeth & Raymond Chenault, duo organists Northrop Auditorium, Minneapolis

The Chenaults' A Holiday Program of Organ Duets features works commissioned and arranged by or for the duo, including well-known holiday classics such as White Christmas, Sleigh Ride, The Christmas Song, and many others. "I couldn't resist trying my hand at arranging White Christmas for organ duet, particularly with fragments of I'll Be Home for Christmas interwoven within Berlin's most famous composition," says Raymond Chenault on his arrangement of the popular tune.

Specializing in and exclusively performing works written for four hands and four feet at one pipe organ console, The Chenault Duo has been performing unique repertoire for four decades.



The Chenaults served as Organists and Choirmasters of All Saints Episcopal Church in Atlanta for 43 years and have been featured numerous times on American Public

Radio's *Pipedreams* and National Public Radio's *Performance Today*.

Cyrus Northrop Memorial Auditorium University of Minnesota 84 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

# STEPHEN HAMILTON Concert Organist

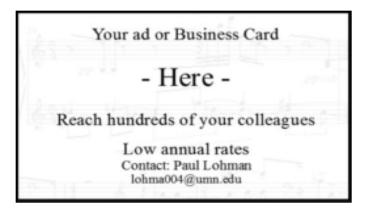
"Hamilton gave a stunning performance of Franck's Choral No.1 in E, its long melodic lines soaring appropriately, its intimate moments and its grandiose moments equally inspiring."

-Goeffrey Simon Arts Journal in Raleigh, North Carolina

www.stephenjonhamilton.com 212-289-0615







### VocalEssence God Jul!

Saturday, December 7, 7:30 p.m.
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church,
Apple Valley

Sunday, December 8, 4:00 p.m.
Friday December 13, 7:30 p.m.
Plymouth Congregational Church, Minneapolis
Sunday, December 15, 4:00 p.m.
Roseville Lutheran Church, Roseville

VocalEssence says 'God Jul!' to all as Christmas Concerts go Nordic. The performance will include the world premiere of Nordic Christmas, a suite of Norwegian carols arranged by composer Kim André Arnesen and commissioned in honor of the 125th anniversary of the Sons of Norway. The audience will hear Christmas songs well-known in Sweden, Finland, and Norway, as well as traditional American favorites.

Carols by contemporary female choral composers Alice Parker and Minnesota's own Jocelyn Hagen will remind us new classics are born every holiday season. There's no greater proof of that than the *Welcome Christmas Carol Contest*, and this year's two winning songs will have their place of honor in the program as well.

Tickets are currently available at VocalEssence.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church 12650 Johnny Cake Ridge Rd, Apple Valley Plymouth Congregational Church 1900 Nicollet Ave. at Franklin, Minneapolis Roseville Lutheran Church 1215 West Roselawn Avenue, Roseville

## 2020 Student Scholarship Competition

# Saturday, March 28 Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Minneapolis Registration Deadline: Monday, January 27

The competition is open to organists under 24 years of age as of August 1, 2020. Competitors must reside (either home or school) in the North Central Region: Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. Previous first-prize winners are not eligible to compete in this competition.

The First Prize of \$2000 is provided by the Schubert Club. The Second Prize of \$1000 is provided by Phil Asgian, TCAGO member.

Requirements for the Registration form and list of repertoire are available at tcago.

For further information contact

Dr. Mary Newton, Competition Coordinator 3930 Lancaster Lane, #220, Plymouth MN 55441 612-581-3106

## Ring in the New Year!

#### Wednesday, January 1, 12:00 noon

City of Bells, a non-profit organization based in Minneapolis dedicated to restoring and preserving tower bells and carillons in the Twin Cities area, is sponsoring an all-city-wide bell-ringing event to mark the beginning of a new year and a new decade.

We will be ringing the Liberty Bell at the state capitol and our anchor churches are already on board to join us. The plan calls for bells all around the Twin Cities to ring at 12:00 noon for as long or as short as you wish. The churches already planning to participate are: the Cathedral of Saint Paul and House of Hope Presbyterian Church in Saint Paul; St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, the Basilica of Saint Mary, St. Olaf Catholic Church, Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church and Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

We have also recruited numerous other churches in the metro area. Soon we will be able to hear bells everywhere! Mark your calendars to join us by ringing your bells at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, January 1, 2020.

#### 2020 AGO National Convention

#### July 6-10 Atlanta, Georgia

Atlanta is proud to host the American Guild of Organists National Convention in the summer of 2020. With *A Kaleidoscope of Color and Sound,* we celebrate the diversity of experiences, races, ages, and cultures in Atlanta.

As the center of the Civil Rights movement, Atlanta made an impact on the world of culture and music. In this spirit, we are featuring historically-significant venues, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s place of baptism and ordination, Ebenezer Baptist Church, as well as America's oldest private historically black liberal arts college for women, Spelman College.

While in Atlanta, we hope you'll take time to visit The King Center and the Civil Rights Museum, the Georgia Aquarium, and the Coca-Cola Museum, all just a short walk from the convention hotel. Atlanta also has many diverse neighborhoods just outside of the downtown area. Take a quick trip and explore this Southern "foodie" town.

Early registration is now open with greatly reduced rates. For complete details on the program and registration, please visit the AGO Atlanta 2020 website.

#### Calendar of Events

#### **December**

Tuesday, December 3, 7:30 p.m.

A Holiday Program of Organ Duets

The Chenault Duo, organists

Northrop Memorial Auditorium

University of Minnesota campus, Minneapolis

Wednesday, December 4, 12:25 p.m.

St. Olaf Organ Recital Series

Jessica Park, organist

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

Saturday, December 7, 7:30 p.m.

Welcome Christmas - God Jul!

VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

12650 Johnny Cake Ridge Rd., Apple Valley

Sunday, December 8, 4:00 p.m.

Welcome Christmas - God Jul!

VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers

Plymouth Congregational Church

1900 Nicollet Ave. at Franklin, Minneapolis

Friday, December 13, 7:30 p.m.

Welcome Christmas - God Jul!

VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers

Plymouth Congregational Church

1900 Nicollet Ave. at Franklin, Minneapolis

#### Sunday, December 15, 2:30 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Messiaen La Nativité du Seigneur

Raymond Johnston, organist

Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral

519 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis

Sunday, December 15, 4:00 p.m.

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Parish Choir and Handbell Ensembles

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church

60 Kent Street N., Saint Paul

Sunday, December 15, 4:00 p.m.

Welcome Christmas - God Jul!

VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers

Roseville Lutheran Church

1215 West Roselawn Avenue, Roseville

#### January

#### Date TBD (TCAGO Event)

Winter Workshop

Certification and Improv Workshop

Stephen Self and Mary Newton, presenters

Location TBD

Sunday, January 26, 4:00 p.m.

Organ Concert

Kirk Michael Rich, Director of Music,

All Saints Episcopal Church, Atlanta, GA

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church

60 Kent Street N., Saint Paul

#### **February**

#### Friday, February 7, 7:30 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Vierne Festival Recital

Eric Plutz, organist

The Basilica of Saint Mary

88 North 17th Street, Minneapolis

#### Saturday, February 8, 9:00 a.m.-noon (TCAGO Event)

Vierne Festival Workshop

Jon Laukvik, presenter

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

Saturday, February 8, 9:00 a.m.-noon

Choral Masterclass and Workshop

Jong-Won Park, Director of Choral Activities,

University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Or I I all The State of the Sta

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church

60 Kent Street N., Saint Paul

#### Saturday, February 22, 9:00 a.m-3:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Pipe Organ Discovery Day

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church 3920 Victoria Street North, Shoreview

Sunday, February 23, 4:30 p.m.

VocalEssence WITNESS: Deep Roots
Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis

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Treasurer: David Geslin (c) 612-868-7827, (w) 952-582-2927

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Class of 2020: Tom Ferry, Diana Lee Lucker, Chris Stroh

Class of 2021: Jessica Park, Phillip Radtke, Joseph Trucano

Class of 2022: Liisa Keränen, Cynthia Mortensen, Andrew Paulson

Registrar Jayson Rodovsky Engquist (c) 914-649-0844 P.O. Box 16252, Saint Paul, MN, 55116 Chaplain The Rev. John Setterlund 217-828-1038

#### **Standing Committees**

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Richard Collman, Margaret Gohman, Philip Radtke, Kirsten Uhlenberg Historical Concerns: Nils Halker (h) 651-488-2157, (w) 651-221-4736;

Michael Barone, Kyle Black, James Frazier, Francine Linhart, Lise Schmidt, Christopher Stroh, Robert Vickery

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(w) 952-473-8877, (c) 952-237-0349; Karen Bartz, Steve Gentile

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Cynthia Mortensen, Sean Vogt

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(c) 515-778-2302; Jeremy Haug

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Andrew Hackett

#### **Other Committees and Appointments**

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Calendar Coordination / Events Scheduling: Michael Barone,

(w) 651-290-1539, (h) 651-228-9885

Facebook & Communications Liaison: Jeremy Haug 612-578-8058

Guild Examinations: Stephen Self 651-638-6536

Membership Coordinator: Laura Edman (h) 651-439-1071,

(c) 651-216-0277

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Placement: Jeffrey Patry 763-788-9653, ext. 109, (h) 612-871-7533 Student Competition: Mary Newton (h) 763-546-1307, (c) 612-581-3106

TCAGO Organ Database: David Engen (c) 612-801-8662

Chapter Website - www.tcago.org

Website Administrators: David Engen (c) 612-801-8662;

Kirsten Uhlenberg 651-646-8120

Facebook - facebook.com/twincitiesAGO

#### **Pipenotes**

*Pipenotes* is the official publication of the Twin Cities Chapter, American Guild of Organists, and is published nine times a year, September through June. December and January is a combined issue.

Deadline date

Information for *Pipenotes* should be received no later than the fifteenth of the month preceding publication.

Materials may be sent to Merritt Neguette, editor.

Letters to the Editor

Signed Letters to the Editor are always welcome.

Mail letters to Merritt Neguette.

2748 Lexington Avenue N., Saint Paul MN 55113

#### TCAGO Event Promotion via Pipedreams

A comprehensive listing of organ events statewide is available online via the *Pipedreams Organ Calendar*. Information there is only as good as the information provided to it, so you are encouraged to send event listings for inclusion at the earliest possible time.

For both on-air and website listings of organ-related activities, *please send information* to *Pipedreams* host (and longtime TCAGO member) Michael Barone, or by mail to: *Pipedreams* Calendar, 480 Cedar St., Saint Paul, MN 55101. In a pinch, you may call 651-290-1539.

You are also encouraged to regularly request organ selections on the *Friday Favorites* show with Steven Staruch. Help promote the inclusion of more organ music in MPR's programming.

Unfortunately, the former Classical MPR Online Calendar has been terminated, though you can send non-organ-related church music series information directly to your favorite Classical MPR host and cross your fingers.