



Vol. 25, No. 5 February 2020

TCAGO Events in February

Eric Plutz Plays Vierne

Friday, February 7, 7:30 p.m. The Basilica of Saint Mary, Minneapolis

The year 2020 marks the sesquicentennial of the birth of Louis Vierne (1870-1937), longtime organist at the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris (1900-1937). In celebration of this anniversary, concert organist Eric Plutz of Princeton University will perform three of Vierne's organ symphonies on the 82-rank Wicks "Centennial" Organ at The Basilica of Saint Mary.

Over the past fifteen years, Plutz has steadily learned and performed each symphony by the French master, and is excited to share these monumental works that show every emotion from deep despair to clever humor to unbridled joy. Free/donation.





Pipe Organ Discovery Day

Saturday, February 22, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Shoreview

Pipe Organ Discovery Day provides students an opportunity to learn more about the pipe organ and expand their knowledge with "hands on" experience on a variety of instruments. The event is free to participants. Family members are welcome. Prior keyboard experience is needed to play the instruments; all are welcome to come and learn. A pizza lunch is provided courtesy of the Twin Cities Chapter.

Students will be able to play Shepherd of the Hills' Fisk organ and also our Chapter's demonstration organ "mini opus."

In addition to the hands-on playing opportunities, students will also participate in short classes about how the pipe organ works, to gain a better understanding of the instrument and its history.

Registration is required for Pipe Organ Discovery Day. Complete schedules for the day and registration information are available on the TCAGO website. See the "Events Page" and scroll down to February 22.

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

3920 Victoria Street North, Shoreview

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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

Friday, February 7
Eric Plutz plays Vierne

Saturday, February 22 Pipe Organ Discovery Day

Saturday, March 21 Bach's Birthday Bash

Friday/Saturday, March 27/28 Cameron Carpenter, organist Minnesota Orchestra

Saturday, March 28 Student Competition

Tuesday, April 21 Dean Billmeyer, organist

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

Sunday, June 7 Members Recital

Dean's Column

David Jenkins

I would like a nickel for every time I have heard someone say to me: "I took piano lessons once. I liked to play, but I didn't like to practice." They tell me this in an apologetic tone when they learn that I am a professional keyboard player and teacher, as if to say that they appreciate what I have accom-



plished, but it was evidently not to be for them. I have been reflecting lately on the importance of practicing to achieve musical and other goals. Not only have I been practicing organ and harpsichord for some recent and upcoming performances, and organ for church, but I have been practicing *Soo Bahk Do* more intensively in preparation for my next belt test.

My University of St. Thomas colleague, piano professor Vanessa Cornett, has just had her book published: *The Mindful Musician: Mental Skills for Peak Performance* (Oxford University Press, 2019). The book is a summary of her explorations, learnings and teaching over many years in the area of the diverse mental aspects of music practice and performance. You may think at first that it is mainly about managing performance anxiety, and yes, that is a significant topic in the book. However, she uses a metaphor to describe her wider aim: to travel a kind of "countercultural path" that draws us toward our inner, creative, expressive nature, and away from busy-ness, multitasking, media addiction, and focus on outward accomplishments.

Most of us have very busy lives. In all my daily rush to practice the organ and karate, and to juggle priorities to get everything in, how often do I find myself practicing mindlessly, inattentively, without awareness of my body and what it is doing, not really experiencing the moment? Am I trying too hard, and not allowing things to happen? Am I too busy "doing" or "thinking," and not "being?"

In order to achieve our goals in practicing and performing, so much depends on what we do mentally, or on how we prepare mentally, even before we slip on the organ shoes and sit down at the bench. Dr. Cornett explains that when we make music, we are engaging in a kind of contemplation that requires being present in the moment. The required mindfulness, or focused awareness, is within our control, but takes regular practice. Her book explores various aspects of developing or deepening focused awareness. For Dr. Cornett, music performance is the medium for a holistic mental, physical, social and spiritual practice with benefits beyond music. Mindful practice leads to better concentration and performance, greater body awareness, improved technique and reduced chance of injury, reduced distracting mental chatter or critical self-talk, and





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

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freedom and acceptance in learning to trust in one's own abilities. As those of you who have read my previous columns know, my engagement with martial arts has also been a medium for holistic benefits for my teaching, music-making, and general well-being.

I have resolved this new year to consciously apply two areas from Vanessa's book in my practice: getting organized, and doing mental practice away from the keyboard (or Dojang). Dr. Cornett discovered from speaking to sports psychologists that many of the mental skills they teach involve changing habits and behaviors, rather than methods of thinking. Since I do not have a personal coach, I will have to develop systems of structure and self-monitoring on my own, starting with keeping a journal to track my habits and reflections. I have devised a form to use for my karate practice. I am using it to plan my daily practice, and to document and evaluate my progress on short- and long-term goals. Dr. Cornett suggests that there is not one journal format that suits everybody. The most important thing is to develop something that helps you, and that you will be motivated to use consistently.

The author offers a brief section on creative mental music practice. I already use many of the tools she outlines, but I am finding it helpful to review them, both for my own practice and to use in my teaching. I am starting to realize that mental practice, especially visualization, can also be a help in my karate practice. The list for musicians includes: audiation (hearing the music in your head when no music is sounding); listening back (using recordings of yourself in various ways); memorizing with meaning (to hone your mental skills even if you don't perform by memory); developing character (imagining a mood, character, or story); interpreting three ways (imagining three different ways to play a piece or passage); visualizing the technique (to which I would add feeling the technique); orchestrating. I am thinking about developing a comparable list for karate practice.

The journal is not only a practical tool for staying organized, but it can also be a tool for self-assessment and self-reflection. I find it relatively easy to track the concrete practice of skills. Because it is not yet a habit, I find it more difficult to track lifestyle, health considerations, environmental factors, and habits of mind that affect my practice. Things that can get in the way of my successful practice and peak performance could include stressors in other parts of life, lack of adequate sleep and exercise, negative habits of thought, mental distractions, and certain patterns of emotions. However, developing better self-awareness should help me become a mindful musician, a better martial artist, and, ultimately, be a key component for maintaining happiness in life.





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Additions to the 2019-2020 Directory

The following new or renewing members are not listed in the printed Directory. Their contact information is available on the website in the "Members" section.

Anderson, Jennifer Edwins, The Rev. Michael Egan, Randall Goulette. Dave Graffunder, Ann-Marie Gustafson, Bjorn Hanson, Paul Haustein, Sister Janis Hovda, Ronald E. Kaess, Dr. John Kuglin, Marie Laughlin, Christine Lee, JuYoung Lenz, Charles Long, Samuel Maruyamu, Yuko Olson, Geoff Ostrowski, David Pasley, Kwesi Rodland, Joanne Ryan, Lillian Stillings, Marilyn Becker Trunk, Michelle

Though the pipe organ will be featured in each of the five venues, I am also inviting performers on other instruments (or ensembles, instrumental or vocal) to add to the occasion. We've had pianists, cellists, flutists, recorders, choirs, and chamber ensembles in the past, and that sort of variety is welcome.

If you or your students are able to participate, please contact me (Michael Barone) directly, or 651-290-1539, with questions and/or submissions. I suggest that you offer several alternative repertoire choices, so that I can patch together a balanced (and non-duplicative) program at each venue. Please list full title as well as performance time for each selection. Note that grand pianos are available in three venues. I look forward to hearing from you...soon!

Schedule and Locations

9:00 a.m. – St. Mary Chapel of the Saint Paul Seminary, 2260 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul.

2000 Noack (II/27 ranks, mechanical action); 6' Kawai grand piano.

Contact: David Jenkins, 651-690-1398; 651-962-5793.

10:30 a.m. – St. Paul Conservatory/Center for Art and Innovation, 1524 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul.

1976 Wicks (II/20 ranks, direct-electric action); Hamburg Steinway "B" grand piano.

Contact: Laura Nortwen, Administrative Director, St. Paul Conservatory, 651-224-2205.

Continued on next page

Pipedreams Scholarship Winners

The Scholarship auditions were held on November 2, 2019. Congratulations to our two winners.

Pascal Givot, age 15, is in the ninth grade and a student of James Callahan.



Additional Information
Windschitl, Kraig

Sheila Loger, adult winner, is the organist at Maternity of Mary Catholic Church in Saint Paul.

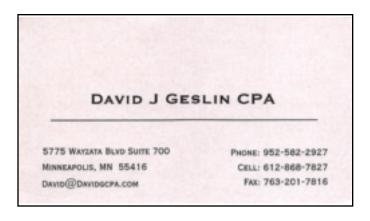


Bach Birthday Bash Invitation

Michael Barone

It is that time of year when I comb the town for potential participants for the annual *Bach Birthday Bash* (falling on Bach's actual birthday this year, March 21!).

We will be on or along Summit Avenue in Saint Paul again this year, an always popular route, with venues listed below. The first hour will be broadcast live on Classical MPR. All events are free-admission to the general public.



Wes A. Huisinga

Oboe, English Horn and Oboe d'Amore

612-872-9838

available for solo and accompanimental service playing **1:00 p.m.** – St. Thomas More Church, Summit Avenue at Lexington Avenue.

1926 Casavant (III/56), a 'vintage' organ in a lovely acoustic.

Contact: Lucas Tomlinson (director of music), 651-227-7669.

2:30 p.m. - St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church,

60 Kent Street North, Saint Paul.

1921 Skinner-2008 Schantz (IV/55 ranks). Contact: Richard Gray, 843-476-9694 (cell).

4:00 p.m. – House of Hope Presbyterian Church, 797 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul.

C.B. Fisk Opus 78 (IV/97 ranks) plus a 9' 6" Bösendorfer Imperial Grand piano.

Contact: Aaron David Miller 651-223-7550; 952-217-5024.

2021 Regional Convention

July 4-7, 2021

Jacob Benda, Convention Coordinator, TCAGO Subdean

The planning for the 2021 American Guild of Organists North Central Regional Convention has been a great success thus far. We will feature stellar regional, national, and international artists in some of the finest venues that the Twin Cities has to offer. The convention headquarters will be located at the vibrant Hilton Hotel in downtown Minneapolis.

In addition to the events of the convention being held in Minneapolis and Saint Paul on July 4 through 7, we are proud to announce that an add-on day will be available for July 8, that will highlight the fine installations in Collegeville/Saint Cloud, MN.

Your support of, and attendance at, the 2021 Regional Convention is paramount to its success, so I encourage you to mark these dates on your calendar. You will be notified as soon as registration information is made available.

I look forward to keeping you updated during the coming months with exciting announcements regarding the convention. We will have additional information posted on our website under the "Events" section very soon.

Music Scholarship Opportunity at Richfield United Methodist Church

The Chester E. and Marion D. Groth Scholarship

The purpose of this Fund is to award annual post-secondary scholarships for qualified students desiring to matriculate and pursue careers in music education, performance, or music therapy. Scholarships will be awarded for tuition for the 2020-2021 school year. Previous recipients are eligible to reapply for the scholarship for up to three additional years or until a Bachelor's Degree is earned, whichever occurs first.

These scholarships are made possible by the generous gift of Marion Groth on behalf of her husband, Chester. To be eligible to receive this scholarship, an applicant must:

Be a graduating high school senior from a Minnesota high school:

Be entering college as a freshman.

Applications must be received in the church office no later than noon, Friday, February 28. Applicants will be notified if invited to a finalist audition to be held on April 18.

For more information and an application form, please contact the church office, 612-861-6086, or check the church website.

If you know of anyone that might be interested in this scholarship, please encourage them to apply.

Pipe Organ Encounters 2020

Pipe Organ Encounter (POE)

A POE is a 4-5 day event organized by a local AGO chapter that introduces participants aged 13-18 to the world of the pipe organ.

June 22-27

Kansas State University (Manhattan, Kansas)

Director: David Pickering

June 28-July 3

Long Beach, California Director: Hyunju Hwang

July 19-24

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

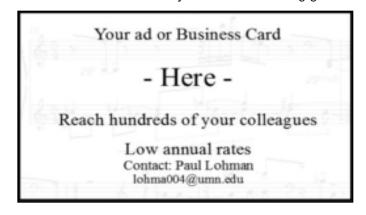
Director: Timothy Olsen

August 2-7

Trinity College (Hartford, CT)
Director: Christopher Houlihan

POE Advanced (POEA)

A POEA is a 5-6 day event organized by a local AGO chapter that provides a higher level of pipe organ instruction and intense course study for students entering grades



9 through 12 who are ages 13 to 18 and have already achieved a high level of success in organ study.

June 28-July 3

Ann Arbor, Michigan
Co-Director: James Wagner

POE Technical (POETech)

POETech is a program designed for students aged 16-23 who are interested in learning the art and craft of organ building. POETech is sponsored by an AGO Chapter in collaboration with an organ builder.

The POETech is not available in 2020.

POE-Plus (POE+)

POE+ is a 4-5 day event organized by a local AGO chapter that provides organ instruction to students 19 and older. It is open to beginners as well as more advanced students.

June 14-19

Rockford, Illinois Director: Trish Rooney

June 28-July 3

Allentown and Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Co-Director: Gloria Snyder

July 26-31

Richmond, Virginia

Co-Director: Stephen Henley

Pipedreams Tour of Alsace

May 23-June 7

Michael Barone

Alsace is an area of remarkable political and cultural history, with an incredibly rich treasure of instruments. This is the home territory of the notable humanist Albert Schweitzer (we will visit his home and the church where he recorded Bach, Mendelssohn, and Widor), also of famous organ builders Andreas and Johann Andreas Silbermann and, not incidentally, the birthplace of the "Organ Reform" movement at the beginning of the 20th century, which was to have global impact in our appreciation of the King of Instruments.

Our adventures will be centered around Strasbourg, with two extended stays in that city allowing for alternative cultural experiences, if you wish.

Here is the link to the brochure.

VocalEssence WITNESS: Deep Roots

Sunday, February 23, 4:30 p.m. Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis

Thirty years of performing the works of African American artists and spreading the word about their contributions to American culture have given VocalEssence a galaxy-sized network of singers to draw on for a special concert, VocalEssence WITNESS: *Deep Roots*. The program will celebrate the tremendous accomplishment that is three decades of the WITNESS program by revisiting the songs and performing artists that helped it grow.

Besides favorite selections from past seasons of WIT-NESS, the program will feature the world premiere of a new arrangement of the traditional spiritual *Witness*, commissioned by VocalEssence from the up-and-coming composer Joel Thompson.

Tickets are available through the Orchestra Hall box office or by calling 612-371-5656 for more information on ticket purchases.

Twin Cities AGO Website Personal Account Access Guidelines

Many of our members have been taking advantage of paying for annual renewals, registering for chapter events, making donations, and/or sending out TCAGO e-blasts through the TCAGO website. The website is easy to use.

You can revise a mailing address, update employment information, or add/change telephone numbers, by creating an account and accessing your individual member account. You are also able to add a photograph to the site. Other TCAGO members are able to see your photo, should you choose to share it.

Check out our website (and your personal account).

Look at the top right of the screen to log in.

Use your e-mail address and create a password (if you haven't already done so) to access the site.

Then, look at the *left* side of the page and locate "Members" near bottom of the list.

Once you click "Members," you will see the "Membership Renewals" choice. Click on that.

You will then see an option to "Join Us page" (you are probably already renewed, but this is how to access the site). Click on "Join Us page."

Look near the bottom for "Edit Your Member Profile" and click.

You may now make changes, and even add a photograph. Remember to click "Save" before you leave the site and "Log Out."

For assistance please contact the TCAGO Registrar, or call/text 1-914-649-0844.

Calendar of Events

February

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

Vierne Recital

Eric Plutz, organist

The Basilica of Saint Mary

88 North 17th 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

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

March

Thursday, March 5, 11:30 a.m.

Keyboard Artists Series 2020

Joseph Trucano, Organist, Shepherd of the Hills

Lutheran Church, Shoreview

First Presbyterian Church

6201 Osgood Avenue North, Stillwater

Thursday, March 12, 11:30 a.m.

Keyboard Artists Series 2020

Elaine Mann, Organist, Grace Lutheran Church,

Eau Claire, Wisconsin

First Presbyterian Church

6201 Osgood Avenue North, Stillwater

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

Lenten Concert - Bob Chilcott's St. John Passion

Parish Choir; Soloists; Copper Street Brass Ensemble

Jessica Park, organist

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church 60 Kent Street N., Saint Paul

Saturday, March 21, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Bach's Birthday Bash

9:00 a.m. - St. Mary Chapel, Saint Paul Seminary

2260 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul

10:30 a.m. - St. Paul Conservatory/Center for

Art and Innovation

1524 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul

1:00 p.m. - St. Thomas More Church

Summit Avenue at Lexington Avenue, Saint Paul

2:30 p.m. – St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church

60 Kent Street North, Saint Paul

4:00 p.m. – The House of Hope Presbyterian Church 797 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul

Thursday, March 26, 11:30 a.m.

Keyboard Artists Series 2020

Chris Falteisek, Pianist and Organist,

Christ Episcopal Church, Woodbury

First Presbyterian Church

6201 Osgood Avenue North, Stillwater

Friday/Saturday, March 27/28, 8:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Joseph Jongen Concertante for Organ and Orchestra

Cameron Carpenter, organist

Minnesota Orchestra

Cyrus Northrop Memorial Auditorium

University of Minnesota

84 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

Saturday, March 28, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

TCAGO Student Competition

Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue, Minneapolis

Sunday, March 29, 4:00 p.m.

Keyboard Artists Series 2020

Tom Ferry, Organist, Como Park Lutheran Church,

Saint Paul

First Presbyterian Church

6201 Osgood Avenue North, Stillwater

April

Tuesday, April 21, 7:30 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Organ Concert

Dean Billmeyer, organist

Cyrus Northrop Memorial Auditorium

University of Minnesota

84 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

Friday, April 24, 7:30 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Organ duets

Olivier Vernet and Cédric Meckler, organ duo

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

900 Stillwater Road, Mahtomedi

May

Sunday, May 3, 5:00 p.m.

Festival Choral Evensong

St. John the Evangelist Parish Choir

Christopher Stroh, guest organist

Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral

519 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis

June

Sunday, June 7, 3:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Members Recital

Benson Great Hall, Bethel University 3900 Bethel Drive, Arden Hills

July

Monday-Friday, July 6-10 2020 AGO National Convention Atlanta, Georgia

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

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Investment: James Hild, (h) 952-945-9840, (c) 952-807-3014; Jon Kietzer, Roger Burg

Pipedreams Scholarship: Diana Lee Lucker (w) 952-473-8877 ext 247, (c) 952-237-0349; Karen Bartz, Steve Gentile

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Jennifer Anderson, Michael Barone, Kathrine Handford, Jeremy Haug
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(c) 515-778-2302; Jeremy Haug

Special Projects: James Callahan 651-224-3285; Leonard Danek, Andrew Hackett

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Advertising: Paul Lohman 800-326-7426

Archives: Joshua Lindgren (c) 785-906-0418, (h) 952-476-0662 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 (h) 651-481-3297, (c) 651-402-9043

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

(c) 651-216-0277

Pipenotes Editor: Merritt Nequette 651-484-0451

Placement: Jeffrey Patry (w) 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 Nequette.

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.