

THE WINDCHEST



OMAHA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

OCTOBER 2021

facebook

Please like the Omaha Chapter Facebook page. Information is posted regularly! Our page name is: Omaha Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

TEACHERS

Please let Jean Johnson know if you have a Young Organist who has joined for the first time.

FROM THE DEAN

FROM THE DEAN

If you like organ like I like organ (remind you of a song?) Omaha has some outstanding recitals coming up for you. New church and organ, new compositions, a new group of artists working together. I am excited that Mark Kurtz is going to perform his award winning composition in Omaha. Several of us got to hear it at the national AGO conference in Kansas City and it is a wonderful, interesting work. Invite your friends, and come to experience something new as well as lending support to local musicians.

September 12 - we finally got to meet together - all 21 who came to First Central Congregational Church. We visited, had a short meeting, were privileged to hear 3 compositions by new member Stephen Bouma (composed during Covid time), and enjoyed very fine playing by Colleen Jeffrey and Gianna Manhart who were awarded their SPC certificates by Sr. Claudette Schiratti.

You don't want to miss hearing Mark Kurtz in recital at First United Methodist on October 3 at 4:00 p.m. Mark let us in on some of his repertoire - will be very interesting!

November 13th - Saturday - come to St. Andrew's and hear Tom Trenney speak. Tom has a way of sharing his music ministry through words, giving inspiration, encouragement and empathy for all who do the work we do.

This year the Board decided to try and raise funds for our Scholarship program by collecting small amounts at our meetings. We have a box with a slit in the top and folks can drop in whatever they would like. This month the box contained \$105.00!

Mentor program - information elsewhere in the Windchest - be sure to read and think about a role you might play. The Directory needs to be updated a bit. We will get to that and then send out a new login. Right now you can access it with 2020-2021.

FREE MEMBERSHIP

The AGO National Council is committed to membership recruitment, retention, and growth within our organization. During the Year of the Young Organist, July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022, any individual under the age of 30 can become a member or renew her/his membership for free as part of this program. Events and new initiatives will be held throughout the year.

The chapter is looking at new ways of communicating with our younger members, realizing they might not necessarily read this. If you agree with this and are able to help, please let someone on the Board know.

I hope everyone is healthy and leading your congregations with a joyful song.

Blessings and peace,

Jean Johnson

402-670-8177

jean.johnson.8@cox.net

OCTOBER MEMBER RECITAL

Our chapter proudly presents our member . . .

MARK KURTZ, in recital

First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St.

Sunday, October 3, 2021

4:00 p.m.

Mark's program features his AGO award winning composition, "Re-formations (after Bach)," which he had performed at the 2018 Kansas City AGO convention. Mark is including some of his other compositions, as well as some favorite organ classics.

Consider asking some of your non-AGO member acquaintances to join you in attending this event.

2021-2022 OMAHA AGO EVENTS

Omaha AGO Chapter events are posted on the chapter website at www.omahaago.org. The next upcoming event will be on the home page and all of the season events are listed under the "Events" page.

DONATIONS

To raise funds for our Scholarship Fund, we are asking for donations when we meet. It is one way we can all support our fellow young organists.

OCTOBER MEMBER RECITAL



THE OMAHA
CHAPTER OF THE
AMERICAN GUILD
OF ORGANISTS
PRESENTS

**"Before & After:
The Art of
Variation"**

Composer and Organist
Mark Kurtz in Recital.
Original compositions will
include "Re-Formations
(after Bach)," winner of
the 2018 AGO/Marilyn
Mason Award in Organ
Composition.

**Oct. 3, 2021
4:00 pm**

FUMC Omaha
7020 Cass Street
Omaha , NE 68132



HALLOWEEN ORGAN CONCERT

Sunday, October 31st at 4pm
Countryside Community Church
13130 Faith Plaza, on the Tri-Faith Commons

Please join us for a Halloween concert ranging from Bach and Boëllmann to music from the film Interstellar and a Covid-19 fugue.

OPEN
POSITION

First Lutheran
Church, Fremont,
Ne
Temporary
Keyboardist/Organ
ist

Church is currently
being remodeled
and expected
completion in
about 5 weeks.
Services are
currently being
held in the Church
Parish Hall (
keyboard/piano).

When services
return to the Nave
(electronic organ),
an organist will be
needed. Services
are: Sundays, 7:45
AM and 8:45 AM
(\$125 per service)

The church will be
looking to fill the
position
permanently,
sometime in the
Spring 2022.

Rev Ernesto
Medina,
ErnestoM@flcfremont.org + Phone
402-541-9454 (cell)

OMAHA CHAPTER AGO BUDGET 2021-2022

\$1,250	Programs
450	Hospitality
250	Technical Assistance
400	AGO Annual Fund
300	Miscellaneous
\$2,650	Total

Financial Report

General Funds	\$11,857
Scholarship Funds	\$1,200
POE Educational	\$2,696
Special Events	\$2,115

CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

Deadlines for taking AGO Certification exams:

- Service Playing deadline: between September 1, 2021, and February 1, 2022
- Colleague deadline: September 15, 2021 for November 12 exam; December 1, 2021 for May 13 exam.
- Associate, Fellow and Choir Master deadline: April 1, 2022, for June 1, 2, 3 exams

Check out Achievement Awards, free and administered by local chapter under The New Organist Tab of the agohq.org website. Whether you take them with a mentor or pursue them for personal, professional development, they will assist your musical skills.

If you have questions about Certification or Achievement Awards contact: Sr. Claudette Schiratti, cschiratti1@gmail.com



Don't be scammed!
Scammers have been trying to take advantage of AGO members with bogus emails regarding the purchase of gift cards, a free baby grand piano, payment schemes for weddings, organ lessons for international students, and convention mailing lists. Be vigilant if you receive any email that asks you to spend money or send someone a check. Scammers ALWAYS try to separate you from your money. Don't fall for these scams.

AGO NATIONAL CONVENTION



Save the Dates: July 3–7, 2022 - Seattle, Washington
<https://agoseattle2022.com/seattlepreview/>

RONALD G. POGORZELSKI–LESTER D. YANKEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The AGO will award two scholarships (\$15,000 each) for the 2022–2023 academic year. One scholarship will be awarded to an entering college freshman and one to a college student currently enrolled at either the freshman, sophomore, or junior level. The online application period is January 1–February 15, 2022. Applicants must have already completed a FAFSA application for the 2022–2023 academic year. To learn more: <https://www.agohq.org/education/pogorzelski-yankee-memorial-scholarships/>

NEW MEMBER!

Bouma, Stephen 402-431-3329
5123 Decatur, Omaha NE 68104
music@firstcentral.org
Organist, First Central Congregational Church, Omaha, NE

DONATIONS

To raise funds for our Scholarship Fund, we are asking for donations when we meet. It is one way we can all support our fellow young organists.

RETIREMENT RECEPTION

Sally Hodges has retired as organist at St Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church in Elkhorn.

A reception in her honor will be held at St. Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church on Sunday, November 14, 2021, at 11:30 a.m. All AGO Members and Friends are welcome! A choral anthem commissioned in Sally's honor will be sung by their choir at the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

OMAHA CHAPTER AGO YOUNG ORGANISTS (AGOYO) MENTOR PROGRAM

Any AGO member between the ages of 19 and 30 is considered an AGOYO

Purpose of the Program

- To provide at least a one year AGO membership for Young Organists
- To encourage AGO Young Organists to become further involved in the organ community
- To help AGO Young Organists see the benefits of membership and certification
- To encourage relationships among mature AGO members and AGO Young Organists

A Chapter Coordinator will contact all Omaha Chapter Young Organists to encourage and determine participation in this program. The Coordinator will then work to coordinate an appropriate relationship between mentors and Young Organists.

Mentors are members of the Omaha Chapter AGO who have agreed to the following:

- To contribute through the national office a membership for at least one year (\$50)
- To be in contact with the Young Organist during the year to offer encouragement
- To meet with organist at least two times to further support involvement in the organ community

Relationships may be renewed on an annual basis.

BEAUTY AND HOPE CONCERTS

Marie Rubis Bauer will continue the Beauty and Hope concerts at St. Cecilia Cathedral post-pandemic on the first Friday of each month. Programs will also be presented on selected first Friday evenings.

NEW MAILING ADDRESS!

The Omaha Chapter of The American Guild of Organists has a new mailing address: **PO Box 45062, Omaha, NE 68145**. Especially as we organize a Pipe Organ Encounter, it is important that sometimes sensitive personal information be sent to a secure location!

2021 - 2022
NOVEMBER

OMAHA CHAPTER
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

November 13, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.
Presentation by Tom Trenney, Lincoln Ne
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
925 South 84th St, Omaha, NE



Coming in November . . .

A not-to-be missed presentation by Tom Trenney.

Saturday, November 13, 10:00 a.m.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 925 S. 84th St.

As life begins to approach "normalcy" in Nebraska, we all can profit by an inspirational pep talk, as only Tom can give. Tom serves at First Plymouth in Lincoln and is active in the Abendmusik program as well.

BEDIENT PIPE ORGAN COMPANY

The Bedient Pipe Organ Company has completed the restoration of a pipe organ at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Malcolm, NE. The organ was built in 1905 by the Vogelpohl & Späth company of New Ulm, Minnesota. It was originally installed at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. That congregation built a new sanctuary in 1920 and traded this organ in for a new and larger instrument from the same firm. When St. Paul completed their church building in 1921, this organ was available and ready to deliver. It was installed in July of that year.

In the 1960s, it was decided that the elaborately stenciled pipes were a distraction from worship so they were painted black. Plywood paneling, also painted black, was installed to cover the oak case. In the 1980s, they realized this was a mistake and the facade pipes were repainted as you see them today. The oak casework was also revealed and refinished.

In celebration of their 100th anniversary, the congregation decided to have the organ restored. New stained-glass windows were also

commissioned to replace the old, colored plexiglass panels. The organ restoration work was comprehensive. The Swell was nearly unplayable due to numerous cracks in the windchest table. The Great was not much better. Notes would "bleed through" between one another. Wind loss was so great that all stops sounded muted and colorless. It was nearly impossible to tune. A new wind chest table of marine-grade mahogany plywood will give many decades of trouble-free service. The leaking wind reservoir was releathered and gaskets were replaced throughout the organ. The entire key action was cleaned, re-bushed, and regulated. Stopped wooden pipes were releathered and all the pipe work was cleaned and dents were removed. Other components were repaired or replicated as necessary.

The action is now light and responsive. There is no longer the constant hiss of wind leaks. Most importantly, the pipes all speak with clarity and richness that hasn't been heard in decades. Everyone on the Bedient crew is delighted to know that this organ will be faithfully serving this congregation for generations to come! More information and a stop list can be found on the Organ Historical Society Website: <https://www.pipeorgandatabase.org/organ/69161>

A dedication recital will be scheduled at a later date.



Timothy Pobanz (SPC) adjusts the tubing leading to the facade pipes

Ryan Luckey planes the lower side of the windchest grid

Completed installation

ABENDMUSIK SEASON SCHEDULE

Sunday, November 7, 2021, at 4:00 FREE ADMISSION

The Jason Max Ferdinand Singers

Sponsored by Matthew and Ann Finkner and the Lincoln Community Foundation's Give to Lincoln Day

Non-profit partner The Malone Center

The JMF Singers are a true phenomenon in choral music, recognized since their online debut in March 2021. These talented singers breathe life into music of BIPOC composers that will move us forward in our lives and times. America's hottest new professional choir makes its Midwest debut! SNEAK PREVIEW: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lhttpspi_WusRJA

Sunday, November 28, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. FREE ADMISSION

Handel's Messiah Community Sing

sponsored by Susan Sehnert Stuart

Non-profit partner People's City Mission

Hallelujah! Come one, come all: Raise your voice and join with professional soloists at Lincoln's annual community sing of George Frideric Handel's monumental masterpiece, *Messiah*. Scores will be available to borrow or to purchase if you do not have your own.

Sunday, December 12, 2021, at 4:00 (in person only) and 7:00 p.m. (in person and streamed)

With the Angels, Let Us Sing! FREE ADMISSION

Sponsored by Lorraine Lau, Linda Schwartzkopf and Mike Fultz

Music is well said to be the speech of angels. Thomas Carlyle

Take a deep breath, and feel the *real* meaning of Christmas. The Plymouth Choir, Plymouth Ringers, and Abendmusik Chamber Orchestra with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem."

Friday, December 31, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. FREE ADMISSION

New Year's Eve Last Blast

sponsored by Charles and Mary Ann Erickson, Fred and Margaret Rickers, in collaboration with the Lincoln Organ Showcase

Lincoln's most treasured New Year concert tradition welcomes back guest conductor Jeremy Bankson and virtuoso organist Todd Wilson with our beloved Plymouth Brass. Step into 2022 with a spring in your step.

Friday, January 21, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. FREE ADMISSION

The Mark of Zorro

sponsored by Rob McMaster and Maureen Ose and the Ruth Marie Amen Performing Arts Fund, in collaboration with the Lincoln Organ Showcase

Swash! Buckle! Boo! Hiss! Children of all ages welcome. Audience interaction will be rewarded. Following the success of last season's *Phantom of the Opera*, Abendmusik's own Tom Trenney pulls out all the stops at the Lied Organ to accompany the non-stop action of the legendary Douglas Fairbanks in the action-packed 1920 silent film, *The Mark of Zorro*. Mask, cape, or mustache not required, but encouraged.

Monday, February 14, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. ONLINE ONLY

An Abendmusik fundraiser: Tom Trenney and the Great American Songbook

My Funny Valentine

Abendmusik invites you to be our valentine! Enjoy a relaxing evening at home, or invite family or friends over for a catered meal delivered to your door, and join Tom Trenney and friends for after-dinner entertainment from the Great American Songbook. Candles optional, roses and chocolate recommended. Online only! Purchase tickets for online streaming, home delivery of a gourmet valentine's meal, flowers, and treats. www.abendmusik.org or call (402) 476-9933.

Monday, February 28, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. FREE ADMISSION

Youth Masterworks Festival at the Lied: Mozart's Requiem

sponsored by Dr. John Casey, Dr. Pamela Starr, and the Pearle Francis Finigan Foundation, in collaboration with Lincoln's Youth Symphony

Non-profit partner Cedars Youth Opportunity Center

Enthusiasm and budding talents will take your breath away. Tom Trenney will conduct hundreds of youth from Lincoln area high schools in singing Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's dramatic, passionate *Requiem*, accompanied by the highly lauded Lincoln Youth Symphony and featuring professional soloists.

Friday, April 22, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. at the Lied Center (no live stream), for ticket information, visit www.lincolnsymphony.com or call 402.476.2211.

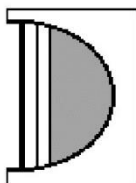
Beethoven's Ninth Symphony and Jake Runestad's "A Silence Haunts Me" at the Lied: Abendmusik Chorus, Doane and Nebraska Wesleyan University Choirs with Lincoln's Symphony Orchestra

The Lincoln Symphony Orchestra is joined by the Abendmusik Chorus and Doane and Nebraska Wesleyan choirs at the Lied Center as they perform Beethoven's iconic Ode to Joy and the *world premiere* of the orchestration of Jake Runestad's gripping ode to Beethoven: "A Silence Haunts Me" with text based on Beethoven's Heiligenstadt Testament. This distinguished collaboration will fill the bill for lovers of classical AND contemporary music.

Sunday, May 29, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. (carillon prelude in courtyard at 3:15 p.m.) FREE ADMISSION
Abendmusik's 50th Anniversary Gala Concert
 Sponsored by Frank and Beth Thompson and the estate of Laurel Ann Berg Muff

Abendmusik's Founding Artistic Director Jack Levick returns to lead the Abendmusik Chorus and alumni from the choir in an unforgettable choral/orchestral spectacular culminating Abendmusik's first five decades of music that inspires. Celebrate with us as our honored guests!

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!



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