

THE WINDCHEST

OMAHA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

OCTOBER 2019



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FROM THE DEAN

The “Dean’s Column” for the October issue of *The Windchest* is exceedingly easy to author! The reason? There is lots of good news to share with chapter members and friends, bringing everyone up to date on the “State of the Omaha AGO Chapter.”

First, our membership continues to increase. The 2019-2020 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY, published in early September, lists a total of 78 members. Of those 78 members, 14 are listed as “Young Organist,” members under the age of 30 when they registered. Moreover, Omaha AGO has gained two new members within the last month, with a third (also a “Young Organist”) who will be joining AGO in October. With so many “Young Organist” members, the future of AGO is indeed looking good!

facebook

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

Omaha’s growth has been noted and is being followed by the official national membership registration staff at Headquarters. National has contacted Omaha AGO leadership not only congratulating us on our membership growth but seeking information on how we are gaining membership. The answers always include: (1) relevant and professional level programs, workshops and events that are applicable to and for everyone; (2) Sponsorship of professional level musicians in concert and/or recital; (3) Applicable, relevant and positive communications within the chapter;; sharing ideas, music, information, and excitement for “who and what we are” as organists; (4) Applicable communications and promotions throughout the area; (5) Promotion and development of studio teachers who offer organ instruction and/or lessons leading to performance opportunities; (6) Encourage members to earn AGO certification, learn new repertoire, perform recitals, offer to teach workshops and seminars—always on the “cutting edge” of professionalism.

In addition to Omaha AGO membership growth, the National certification staff has invited the Omaha Chapter to be one of six chapters nationwide to carry out a pilot project regarding the development of music theory classes. The proposal includes six

SALLY HODGES

Sally Hodges is celebrating her 10th year as organist at St. Augustine Episcopal Church in Elkhorn by playing a short program/recital at 10:00 AM on Sunday, October 6, prior to the 10:30 service. There will be works of J.S. Bach, Buxtehude, Debussy, Gerald Near, and Carson Cooman. You are invited to come for the program and the service following, as well.

"levels". The proposal includes lesson plans as well as "test" or evaluation forms. comprehensive theory lessons that are basically "Music Theory 101" This theory program is intended to assist those preparing to take the SPC and especially the CAGO exams. The project can be taught as a class, or as part of studio organ lesson curriculum.

Omaha AGO has a "Young Organist" member who was the KVNO "Classical Kid of the Month" for July 2019. Thomas Koch is listed as "Young Organiist: KVNO Classical Kid of the Month—July 2019" on page 11 of the current membership book. Thomas is the second organist in the history of "Classical Kid of the Month" to earn this recognition. (The first was Timothy Conner who earned the recognition in 2017; later receiving recognition in July 2017 issue of THE AMERICAN ORGANIST, by becoming the youngest organist if AGO history to earn certification.

Our chapter's Kick-Off speaker, Dr. Karen Black, North Central Regional Councillor, often speaks highly of Omaha AGO growth and attitude, emphasizing the quality of our programming and chapter membership involvement.

Certainly the most important and significant reason for the strength, growth and visibility as a vibrant AGO chapter, is the sheer dedication and involvement of the Executive Board of the chapter, including Sub-Dean—DIRK LINDNER; Secretary: GREGORY JOHNSON; Treasurer: GINA SIMPSON; Members-at-Large: SONYA LUNGREN; JEFF HOFFMAN; and LAURA RAU.

Peace and good will. Psalm 96:1-2.

Dr. J. Gordon Christensen, AAGO

RECITAL

What: Organ Recital

Who: J Gordon Christensen, AAGO

Where: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 239 Frank Street, Council Bluffs

When: Sunday, October 27, 3:00 p.m.

Repertoire includes: Music by Mendelssohn, J. S. Bach, Buxtehude, Cesar Franck, Paul Manz and others.

Other details: Reception following. Everyone welcome.



2019 - 2020
OCTOBER

OMAHA CHAPTER
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS



Sunday, October 13, 2019
5:00 p.m. Denominational Musician Associations,
6:00 p.m. Complimentary Dinner
7:00 p.m. Compline
led by Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Schola Cantorum
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral - 113 North 18th Street, Omaha, NE

It's not too early to mark your calendars for the 2020 National Convention in Atlanta!

The theme is kaleidoscope and the event will share the many shapes and colors that make this diverse city so great.

This convention will be like no other in the past, using more technology and a diverse kaleidoscope of sound, artists and worship styles. Attendees will have access to apps to make the experience more informative, educational and user friendly.

Please use the Chapel entrance (red door facing Capitol Avenue) and proceed to Gardner Hall.

Please make a dinner reservation by the end of the day on Thursday, October 3rd to Dirk Lindner, dirk16@cox.net or 402-614-0892.

Dr. Marty Wheeler Burnett, the newly installed President of the Association of Anglican Musicians, will present a program on denominational associations for musicians. The Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Schola Cantorum will present a sung Compline service following.

AGO ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PILOT PROGRAM

The AGO Achievement Awards are designed to assist and encourage early-level organists as they improve their skills. A mentor from the chapter volunteers his or her time and energy throughout the process – from planning through completion. The candidate, who must be a chapter member, prepares the requirements independently or with the help of the mentor, a teacher, or chapter member, or friend. The candidate then may complete the requirements with the mentor. This process provides a simple way for the chapter to involve new organists in chapter activity, and to encourage them to continue their education through AGO certification.

- The Achievement Award will be encouraging and motivating at every point in the process.
- Mentors are qualified, possessing an AGO certificate or college degree in organ.
- Study and practice will continue until all requirements are met. Candidates never “fail” anything in this process.

HARPSICHORD AVAILABLE

Any harpsichord aficionados? Countryside would love to find a new home for its harpsichord! John Miller built it from a kit bought by the Women's Fellowship about 45 years ago. It needs some tender loving care, but all in all is in pretty good condition. If you are interested, please contact Diane Hill dihill@outlook.com or 402-330-1899.

- Mentors are provided to teach and encourage throughout the entire process.
- The Achievement Award is a free benefit of AGO membership.
- Basic ORGAN CONSOLE skills covered will include identifying instrument builder and opus number, identifying stops and ranks, describe at least two important mechanisms (key actions), identify the keyboards that correspond to the organ's divisions, the pedal expression and crescendo devices, how to navigate the memory levels and stop controls, explain how reversibles operate, and the correct way to shut off the instrument.
- Basic HARMONY skills will include harmonizing a simple progression in four-part harmony, identifying scale degrees, explain what tonic, subdominant, dominant and tonic mean, play diatonic triads found on each scale degree, seventh chords, in C Major and A minor.
- Basic REGISTRATION skills will include identifying a principal chorus, a combination suitable for a trio, solo and accompaniment with balanced pedal, what a celeste is and used for, meaning and uses of couples, what 16, 8, 4, mixtures and mutations mean and are used for, and demonstrate an effective registration for a joyful and a contemplative hymn.
- Basic MANUAL AND PEDAL TECHNIQUE, including the difference between piano and organ technique, legato and non-legato touch, demonstrate legato fingering techniques, supply legato fingerings for a short passage of music, describe the characteristics of good organ shoes, describe several pedal techniques, demonstrate proper body position, play a short, simple passage of music before 1750 with both legato and non-legato technique and a short passage of music using legato touch, play pedal scales, and a piece demonstrating good independence of line.
- Basic TRANSPOSITION, playing a short, prepared, passage of music in three keys, including G major, D Major, A Major, F Major, B-flat major, E-flat major.

THE WINDCHEST

The *Windchest* editor is Jeff Hoffman. Please send content suggestions and information to Jeff at omahaago@gmail.com by the 25th of each month. *The Windchest* will be published on or before the first of each month.

CATHEDRAL ARTS PROJECT

AUTUMN

Saturday, September 7, 2020 - 10 AM—1:00 PM
Remembering TRK
A tour of some of the buildings of Thomas Rogers Kimball and a visit to the family plot at Forest Lawn Cemetery.
Departure & return: Saint Cecilia Cathedral, 40th & Webster Streets.
RSVP by September 4, 2019, with name, phone & number of guests to dabegley@archomaha.org or call 402-827-3847

Sunday, September 8, 2019 - 1 PM—3 PM
Edge: Fiber Art and Quilting
First Friday Reception: October 4, 2019
Closes: Sunday, October 13, 2019

Saturday, October 5, 2019 - 10:30 AM
The Blessing of the Animals
A celebration of all creatures great and small

Sunday, October 20, 2019 - 3 PM
Cathedral Organist Series
Nicole Simental, Organist
Saint Joseph Cathedral Columbus, OH

Sunday, October 20, 2019 - 1 PM—3 PM
Plein Air: In the Tradition of the Impressionists
First Friday Reception: November 1, 2019
Closes: Sunday, November 17, 2019

Sunday, November 17, 2019 - 3 PM
HOMMAGE NOTRE DAME
Saint Cecilia Cathedral Choir
Missa Notre Dame, Machaut; Messe Solennelle - Vierne;
Salve Regina - Latry
Marie Rubis Bauer, Director & Michael Emmerich Organist

**CATHEDRAL
ARTS
PROJECT**

**35
YEARS**

MISSION

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music.

To achieve this, we:

- Encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music;
- Inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors;
- Provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support;
- Nurture future generations of organists;
- Promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and
- Engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

CHORAL EVENSONG

October 9, 2019
7:00 p.m.
St. Barnabas
Church
129 N 40th Street
Omaha, Ne

Saint Barnabas will observe the feast of Blessed John Henry Newman on Wednesday, October 9 with Choral Evensong and Benediction at 7:00 pm, followed by a reception in the undercroft. The following Sunday, Newman will be canonized by Pope Francis in Rome. Come celebrate this great churchman who is of particular significance to those who have made the journey from Anglicanism to full communion with the Catholic Church.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL



Compline at Trinity Cathedral
Ancient Worship for the Modern Soul
Compline – night prayer – is a contemplative office focused on spiritual peace. Trinity Cathedral's Schola Cantorum will offer music at this candlelit liturgy of prayer and reflection.

Compline is offered at 7:00 pm on
September 22
October 13
November 17



Cantata Choral Academy
Choral music education for children and youth in the Anglican tradition.
Fall registration now open

<http://trinityepiscopal.org/cantata>



Opera Omaha ONE Festival Preview Concert
Thursday, December 6, 7:00 p.m.
Trinity Cathedral

Music of Alessandro Stradella, including motets sung by the Trinity Cathedral Schola Cantorum
Free admission



MAGNIFICAT: Cathedral Vespers
Sunday, December 15, 3:00 p.m.
Saint Cecilia Cathedral, 701 N. 40th St., Omaha

Choral Festival event with the Saint Cecilia Cathedral Choir, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Choir, and guest choirs



Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

113 N 18th St. (18th & Capitol)
Omaha, NE 68102
(402) 342-7010
trinityepiscopal.org

TWELFTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS

The Omaha AGO chapter event on January 5th will feature chapter members' compositions in a Christmas Service of nine Lessons and Carols in the Anglican King' College tradition. Several composers have submitted works for inclusion. Please contact Jeff Hoffman at 402-317-8887 or omahaago@gmail.com to submit a work or inquire about the musical needs for the service.

LAUDAMUS CHOIR IN CONCERT



October 12, 2019

7:00 p.m.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

239 Frank Street

Laudamus is a select choir of seminarians preparing for full-time service as pastors in The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod (LCMS). Under the direction of Dr. James Marriott, Concordia Seminary's director of musical arts, the choir delights in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ through music.

Each year, the choir schedules tours to LCMS schools, universities and churches throughout the country, singing an eclectic program representing the church's song from many different genres. During the 2019-20 academic year, Laudamus will go on two tours, one in the fall and another in the spring. Each concert is free and open to the public. Freewill offerings will be collected to support musical arts programs at the Seminary.

Rev. Bill Wrede of the Seminary's admissions team will be available beginning at 3:00 p.m. on October 12th to talk with prospective students and anyone interested in church work opportunities and answer questions about the Seminary. You may contact Rev. Wrede at 314-505.7221 or wredew@csl.edu to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome.

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