

THE WINDCHEST

OMAHA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS



FEBRUARY 2022

DONATIONS

FROM THE DEAN

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.

NEW MAILING ADDRESS!

Omaha AGO has a new mailing address: PO Box 45062, Omaha, NE 68145. As we organize a Pipe Organ Encounter, it is important that personal information be sent to a secure location!

DR. MARQUES GARRETT
AFRICAN-AMERICAN ORGAN AND CHORAL MUSIC
FEBRUARY 5TH - 10:00 - FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH - 6630 Dodge

I listened to several virtual choral programs in December and was thrilled to hear two of Dr. Garrett's compositions. They were wonderful. Please join us for this Omaha AGO program.

Thank you to Mary Norton and Peggy Wolverton who provided some wonderful two piano arrangements of Christmas music at our January meeting. A last-minute change meant we met at Mary's home for a fun afternoon of listening, relaxing and visiting.

Always be on the watch for Omaha news in The American Organist magazine. In December the chapter was listed as a \$400 donor to the AGO Annual Fund. In January page 20 had a picture of Marie Rubis Bauer and an article about her organ program. Page 24 had an article and pictures of the new Casavant-Freres organ at St. Wenceslaus Catholic church. Page 88 held the article about the chapter's program featuring Mark Kurtz. And - on page 99 is the advertisement for the Omaha Pipe Organ Encounter coming this June 19-25.

Sr. Claudette Schiratti is chair of the Nominating Committee and is joined by Dirk Lindner and Julie Sandene. The chapter needs to have officers who will promote the aims of the AGO and encourage its members. Please say "yes" if you are asked to serve. Or - volunteer for something. I would love to hear someone call me and say they would do whatever needs to be done!

Welcome new members Natalie Ones, Kendall Crilly, and Chaplain Collin Warren. Natalie is a student of Dr. C and a cook at an Old Market restaurant. Chaplain Warren has belonged before and is serving a couple of Catholic schools at mass - and has played for years at the Orpheum, Rosenblatt and the Civic Auditorium.

MEMBER
KENDALL
CRILLY

I am a native of Nebraska. I grew up in Tekamah and now live in Omaha. I am the Organist at Lord of Life LCMS in Elkhorn, for Student Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church as well as Saturday evening Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Omaha. I was the House Organist for the Orpheum Theater and Stadium Organist for the Royals Baseball team at Rosenblatt and the Maverick Hockey Team at the CenturyLink Center. I have been playing for 30+ years and come from 5 generations of organists. This is my 3rd time being a part of the AGO and look forward to staying with it!!

Financial Report	General Funds	\$10,560.28
	Scholarship Funds	\$ 2,320.00
	Special Events	\$ 2,115.64
	Educational (POE)	\$ 2,696.83

Jeff Hoffman has received 3 applications for the POE.

As the Pandemic marches on - and normal events also continue - several of our members have lost loved ones, suffered illness, lost jobs and have extra stress in their lives. Probably all of us have choir members or congregations dealing with hard decisions. A good time to be encouraging every time we can. I played for Jerry Brabec recently and the pastor read a sermon written by Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1963. It felt like an honor to listen to it. Problems then are still problems now - but there has been progress. The church continues to be a place where love is given and received. May you feel the love others have for you - and may you seek out someone who needs the love you have to give.

Blessings,
Jean Johnson, Dean



Mary Norton and Peggy Wolverton at the January Omaha AGO Meeting.

BEAUTY AND HOPE

This month's *Beauty and Hope* recital at St. Cecilia Cathedral will be played by Marie Rubis Bauer.

Friday, February 4th at Noon.

Registration is open and three students have signed up so far! Now that the holidays are over the detailed planning will be completed.

Please let Jeff Hoffman know at 402-317-8887 or at buildandencourage@gmail.com if you would like to help in any way!

Upcoming Chapter Program: Please note we are taking every effort to make our events as safe as possible: In February there will be social distancing, masks will be required, and we will not serve coffee or snacks. Please, if you feel this will help you be safe, we hope you will decide to attend.

Saturday, February 5 – Dr. Marques Garrett, professor of choral music at UNL, is coming to present “African-American Organ and Choral Music.” Dr. Garrett is a published composer and will speak firsthand on his subject. We gather in the sanctuary (for social distancing) at First Christian Church, 6630 Dodge Street, at 10:00 a.m. The church requires us all to wear masks, so please comply for the safety of us all. We had postponed this program last year due to COVID, and we are hoping that we will be able to attend safely this year in spite of the COVID issues in Omaha.

Outlook for March: Let’s hope and pray that the current COVID issues will be lessening by March. At this time, we are planning to go ahead with our programming: And what a program we will have!

Saturday, March 5, “The Art of Registration: Tasteful Traditions and Inspired Innovations,” 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St. Led by Mark Kurtz. Lunch will be provided. Advance RSVP reservations requested to Jean Johnson at jean.johnson@cox.net or text or call (402) 670-8177.

Which stops to use? This is a question every organist must ask themselves every time they sit at a bench, and the choices that are made will have a dramatic impact on the perception of the listener. However, the answers are not easy. Are there instructions published in the score, or not? If yes, should they be followed to the letter? What adaptations or substitutions may need to be made? What if no suggestions are published on the page?

Award-winning composer and organist Mark Kurtz will share his passion, finesse, and creativity for registration in a workshop which will provide a framework for consistently producing bold and beautiful combinations on any instrument. Through PowerPoint photographs, recordings, and live demonstrations at the console, participants will be taken on a whirlwind tour of 500 years of organ building history,

ACCOMPANIST NEEDED

St. Bonaventure
Catholic Church –
Columbus, NE is in
immediate need of
a musician to play
for weekend
liturgies,
accompanying
both choirs and
individual cantors.
Some rehearsal
time may be
required. Send
resume to Fr. Mike
Swanton at
[mjswanton@archo
maha.org](mailto:mjswanton@archo
maha.org).

OPEN POSITIONS

Current open
positions may be
found on our
website at:
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focusing on four significant “schools” of design, their aesthetics, the music that was written for them, and their influence on the choices still being made today in design and performance. These four stylistic models will then serve as “templates” for discussion and experimentation, in which volunteers will have an opportunity to try out their own registrations on the four-manual, 70-rank Quimby pipe organ in the First United Methodist Church sanctuary. Whether participants are new to the topic or well-established in their practices, this is intended to be a fun, interactive experience, celebrating the grand traditions of the past while exploring new approaches for what is yet to come.

Monday, May 23 – We are finally hoping we can end our season on a climax with a fellowship dinner. We meet at First Presbyterian, Bellevue, 6:00 p.m. Program will include installation of officers and a presentation from Elizabeth George from the national AGO.

ANNOUNCING WOMAN COMPOSER SUNDAY

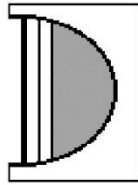
An AGO Collaboration with the
Royal College of Organists and the
Society of Women Organists
Sunday, March 6, 2022
ALL ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE

Play at least one piece of repertoire by a woman composer at church, synagogue, place of worship, or recital space. Last year’s repertoire list is available at tinyurl.com/woman-composer-rep, with more to come!

TIME TO START PRACTICING!

<https://www.agohq.org/task-force-gender-equity/>

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Organ Concerts
from
St. Cecilia Cathedral
701 North 40th Street

Marie Rubis Bauer, Organist
Fridays at Noon

Music and prayer to inspire the soul during a time
of pandemic

Beauty and Hope

