



**Volume 66, No. 6  
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**DEADLINE  
For the May  
issue of  
*THE WINDCHEST*  
the deadline is  
April 15, 2016**

Gina Simpson, Editor  
ginas@chirock.com

### **Dean's Message**

While reviewing the 2015-2016 Membership Directory of the Omaha Chapter, I was impressed with the diversity of talent and developed musical leadership represented in our chapter. 100% of our membership reflects remarkable skill, knowledge, and commitment in organ and/or choral leadership throughout the area. Omaha AGO membership includes published composers of choral, organ, and pedagogical resources, music teachers and professors, choral directors and concert organists of local, national and international repute, organ builders and technicians—the list of talent and developed skills in Omaha AGO membership is endless! All of this talent and skill reflects educational commitment to achieve the levels of musicianship represented in our chapter.

In fact, the *AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS* was chartered as an educational organization. The Guild's strongest education component is certification. "The AGO was chartered in 1896 by the Board of Regents, University of the State of New York, to administer a comprehensive series of examinations for professional certification." Through the Professional Certification Committee the Guild offers five certificates:

- Service Playing Certificate (SPC)
- Colleague American Guild of Organists (CAGO)
- Choir Master (ChM)
- Associate American Guild of Organists (AAGO)
- Fellow American Guild of Organists (FAGO)

These certification exams are indeed comprehensive. Not only do the exams require considerable development of technical skills at the console and with the baton, they increasingly require historic, repertoire, transposition, improvisation and compositional skills as well. Guild headquarters offer many pedagogical resources available to members (and non-members) who are preparing to take the certification exams. The July issue of *THE AMERICAN ORGANIST* publishes certification requirements, examination

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## OUR NEXT MEETING

**The Omaha Chapter AGO Hymn Festival  
Sunday, April 17, 2016; 3:30 PM  
First United Methodist Church  
7020 Cass Street, Omaha**

The Omaha Chapter AGO's Hymn Festival is fast approaching! April 17 at 3:30 p.m. I hope you are at First United Methodist Church to join the song. The festival is held as an outreach of the guild to the community. We will experience ways the organ can lead congregational song in new and different ways.

This is a big undertaking for the chapter. nine organists have set aside extra practice, a hard working committee is putting it all together and 75 choir members are learning their parts. I think it will be meaningful and uplifting for everyone.

The chapter was challenged with a \$1,000 gift, if we could raise a matching amount. All gifts are used to fund educational events for organists. We will have a free-will offering at the festival toward this goal. I would encourage all members to consider a gift - even if you cannot attend. Send a check made to the Omaha Chapter, AGO to Gina Simpson at 5633 South 118 Plaza Omaha 68137. Maybe your church would contribute. Think of how your church has benefited from the educational events you have attended as an AGO member.

Join your voice in the song! See you April 17.

Jean Johnson  
Chair of the Hymn Festival Committee

## MAY MEETING – 5/9

**Omaha AGO Banquet  
and Installation of Officers**

**Monday, May 9, 2016; 6:00 P.M.  
St. Paul United Methodist Church  
5410 Corby Street, Omaha**

Host: Jerry Brabec

Menu, prepared and served by St. Paul Methodist Catering Service:

- Boneless Breast of Chicken in Apricot Glaze
- Roasted Sweet and White Potatoes
- Mixed Greens Salad in Balsamic Vinaigrette
- Dinner Roll
- Flourless Chocolate Cake with Berry Blend Topping

Price per meal:

ADULT: \$18.00

CHILDREN 12 YEARS AND UNDER: \$10.00

**RSVP: GINA SIMPSON by MAY 4.**

Payment payable to the Omaha Chapter, AGO. Please send your check to Gina, who will write a check to St. Paul Catering Service from the Chapter's checking account.

Gina's contact information:

[ginas@chirock.com](mailto:ginas@chirock.com) or (Cell) 402-312-1157.

## Organ for Sale



Omaha AGO member Sally Hodges is offering a Lowry two manual full pedal board instrument dating from the 1970's for sale. Quoting Sally: ". . . good condition and is certainly suitable for practice. Would be suitable for a student."

Available for \$50.00 and pick-up from Sally's walkout basement.

Contact Sally at: (402) 289-1860 or email: [sallyspiano@cox.net](mailto:sallyspiano@cox.net).

### Dean's Letter (continued from page 1)

schedules and sites annually. SPC and CAGO exams may be taken locally; for ChM, AAGO, and FAGO, candidates travel to listed examination sites.

With the decline and elimination of organ departments in universities, colleges and conservatories, opportunities for organ study have been eliminated. The Guild is one of very few organizations that continue to offer solid organ and choral music education of substance.

Several members of the Omaha Chapter have expressed interest in earning SPC and/or CAGO certification, suggesting the chapter offer a "certification class," with an emphasis on preparation for SPC and CAGO certification.

Omaha AGO has the diversity, developed musical talent, and resources to host a certification class. Three members have expressed interest in SPC, two in CAGO preparation. The executive board has briefly discussed development of a class, which will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Members interested in a certification class, either as a teacher or scholar, are asked to contact Dr. Christensen before July 1.

Dr. Christensen, Dean  
Omaha AGO

### Officers for 2015-16

|            |                       |
|------------|-----------------------|
| DEAN:      | J. Gordon Christensen |
| SUB-DEAN:  | Marie Rubis Bauer     |
| SECRETARY: | Gregory Johnson       |
| TREASURER: | Gina Simpson          |

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE (3-year terms):

Claire Eason (1<sup>st</sup> of 3 years)  
Julie Sandene (2<sup>nd</sup> of 3 years)  
Jean Johnson (3<sup>rd</sup> year – fulfilling  
J. Gordon Christensen's term)

### Spire Baroque Ensemble – 4/15

#### Spire Baroque Ensemble – Choir and Period Instrument Ensemble

Friday, April 15, 2016 @ 7:30 p.m.  
St. Cecilia Cathedral

Handel's *Dixit Dominus*, a virtuosic work composed in Rome in 1707, is truly a unique masterpiece that shows how prodigiously gifted, inventive, and ambitious the musician was in his early twenties. All of Handel's art and style are already embodied in this 30-minute long breathtaking composition. Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* has been lauded as "arguably Haydn's greatest single composition." The profound majesty of this monumental work is a highlight of the Classical era and influenced, among others, the music of Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and Brahms. The *Lord Nelson Mass* will be sung by the expert voices of the Spire Chamber Ensemble, and, to our knowledge this is the first time for a period instrument orchestra in Omaha.

The Concert is Free – with a free-will offering gathered – hosted by Saint Cecilia Cathedral and the Cathedral Arts Project.

### Nominating Committee Report

The Omaha AGO Nominating Committee has unanimously approved the following slate for the 2016-2017 term:

**J. Gordon Christensen (dean),**  
**Marie Rubis Bauer (sub-dean),**  
**Greg Johnson (secretary),**  
**Gina Simpson (treasurer),**  
**Jean Johnson , Board Member at Large**

(Julie Sandene and Greg Johnson each are serving three-year terms, and are "mid-term.")

The membership is invited to submit further nominations. Members may contact Chapter Dean, J. Gordon Christensen, or Nominations Committee Chair, Michael Kesar.





# Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

Historic church. Fresh ideas. Your spiritual home in downtown Omaha.

**New York Polyphony**  
**Friday, October 23, 7:30 pm**  
 Concert (Free admission)  
**Sunday, October 25, 10:30 am**  
 Choral Mass

**All Saints Day Evensong**  
**Sunday, November 1, 4:00 pm**  
 Combined choirs of Trinity &  
 Saint Cecilia Cathedrals

**Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols**  
**Sunday, December 6, 10:30 am**  
 Cathedral Choir and Handbells

**Christmas Eve Choral Mass**  
**Thursday, December 24**  
 5:00 pm Résonance  
 10:00 pm Cathedral Choir  
 & Palladium Brass Quintet

**Organ Recital** Dr. Robert Delcamp  
**Thursday, January 21, 7:30 pm**  
 (Free admission)

**Choral Evensong**  
**Sunday, February 21, 4:00 pm**  
 Combined Choirs of All Saints Episcopal Church,  
 St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, and  
 Trinity Cathedral

**Easter Day**  
**Sunday, March 27**  
 8:30 and 10:30 am  
 The Cathedral Choir & Palladium Brass

**Cathedra**  
**Thursday, May 12, 7:30 pm**  
 Resident choral ensemble at Washington  
 National Cathedral  
 Conductor Michael McCarthy  
 (Free admission with donation to  
 the Food Bank for the Heartland)



Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 113 N 18th Street Omaha, NE 68102

[www.trinityepiscopal.org](http://www.trinityepiscopal.org)

402-342-7010



## 2015-16 OMAHA CHAPTER BUSINESS ASSOCIATES

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1060 SALTILLO RD.  
 ROCA, NE 68430  
[bedientorgan.com](http://bedientorgan.com)

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### RICK DARROW DARROW PIPE ORGANS

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### CLAIRE RAE ROEHRKASSE EASON, SPC, CAGO

CHURCH SERVICES, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS

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### GREGORY JOHNSON KEYBOARD KASTLE

7013 DODGE STREET  
 OMAHA, NE 68132

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### GERALD OEHRING CHURCH ORGANS OF NEBRASKA

2600 NORTH 48<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
 LINCOLN, NE 68504

(605) 539-1900

### DAVID RUSSELL SALMEN SALMEN ORGANS

38569 HWY. 34  
 WESSINGTON SPRINGS, SD 57382

## In the Cathedral Nave

***Blessing of the Animals - Celebrating all creatures great and small.***  
Saturday, October 3, 2015, Prelude - 10:30 a.m., Blessing - 11:00 a.m.,  
featuring the *Palladium Brass* and the *Archdiocesan Youth Choir*.

***James David Christie, Organ***  
Sunday, October 18, 2015 - 3:00 p.m.  
Organist, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, College Organist at Wellesley College

***Saint Cecilia Day Concert***  
Sunday, November 22, 2015 - 3:00 p.m.  
A celebration of the Cathedral's patroness featuring the *Cathedral Choirs* and  
*Marie Rubis Bauer*: Cathedral Organist

***An Advent Celebration***  
*Mary Bircher: Harp, Craig Bircher: Trumpet*  
Sunday, November 29, 2015, 3:00 p.m.  
Saint Paul's Lutheran Church, 239 Frank St, Council Bluffs

***Christmas at the Cathedral***  
Friday, December 4, 2015 - 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday, December 6, 2015 - 2:00 p.m.  
*Omaha Symphonic Chorus and the Omaha Symphony Chamber Orchestra*  
Information: [www.omahasymphonicchorus.org](http://www.omahasymphonicchorus.org).

***Cathedral Flower Festival***  
Saturday, Sunday, January 30, 31, 2016  
The 31th Annual Cathedral Flower Festival invites you to *A Night at the Movies!*  
Check the *Omaha World Herald* for specific times and programs.

***New York Polyphony***  
Sunday, February 7, 2016 - 3:00 p.m.  
New York Polyphony is regarded as one of the finest vocal chamber ensembles in  
the world. *The four men*, "singers of superb musicianship and vocal allure."  
(*The New Yorker*)

***Cathedral Lecture***  
Thursday, February 25, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.  
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral  
113 North 18th Street  
The second presentation on the continued progress of the renovation of the  
Crystal Cathedral presented by Brother William Woeger, FSC, Liturgical  
Designer for the new Christ Cathedral, Diocese of Orange County, California.

***Cathedral Jazz Workshops***  
Sundays of March, 2016  
Led by noted Omaha Jazz pianist *Robert Glaser and Company*  
Information: [regpiano@cox.net](mailto:regpiano@cox.net)

***A Bach Birthday Celebration***  
Sunday, March 6, 2016, 3:00 p.m.  
*Douglas Cleveland*, Organist, University of Washington, Seattle and Seattle Symphony

***An Easter Celebration***  
Sunday, April, 3, 2016 - 3:00 p.m.  
*Music from Lent through Easter - Cathedral Choir, Marie Rubis Bauer, Conductor*

***Spire Ensemble - Choir and Baroque Orchestra***  
Friday, April 15, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.  
Kansas City's newest ensemble will fill the Cathedral with Handel and Haydn!

***Gail Archer, Organ***  
Sunday, May 8, 2016 - 3:00 p.m.  
Grammy-nominated Organist from Vassar and Barnard Colleges in New York " ...she  
played with an agility that met the music's coloristic and rhythmic demands." (NY Times)

## In the Cathedral Cultural Center Sunderland Gallery

***De-constructing Kimball***  
August 23 - September 27, 2015

***Los Dias de Los Muertos***  
October 17 - November 7, 2015, Opening reception October 17 - 7:00 p.m.

***Retrospective: Paintings by Mary Murphy***  
November 22 - December 30, 2015, Opening reception November 22 - 1:00 p.m. -  
3:00 p.m.

***Flower Festival Exhibition: The Golden Age of Film Stars***  
January 29 - 31, 2016

***Phil Hawkins: Installations***  
February 21 - April 8, 2016, Opening reception February 21 - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

***Edge: Contemporary Fiber Artists***  
April 24 - June 5, 2016, Opening reception, April 24 - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.