

THE WINDCHEST

OMAHA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS



JULY 2021

Inside this Issue:

- 1 From the Dean
- 2 Free Memberships
- 4 Spring Programs
- 4 Virtual Recital
- 4 Beauty and Hope
- 5 Supporters

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

IT'S TIME!

There are times in all our lives when we have to look at what is happening and realize that it's time! It feels like we have spent 18 months in a fog - at home, concerts cancelled, jobs cancelled, deaths, meetings and visits on screen. Just as it seems this pandemic is letting up, our country comes face to face with ourselves with regard to race relations, the need for respect of all people, the way to live as Christians. It is all hard - but it's time.

It's time - to get back to church - but will all our congregants come back? What will ministry look like as we get back? Many churches have gotten involved with pantries and health care. Will they continue? Music ministry - what will that be like? Will the singers come back? Those of you who direct choirs - are you confident of what you need to do to make folks feel comfortable being in a group again? There are many webinars this summer from different groups that can help all of us think about these things. We all probably could use some conversation about what it means to be the church in today's world. I don't believe we will be the same church. We have been changed.

It's time - for our AGO Chapter to meet in person, to talk about what we have been through, to support each other with kind words and gracious actions. Omaha AGO is beginning a build-up of our chapter. Education, listening, skill-building, inspiration - these are all areas that are built into our program year for 2021-2022. Steve Bartelt, Dirk Lindner and Ann Spangler have set up our monthly activities. Please put them on your calendars and come to build-up each other and our chapter.

Young Organists - anyone age 30 or younger. I have emailed this illustrious group of 12 organists and asked if there are a couple who could put some of their technical skills to work for the chapter. As you read this - maybe you can help. This is a major need for us.

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.

FYI - when you pay your dues through the national office there are a couple of ways you can support our chapter right there - for scholarships, for education events, for programming help, or if you wish to have an ad in the Membership Book and Windchest. It's easy to add a few dollars to your dues payment. The national office sends the chapter dues to us along with any other monies that have been paid.

THIS WEEK! - AGO Organfest Virtual Event June 27 - July 2. agoorganfest2021.org Enjoy - be amazed - be encouraged - it's all there.

Coming in August: Organ Historical Society Virtual Concerts -info to come.

IT'S TIME! - Here we go!

Jean Johnson,
Jean Johnson, Dean

2021-2022
AUGUST

OMAHA CHAPTER
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

August 21, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.
Certification Seminar
via ZOOM
presented by Sr. Claudette Schiratti

Log-in details published in the August *Windchest*



AGO ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS AND CERTIFICATION

In the July Issue of *The American Organist* you will find the requirements for each of the AGO Certification processes. Let this be the year that you continue your professional development by working toward one of the certificates.

Note the dates when the exam may be taken, the deadline for applying to take the exam, and the requirements for each exam. Repertoire from Baroque, Romantic, and Contemporary periods are listed as well as

YOUNG ORGANISTS

Young Organists are encouraged to check out: www.yearoftheyoungorganist.com for program information, read about other Young Organists and see articles by Young Organists.

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 season events are listed under the "Events" page.

anthems, and in some cases, vocal solos. Hymn playing is required as well as sight reading, transposition, modulation, improvisation at various levels of competency. All skills that need continue development to grow as an organist and musician.

By deciding now to work toward achieving a certificate will allow you time to pace yourself for the various requirements. The certification process is administered by the National AGO Office.

AGO Achievement Awards are also mentioned in the July TAO. As listed in the TAO, they are a good way to learn basic organ-playing skills, to fill in your existing skill set, to start on the road to AGO certification, to structure organ teaching, and to get involved in your AGO chapter. These are administered by the local chapter.

On Saturday, August 21, a zoom session will be given to walk you through the processes and provide time for Q and A.

Don't delay. Now is the time to continue your professional development.

Sr. Claudette Schiratti, RSM, AAGO
Certification Chair for Omaha AGO

ORGANFEST 2021



Presented by the American Guild of Organists

AGO
ORGANFEST 2021
beauty endures
JUNE 27-JULY 2, 8PM EASTERN

Join the virtual gathering in place of a convention this year!

<http://agoorganfest2021.org/>

NEW CASAVANT ORGAN

The new St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church building houses a new Casavant Freres pipe organ. More information may be found at: <https://pipeorgandatabase.org/organ/64824>

Look for dedication recital information in a future edition of *The Windchest*.

WILHA HUTSON SCHOLARSHIP FOR ORGAN



Congratulations to Brent Shaw for receiving the Wilha Hutson Scholarship for Organ from the Mu Phi Epsilon Foundation. Brent is currently the organist for Eastridge Presbyterian Church in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The Mu Phi Epsilon Foundation is administered by a volunteer board of directors, who determine the type and level of giving and perform administrative functions. Funding for the Foundation comes from members of the Fraternity, patrons, and other supporters of the arts. More than forty-two scholarships and grants are offered by the Foundation each year covering doctoral grants, foreign experience, composition, theory, conducting, sacred music, world music, chamber music, music business, music education, music technology, music therapy, voice, and all instruments.

OMAHA AGO SCHOLARSHIP THANK YOU

Dear Omaha AGO,

I am truly grateful and honored to be the recipient of the organist scholarship. I would like to thank you for your generosity which has allowed me to further my education. When I told my community they were overjoyed!

I will continue to work hard and give back to the community. Thank you for everything!

Yours Truly,
Sr. Laura Ann Haschke

Dear Omaha AGO
Jean Johnson,

Thank you so much for the scholarship for organ lessons. I appreciate the time you put in to reading my essay. Have an amazing day!

Thank you,
Rachel Pfeiffer

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.

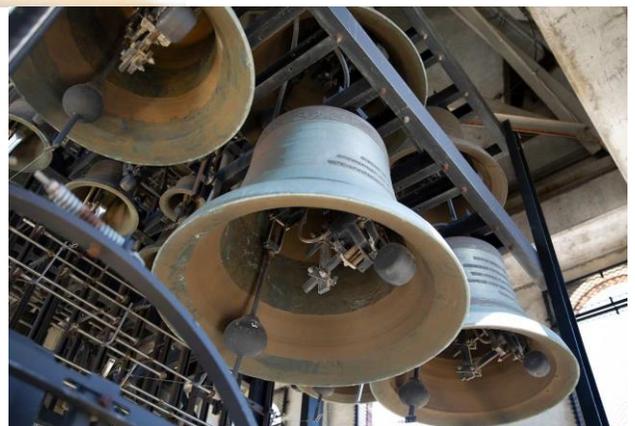
"LET FREEDOM RING" CARILLON CONCERT

The UNO "Let freedom ring" carillon concert will be Monday, July 5 at 9:00 a.m.

The College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media is excited to present the annual Fourth of July Celebration Recital, which will be performed by UNO carillon studies alumni Brent Shaw on the carillon inside the UNO Henningson Memorial Campanile. **Due to the holiday schedule, this year's performance will be held on the observed holiday, Monday, July 5.**

This recital is free of charge and will feature a variety of selections performed on the bronze bells of the Campanile. Audience members can gather outside the bell tower or can enjoy the music from their vehicle. Families can sit together but must be socially distanced 6 feet from other guests. There is limited seating, so feel free to bring your own chairs. The Community Engagement Center will be open to the public for use of restrooms and water fountains.

There is open parking across campus on weekends (no permit required). The closest lots to the bell tower are D, E, and M.



OMAHA AGO BOARD INSTALLATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Dean Jean Johnson
Jean.johnson.8@cox.net + 402-571-7945

Sub-Dean Stephen Bartelt
stephenbartelt@yahoo.com + 402-496-6140

Secretary Laura Scow
lscow@allsaintsomaha.org + 402-393-8612

Treasurer David McCain
rohrbourdon@gmail.com + 712-343-2328

Immediate Past Dean Dr. J. Gordon Christensen
drjgordonchristensen@gmail.com + 712-352-0298

Member-at-Large Laura Rau - 2018/2019 - 2019/2022
laura.m.rau@gmail.com + 620-870-9768

Member-at-Large Sr. Claudette Schiratti - 2020/2021 - 2022/2023
cschiratti1@gmail.com 913-530-0960

Member-at-Large Marie Meyers - 2021/2022 - 2023/2024
marie.meyers@fumcomaaha.org + 402-618-1548



From left to right: Jean Johnson, Stephen Bartelt, Laura Rau, David McCain, Sr. Claudette Schiratti, Marie Meyers, Laura Scow

JUNE OMAHA AGO MEETING

The June meeting of the Omaha AGO included installation of board members and a brief program. David McCain's one manual pipe organ was played by Jeff Hoffman featuring new unpublished works by former chapter member Michael McCabe.



TIMOTHY SCHREIBER JUNIOR RECITAL

Omaha Chapter
Young Organist
member presented
his junior recital at
the University of
Kansas this spring.
Please listen at
[https://www.youtu
be.com/watch?v=K
oh1Ph8MOLU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Koh1Ph8MOLU)

We are very proud
of you, Timothy!

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER LAURA SCOW



My name is Laura Scow and I am honored to join the AGO board as secretary. I first became a member of the Omaha AGO chapter 13 years ago when I joined the staff of All Saints Episcopal Church as Director of Music Ministries. I grew up in rural northeast Iowa and began learning to play the organ at age 16 because my church was in need of an organist. I've been a church organist ever since then, so I understand the importance of inspiring and encouraging young organists.

Prior to my move to Omaha, I attended Wartburg College in Waverly, IA and the University of Kansas for MM and DMA degrees in Church Music. During my undergraduate and graduate studies, I served churches of various denominations. I love church music for the variety it offers and the many opportunities to be creative. I work with all ages through the music ministry program at All Saints and conduct choirs and handbells in addition to playing the organ and piano.

My husband Eric and I are doting parents to three-year old twin daughters, Violet and Vivian. When I'm not at church, I love playing with our daughters, running, baking, sewing, and tending my garden and flowers.

I look forward to serving the members of the Omaha AGO as a new board member.

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER MARIE MEYERS

In 2020, Marie Meyers completed her 26th year as Music Associate at First United Methodist Church in Omaha. Besides playing at FUMC, Marie has played Lenten recitals at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs, IA., and has performed with the Omaha Symphonic Chorus. Prior to coming to Omaha, Marie was organist at St. Paul United Methodist in Lincoln, NE, and St. Paul Lutheran Church and First Presbyterian Church in Grand Island, NE. She earned a Bachelor of Music Education from Nebraska Wesleyan University and Master of Music Education from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, NE, studying organ with Dr. Quentin Faulkner, Dr. George Ritchie, and Dr. Charles Tritt. Before retiring in 2009, Marie taught elementary music and strings in Omaha, Lincoln, and Grand Island, NE.



Saint Benedict Center

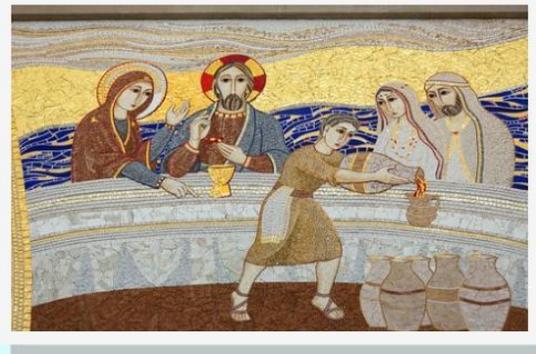
With heartfelt Benedictine hospitality, the monks of Christ the King Priory welcome you to Saint Benedict Center for an opportunity to rest and grow in the Lord.

Faith and the Arts:

A Creative Exploration

July 15 - 16, 2021

Saint Augustine asks, "What do we love, if it be not beauty?" What, indeed? There are many paths to beauty and many different ways in which beauty intersects with human living. The fine arts (music, dance, architecture, the visual arts, literature, poetry, and film), in conjunction with human creativity itself, provide approaches to beauty and to a deepened spirituality that are invaluable in our contemporary world. Through worship, talks, sharing and practical explorations we will get in touch with the way the arts and creativity intersect with the life of the individual and the wider church.



Michael Bauer, D.M.A. holds a doctorate in organ and choral conducting. He directs the doctoral church music program at the University of Kansas which features multiple courses in the area of the Judeo-Christian Tradition and the Arts. Along with colleagues in Northeast Kansas and Missouri, he founded *Imago Dei*, a Kansas City-based non-profit organization which worked in the area of Christianity and the Arts. He has also founded and run three church arts ministries, and is the author of *Arts Ministry: Nurturing the Creative Life of God's People* (Eerdman's).

Thursday at 10:00 a.m. to Friday at 3:00 p.m. Program Fee: \$60 (Students: \$25).

Rooms per night, single occupancy: \$45 plus tax, double occupancy: \$38 plus tax. Meals: \$38.60 plus tax.

Early reservations appreciated!

St. Benedict Center, 1126 Road I, PO Box 528, Schuyler, NE 68661-0528

Phone: 402-352-8819 Fax: 402-352-8884, www.StBenedictCenter.com

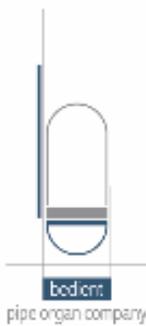
Register now at: Retreats@StBenedictCenter.com





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



**Quality Pipe Organ Building
 and Service since 1969**

bedient
 pipe organ company

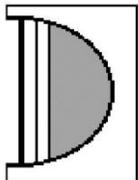
bedientorgan.com | 402.420.7662 | Lincoln, Nebraska

Gerald Oehring & Associates
 Classic Church Organs

RODGERS® **JOHANNUS**

2600 N. 48th Street
 Lincoln, NE 68504
 Studio Visits
 By Appointment Only

Gerald Oehring
 402-432-7126
 gerry@geraldoehring.com
 www.geraldoehring.com



Darrow Pipe Organ LLC

Sales - Service - Renovation
 Tom Darrow, owner (712) 301-5964
 e-mail: darrowpipeorgan@gmail.com
 website: www.darrowpipeorgan.com
 721 Pearl Street - Onawa, Iowa 51040-1428

Keyboard Kastle EST. 1992
 Midwest's Largest Selection @ Lowest Prices

Yamaha - World's first choice in Pianos & Keyboards

Greg Johnson Manager

7013 Dodge
 Omaha, Ne 68132
 402-593-9400
 cell: 402-719-1923

Allen Church Organs

Clavinova * Avant Hybrid * Disklavier * CX Grands * Portable Keyboards