

OMAHA CHAPTER OF  
THE AMERICAN  
GUILD OF  
ORGANISTS



# The Windchest

JUNE 2017

JUNE 2017

SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:

Tip of the Month

Recital Dates

Special Events

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## From the Dean...

First, thank you, members of the Omaha Chapter, AGO for the highly successful 2016-2017 season just ending. We as a chapter sponsored and presented a wide variety of programs and events, many offered to the public as a community service project as well as for our own edification and growth. Not only did we collaborate event sponsorship with other organizations, including the National Federation of Music Clubs, Cathedral Arts Project (CAP), and various churches, we independently sponsored a widely known organist in recital, played on an important restored organ in a historic church in Omaha.

Our membership grew, including several young members, assuring a positive future for the AGO. The Omaha Chapter had the distinct honor of a member seeking our input in her capstone project for completion of a master's degree. Two members earned SPC certificates. Our Website was updated with a new format that is attractive, visionary, and accessible to the reader. The chapter's newsletter, Windchest, added columns that have been well received, and an informal one-page communications tool, "Dean's Ciphers," published mid-month, has gained popularity, especially as a "reminder" for upcoming events. We initiated a certification class with seven registrants, with plans to continue the class in the fall.

Omaha AGO, through Windchest, "Dean's Ciphers," chapter and CAP email lists, became a resource for promotion of organ, choral, and musical events throughout the metropolitan area. The chapter successfully advertised job openings, some of which were filled by chapter members.

Plans are well underway for the 2017-2018 season, much of which will be finalized in early July by the executive board for chapter approval. As part of visionary planning for the next five seasons (including the chapter's centennial season 2019-2020) the board is reviewing a series of questions published in the May issue of TAO, p. 7. The national board discussed these questions a year ago, stimulating fresh direction for the guild. Local chapters are encouraged to review the questions, encouraged to implement ideas for the future development of local leadership and programming that may emerge in discussion stimulated by these questions.

Onward to 2017-2018! Let's make it a truly landmark season!

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

Dr. Christensen, AAGO  
Dean, Omaha Chapter, AGO



Tip of the  
MonthNational Federation  
of  
Music Clubs

“Student musicians receive positive, professional, motivational feed-back, encouraging further preparation and growth, following a specifically out-lined curriculum.”

**Tip of the Month**

The American Organist is available on-line.

AGO dues are due for many of us during the summer months. Moreover, some of you reading this Windchest will be registering to become new members of AGO.

For those members renewing, be sure to read the “New AGO Dues Structure” article on p. 6 of the TAO, taking note that members register to receive TAO on-line. Receiving TAO on-line is a savings of \$8.00 annually.

This information is available in the ONCARD registration form.



The next national convention of the American Guild of Organists will take place in July of 2018 in Kansas City. Look for information about artists in the August issue of *The American Organist* which should arrive around July 1. One of the best features of the convention is a second discount for early joiners. There has always been an Early Bird discount but now there is also a SuperSaver with a good discount. Here are the details:

Regular: \$495 Early Bird; \$435 SuperSaver: \$375  
Seniors: \$450 Early Bird: \$395 SuperSaver: \$350

In order to get the SuperSaver, your registration must be paid before December 31, 2017. Students will pay \$250 at any time.

There will also be a Kansas City barbeque on July 4. Most national conventions have a banquet and you pay for it. In Houston, the banquet was \$60. In Kansas City the barbeque is included with your registration!

It's going to be a great convention. The steering committee is working very hard and it should be great!

Hope to see you there!

# EXECUTIVE BOARD 2017-2018

## AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

### OMAHA CHAPTER

Dean: J Gordon Christensen, AAGO  
[mrc@chase3000.com](mailto:mrc@chase3000.com)  
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[ginas@chirock.com](mailto:ginas@chirock.com)  
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Claire Rae Roehrkasse Eason  
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Member-at-Large (2016/17-2018/19):  
(Helen) Jean Johnson  
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(402) 571-7945

Member-at-Large (2017/18-2019/20):  
Sonja Lundgren  
[sonjaldgn@hotmail.com](mailto:sonjaldgn@hotmail.com)  
(402) 884-6426  
(626) 201-1637



**Summer Sing**  
**Thursday, July 20, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Trinity Episcopal Cathedral**  
**113 N 18th Street, Omaha**

#### *Vivaldi Gloria*

Come sing in an instant performance of some of the world's greatest choral music! No entrance fee. No preparation necessary. No auditions required. No long-term commitment. Music, hospitality, air conditioning, refreshments, and fun provided! Tom Trenney, Minister of Music at First-Plymouth, Lincoln, and Artistic Director of Abendmusik, will serve as our engaging and dynamic guest conductor and organist. Presented in collaboration with Abendmusik. Identical events are being offered in Lincoln and Omaha on consecutive evenings. Join us in Omaha at Trinity Cathedral and bring your choir!

## PRAIRIE VOICES the second Musforum Conference to be held in Omaha in June, 2017

Following the success of its first conference in New York City in 2015, **Musforum**, the online magazine celebrating accomplishments and contributions by women organists and composers, selected Omaha as the site for its second conference.

Entitled *Prairie Voices*, the conference will be held on June 8 & 9 in locations in Omaha including **St Cecilia Cathedral** with its world-renown Pasi dual-temperament organ, **Dundee Presbyterian Church** and **First United Methodist Church**. A special post-conference tour of the new Juget-Sinclair organ at **Sinai Lutheran Church** (Fremont) is offered on June 10.

The two-day conference, open to both men and women, features recitals, lectures and presentations by and about leading North American women organists. A modest registration fee (\$100 for adults, \$75 for students) covers admission to all events plus lunches and a formal reception. Students are especially encouraged to take advantage of this unique networking and career development opportunity.

**The general public is invited to enjoy selected organ recitals with a free-will donation.**

For the complete list of speakers/performers, detailed conference schedule and convenient online registration, please visit <http://www.musforum.org/>

### PRAIRIE VOICES: A MUSFORUM CONFERENCE

JUNE 8-10, 2017 | OMAHA, NEBRASKA

Musforum celebrates the contributions and wide-ranging interests of women organists and composers.

#### Thursday, June 8, 2017

##### Saint Cecilia Cathedral

10 am Rhonda Sider Edgington (MI), Organ Recital

11 am "I the Siren" (NE) Chamber Music

Noon Wilma Jensen (TN), Keynote Speaker

~ Lunch provided ~

2 pm Elisa Bickers (MO) and the Bach Aria Soloists

3 pm Reading Session led by Stacie Lightner (MD)

~ Reception hosted ~

6 pm Marie Rubis Bauer (NE) and St Cecilia Cathedral Choir

#### Friday, June 9, 2017

##### Dundee Presbyterian Church

9 am Chelsea Vaught (IN), Organ Recital

10 am Catherine Rodland (MN), Lecture

11 am Young Organists

Sarah Johnson (Boston University)

Yumiko Tatsuta (Indiana University)

Shayla Van Hal (University of Kansas)

##### First United Methodist Church

~ Lunch provided ~

2 pm Marty Wheeler Burnett (NE), Lecture

3 pm Robin Arcus (NC), Film Screening

4 pm Melody Steed (KS) & Ann Marie Rigler (MO), Organ Recital

##### Saint Cecilia Cathedral

8pm Gala Recital: Lynne Davis (KS), Gail Archer (NY),  
Crista Miller (TX)

#### Saturday, June 10, 2017

(Optional) Visit to Sinai Lutheran Church,  
Claire Bushong, Music Director

Events listed in green are open to the general public.  
Visit <http://www.musforum.org/> for registration and additional info.  
Questions? Call 402-553-5524, ext 1.



*Pentecost  
Vespers*

*June 4, 2017*



Artwork 'SANCTIFY' courtesy of Carmel Walden - waldenwatercolors.com

***Pentecost Vespers***  
*Saint Cecilia Cathedral Choir*  
*Sunday June 4, 2017*  
*7:00 p.m.*

Saint Cecilia Cathedral - 701 North 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha

*Reception to follow, honoring Rev. Michael F. Gutzell, Rector and Pastor of  
Saint Cecilia Cathedral – Freewill donation to benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Society*



Presented by Cathedral Arts Project [www.cathedralartsproject.org](http://www.cathedralartsproject.org)

AGO Board  
Members

Committee Chairs



**CURRENT AGO BOARD  
MEMBERS**  
2016-2017

Dean: J Gordon Christensen, AAGO  
Sub-Dean: Marie Rubis Bauer  
Secretary: Gregory Johnson  
Treasurer: Gina Simpson  
Immediate Past Dean: David Schack  
Members - at - Large:  
Claire Eason: 2015/16 -2017/18  
Jean Johnson: 2016/17 – 2018/19  
Sonja Lundgren: 2017/18 2019/20



**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Education (AGO Certification)	Sally Hodges
Chapter Historian	Claire Eason
Organ Historian	David McCain
Membership	Julie Sandene
Membership Directory	Gina Simpson
Professional Concerns	Jerry Brabec
Programming (2017-2018)	Marie Rubis Bauer
Publicity	J Gordon Christensen
Referrals	Julie Sandene
Webmaster	Mayumi Naramura
<i>Windchest</i> Editor	Claire Eason
<i>Windchest</i> Publisher	Rosemary Paul

*New  
Member*



**Meet New Member Laura Rau**

I moved to Omaha from Lawrence, Kansas with my husband, Chase Becker, in January. I serve as director of music at Christ the King Catholic parish.

My first experience with the AGO came in high school when I attended a Pipe Organ Encounter. I first joined the Guild as a member of the Wichita (Kansas) chapter during my undergraduate studies.

I earned a Bachelor of Music degree from Wichita State University, a Master of Sacred Music degree from the University of Notre Dame, and a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of Kansas.

The role of music in worship is what interests me the most. It is a delightful challenge to encourage Catholics to experience congregational, choral, and organ music as prayer. I enjoy my role as teacher, particularly of children and youth choirs. I enjoy studying organ literature as a way to broaden my abilities as an improviser for worship.

Several years have passed since I was last an active member of the Wichita chapter. I am so pleased to discover that my new home town, Omaha, has a welcoming and vibrant chapter. I look forward to meeting other members and supporting our chapter's activities.



Organ Recital

Dr. Michael Bauer

Sinai Lutheran  
Fremont

June 4

3:00 p.m.



*Sinai Lutheran Church*  
Juget-Sinclair Opus 46

**Organ Recital**

Dr. Michael Bauer  
Sunday, June 4th  
at 3:00pm



Professor of Organ and Church Music, University of Kansas & Organist/Choirmaster, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Omaha

Free Admission  
Reception following recital

SANCTUS

Sinai Lutheran Church 950 E 8th St., Fremont, Nebraska 68025 402-721-1665  
sinailutheranfremontne@gmail.com www.sinailutheran.com