

May 2017

The Guilder

The Newsletter of the Columbus Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

www.agocolumbus.org

AGO
Columbus



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

Reserve Your Place at the AGO Spring Social, May 1

Time is running out for you to make your reservations for the AGO Spring Social. Reservations must be returned to Treasurer Al Adcock by **April 20**. We must turn in the final count for the caterer. Tickets will **not** be available at the door. You should have received your invitation along with the election ballot in the mail. If you did not receive an invitation, call Dean Mark Meuser ASAP.

We will meet in the Pavilion of the Ohio Theater at **6:00 p.m.**, where a cash bar will be available. Dinner is at 6:30, followed by a short business meeting. From the Pavilion we will move to the theater for a demonstration of the "Mighty Morton" theater organ by the Ohio Theater organist Clark Wilson.

Parking will be available in the underground lot just south of the theater. If you drive south on Third Street, go past Town Street, and turn right on Damien, you will be able to enter the lot. A special \$5 flat rate will be in effect for AGO members from 5:00 to 6:15 pm.

From the underground lot, proceed to the Esplanade entrance on the **southeast** corner of the theater. (We mistakenly sent the wrong information to the printer!) Take the elevator to the Reception Level on the **fourth floor**.

AGO Student Recital on Sunday, April 23

Please plan to attend and support our Student Recital. It will take place at All Saints Lutheran Church in Worthington at 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 23. We have a variety of performers who have worked hard to present a nice program for us. There are still openings for more performers if you want to participate. Contact Nancy Rennecker, at 614-848-8388 or e-mail nrenneck4@sbcglobal.net with your information.

There will be a lovely reception following the program. We will also have a chance to support the Young Organist Scholarship Program with a free will offering. Bring your musical friends and enjoy the day with us!

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Submissions for the next Guilder are due by August 5.

The September issue will be published on August 15 and will include concert dates from August 16 to October 1.

Please send submissions to:

guilder@agocolumbus.org

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Mark Meuser

The Dean's Comments

Our March workshop was a wonderful opportunity to learn about the Leadership Program for Musicians. Marti Rideout provided a wealth of information on topics ranging from relations with clergy to techniques in hymn playing. She held two sessions, one on Saturday and the other on Monday. As a nationally recognized LPM presenter, Marti was able to offer a unique perspective on what it takes to build a successful, worship-centered church music program.

We have one more event on our activity calendar before the Spring Social. It is the Student Recital, which will be held at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Upper Arlington at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 23. Executive Board member Nancy Rennecker has organized the recital, which promises to showcase young organists from Columbus and surrounding areas. Plan now to attend and show your support for organists who are the future of AGO!

At the Spring Social on May 1, we will install the new officers and Executive Board members. I want to thank all of our members who agreed to run for those positions. A special thanks goes to Tom Gerke, who chaired the Election Committee.

The installation of new officers in May also means that this article is the last one I will write as Dean. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Executive Board and the officers not only for their hard work during the past two years, but also for their collegiality. They all had the commitment and integrity to put the interests of the Guild ahead of any personal preferences or agendas. It has been a pleasure for me to work with them and with the membership. As we approach our 100th year anniversary, we can count on the solid governing foundation set in place by our founders and on the continuing dedication of current officers and members to carry us into our second century.

Warmly,

Mark H. Meuser

Dean, Columbus Chapter AGO



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AGO Mission Statement

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.

One-Week Summer Music Courses Trinity Lutheran Seminary June 5 - 23, 2017

CHURCH MUSIC COURSES

For Graduate Credit or Audit

WEEK 1 June 5 -9 (Mon-Fri)

1:00-4:30 *Leading the Church's Song*—May Schwarz, James Bobb, Guest Presenters

1:00-3:15 *Instruments in Worship*—Jeremy Bankson

4:45-7:00 *The Contemporary Keyboard in Worship*—Russ Nagy

WEEK 2 June 12-16 (Mon-Fri)

1:00-3:15 *Perspectives in Choral Conducting*—Lynda Hasseler

3:30-7:00 *Music & Worship in the African-American Tradition*—Raymond Wise

3:30-5:45 *Children's Choirs*—Sally Beske

WEEK 3 June 19-23 (Mon-Fri)

1:00-3:15 *Organ Masterclass: Organ Improvisation Inspired by Repertoire*—Richard K. Fitzgerald

(see repertoire list at www.TLSohio.edu)

3:45-6:00 *The Dynamic Worship Leader*—Sharon Stohrer & Diana McCullough

3:45-6:00 *Handbells*—Chris McManus

6:15-8:30 *Music Technology*—Justin Riley

THREE-WEEK COURSES

10:20-12:00 *Liturgical Choir* (directed by MACM students)—May Schwarz
All are welcome to sing in the choir. Daily M-F 10:20; Worship 10:40 a.m.

8:00-10:15 a.m. *Old Testament*—Wray Bryant

- Course fee is \$560 per semester hour. Audit fee is \$280 per semester hour. Persons 60+, \$140 per semester hour.
- All courses listed may be applied for credit toward the Master of Arts in Church Music (MQCM) degree at Trinity.
- Early registration is advised.
- Limited on-campus housing is available.

For additional course information:

www.TLSohio.edu

mschwarz@TLSohio.edu

614-499-1047

A Visit to Hear the Macy's Wannamaker

By Anthony Fabro

For a truly unique musical shopping experience, I recommend you add to your pipe organ "bucket list" a trip to Macy's in downtown Philadelphia to hear the famous Wannamaker pipe organ. While shopping for shoes, take in the ethereal sounds of the instrument as it fills the vast space in the center of the store. I was fortunate to hear the instrument as part of a trip to Philadelphia with my wife who was attending the Organization of American Kodály Educators' national convention.



Originally built in 1904 and installed in its current location in 1911, the instrument fills most of one side of a large atrium area known as the Grand Court in the center of the store. In addition, a small area on the opposite side of the room houses an Echo Division. The instrument, which has been expanded several times, is considered the largest pipe organ in the world in terms of ranks with 464, and is second in the world in terms of stops and pipes with 399 stops and 28,677 pipes. Only the Midmer-Losh pipe organ in Boardwalk Hall at Atlantic City, NJ, has more stops and pipes (see the September 2015 edition of "The Guildler"). Unlike the Boardwalk Hall instrument, the Wannamaker is completely playable and has working combination action.

View of the organ from the first floor of the store floor. The console is on the second level off to the left, and the Echo Division sits on the top level opposite the rest of the organ.

The six manual console for the organ is as equally impressive. Built in the early 1930s, it sits on top of a platform on the store's second floor in the Women's Apparel Department. There are 729 tilting tablets of various colors stacked in 11 rows on both sides of the manuals. The console also has 168 pistons under the manuals and 11 expression shoes (one is for Crescendo). LED indicators to show position of the expression shades sit across the top of the console above the music stand.

View of the console from the opposite side of the Grand Court.

The organ is played at least once a day, Monday to Saturday, for 30-45 minutes. There is no charge for the concerts, which take place during the normal business hours of the store. A behind-the-scenes tour of the instrument is also given once a month for a nominal charge. The current house organist is Peter Richard Conte who has served as the regular organist since 1989. Other organists fill in as needed (during my visit someone other than Mr. Conte played).



My wife and I attended the Friday 7 p.m. playing of the instrument. When the music started, my first impression was that, in spite of its massive size, the instrument does not overpower. Of course the organist has something to do with this, but in contrast to the Midmer-Losh organ's somewhat harsh sound (even in the softer ranks), the Wannamaker was much more refined and musical. The organist played six or seven pieces during the 35-minute recital, including "Trumpet Tune in D" by David Johnson and the main theme to "The Sound of Music." While the organist was playing, two "helpers" were positioned on either side of the bench to assist with changing registrations.

Definitely one area of the organ which stands out is the rich-sounding string ranks built by Kimball. Making

up almost a quarter of the entire organ at 118 ranks, their luscious sound echoes in the bright, large room, providing a velvety sound most organists could only dream of having. This is an orchestral instrument, so while it can be reeled in to sound like an average church organ (only much larger), its strength is in its ability to play like an orchestra and show off its many colors and dynamics from very loud to very soft.

I was also amazed at how in tune the organ was. As anyone who plays a real pipe organ knows, keeping an instrument completely in tune is a challenge. Yet for its size, the instrument sounds great and you can tell the instrument is well cared for. Macy's employs two full-time employees to perform organ maintenance. In addition, The Friends of the Wannamaker also provide maintenance support.

For those interested in learning more about the instrument, I recommend a newly released You Tube video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2UHPmkUWH8E> which gives some nice illustrations of specific parts of the instrument. Additional searches will yield an endless list of clips about the instrument. The Friends of the Wannamaker also have a nice web page at <http://www.wanamakerorgan.com/>, which gives a detailed history, technical information, and ways to donate to the group to help support the ongoing maintenance of the instrument.

I hope you make it a point to visit one of our nation's musical treasures!



Musician Workshops at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Basic Level Organists and Service Playing for Pianists June 19–23, 2017

Many organists, whether recently drafted into playing or who have been on the bench for quite a while, have had very little or no basic training in how the instrument works, how to choose appropriate registrations, how to play pedals with both feet or how to lead the singing of hymns and liturgy through effective playing. This workshop covers these basic items. Additionally, pianists will learn the same concepts of how to lead congregational singing of hymns and liturgy from the piano.

Intermediate & Advanced Level Organists June 26–June 30, 2017

For organists who have the basics covered but desire to improve their skills of playing hymns and liturgy. Topics will also include creative hymn introductions, making informed choices about organ repertoire and strategies for leading challenging hymns. For more information go to www.ctsfw.edu/MusicWorkshops or connect with the CTSFW Music Department at MusicWorkshops@ctsfw.edu or 260.452.2224.

Bach Cantata 137 for Young Singers in June—Deadline of April 20

Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, is seeking college-aged singers (18-25) to sing Bach Cantata 137, “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” for a special Sunday observance of the Presentation of the Augsburg Confession, June 25, 2017. The choir and soloists will be selected by audition. In addition to the cantata, they will sing other music for this Sunday. The choir is directed by CTSFW Kantor Kevin Hildebrand.

After arrival on Friday, June 23, for rehearsals, the choir will sing at two downtown Fort Wayne congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod on the morning of Sunday, June 25. Modeled after Bach’s practice in Leipzig with the choir alternating between St. Thomas and St. Nikolai churches, the choir will sing at the early morning service at newly-renovated Emmanuel Lutheran Church and the late morning service at historic St. Paul’s Lutheran Church. The cantata will be performed in English translation, accompanied by professional chamber orchestra.

Designated gifts will allow singers to participate at no cost, besides their transportation to and from Fort Wayne. Friday dinner, all meals Saturday, and Sunday breakfast and lunch are included.

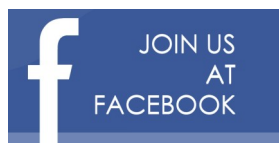
If you have students, friends, or colleagues who are good candidates to apply to sing Cantata 137, please refer them to www.ctsfw.edu/BachInFortWayne.

Position Available—Chancel Choir Director—Deadline of April 20

Asbury United Methodist Church, 55 W. Lincoln Avenue, Delaware, Ohio, seeks a new director for its Chancel Choir to fill the vacancy upon the retirement of the current director. The Chancel Choir, comprised of thirty adult singers, offers a diverse repertoire of SATB anthems, singing two selections for the 10:45 worship service each week from September through early June. The choir also participates in additional liturgical services throughout the year.

We seek applicants who enjoy working in a collegial environment with other staff: Pastor, Director of Music, Director of Christian Education, and additional music staff who work with handbell, primary, junior, and teen choirs.

The position involves a mid-week and a Sunday morning rehearsal. Competence on piano and/or organ is very desirable. Salary will be commensurate with education and experience. A more detailed job description may be found on the church website: www.asburyohio.org. Please submit cover letter and resume, with references, by April 20. Email to church@asburyohio.org, using Choir Director in the subject line, or mail to the church, Attn. SPR Committee. Questions to thaynedgray@hotmail.com.



Find us:
[Columbus Chapter AGO](#)

The Columbus Chapter will celebrate 100 years in 2018

Much of our history is missing. We are looking for...

Historical AGO records and minutes • Programs from early recitals • Newspaper clippings relating to the AGO • Recollections of important events from our past • Names of former members who might be storing these materials or who might have memories to share

Please call Carol Hofer at 614.488.8557 or email her at fandchofer@aol.com.

Please follow this link to [listen to Pipedreams](#) from American Public Media.



Concerts and Other Events

The Columbus Chapter's on-line calendar may be found [here](#).

Schütz' "Matthäuspassion"

Good Friday, April 14, 7:30 p.m.

*First Congregational Church
444 East Broad Street, Columbus 43215*

www.concertsatfirstchurch.org

The First Church Chamber Choir and soloists

Tenebrae

Good Friday, April 14, 8:00 p.m.

*Saint Joseph Cathedral
212 E. Broad Street, Columbus 43215*

The Cathedral Schola's annual performance of music for Tenebrae, including Thomas Tallis' "Lamentations of Jeremiah", has become one of the Cathedral's most popular events. The evening is marked by the gradual extinction of candles, culminating in the performance of Gregorio Allegri's "Miserere" in a completely darkened Cathedral.

Choral Evensong

Mozart "Coronation Mass" K317

Friday, April 21, 7:30 p.m. Prelude, 8:00 p.m. Choral Evensong

*Gloria Dei Worship Center
Trinity Lutheran Seminary
2199 East Main Street Columbus 43209*

www.TLSOhio.edu; 614-235-4136

Trinity's 50-voice Seminary Choir, directed by May Schwarz, will sing Mozart's "Coronation Mass" within the context of Evening Prayer. Soloists: Regan Tackett, Laurel Doucet, C. Andrew Blosser, and Robin Rice. Also, Hubert Parry's "I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me" with brass, organ, timpani. **Hear the newly restored Gloria Dei Organ played by Carol Ann Bradley.** Freewill offering. Free parking.

The West Liberty University Singers

Sunday, April 23, 3:00 p.m.

*St. John's Episcopal Church
700 High Street, Worthington 43085*

Led by Dr. Scott Glysson, the West Liberty University Singers is a select group of auditioned musicians. The choir tours nationally and internationally, with recent and future engagements in Washington, D.C.; Italy; Spain; The Republic of Ireland; Cleveland; Buffalo; and Toronto, Canada. There is no charge for admission to the concert; a freewill offering will be taken to support the Music Series.

Handbells Columbus

Sunday, April 23, 4:00 p.m.

*First Congregational Church
444 East Broad Street, Columbus, 43215*

www.concertsatfirstchurch.org

The popular group is joined by composer and organist Karen Buckwalter. A free-will offering will be taken.

An Evening of Duets

Friday, April 28, 7 p.m.

*Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
2001 Northwest Blvd. Columbus 43212*

engagedbygrace.org

Pianist Stephen Leslie and organist Joshua Brodbeck will present an evening of duets, including classics and hymn-based works. Stephen was a voicer for many organ companies. After retiring, he has taken up concertizing and is also a recent graduate of Houghton College with a master's in Collaborative Piano.

First Thursday Noontime Recital Series

Thursday, May 4, 12:15 p.m.

Asbury United Methodist Church

55 W. Lincoln Avenue, Delaware 43015

We welcome Carol Ann Bradley, Organist/Music Director at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, as our recitalist. As always, tables will be set and beverages provided for those who wish to enjoy lunch during the recital. Asbury UMC is handicap accessible from its rear parking lot entrance. There is no charge for the recital.

“The Good Shepherd”

Jeremy Bankson, Conductor

Sunday, May 7, 7 p.m.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

5475 Brand Road, Dublin 43017

princeofpeacedublin.org

The Prince of Peace Choir and Children's Choir will be joined by a professional orchestra to present this multi-movement work by Robert Hobby, which reflects on the pastoral images of Christ.

Karen Peeler: Songs for a Lifetime

Sunday, May 21, 3:00 p.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church

700 High Street, Worthington 43085

Karen Peeler is Professor Emeritus of Voice and Pedagogy at The Ohio State University, where she headed the graduate program in voice pedagogy and was Director of the Helen Swank Voice Teaching and Research Lab. She has performed leading roles in opera, operetta, and musical theater throughout the United States and has concertized widely in the U.S., Austria, and Italy. Dr. Peeler's program will feature works by Purcell, Quilter, Schubert, Montsalvatge, Raum, Hageman, Moore, and Dougherty. She will be joined by a host of friends, including pianists Robin Guy, Michael Lester, and Rose Zuber; violist Henrietta Neeley; soprano Marley Nemeth; tenor Michael Hamilton; and narrator Christopher Purdy. Admission to the concert is free; a freewill offering will be taken to support the Music Series at St. John's Worthington.

The Mozart Requiem

Sunday, May 21, 4:00 p.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

3730 Broadway, Grove City, 43123

The Choirs of Our Lady will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra, and the solo quartet features tenor C. Andrew Blosser. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

JTL Cavalier Voices: True Light Tour

Andrea Rhoadhouse, Conductor

Friday, June 2, 7:00 pm

St. John Lutheran Church

6135 Rings Road, Dublin 43016

The Cavalier Voices is an auditioned mixed choir consisting of sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students from the J.T. Lambert Intermediate School in East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania. Since 2008, the group has taken an annual tour, including performances at Disney World and in Washington D.C., New York City, Chicago, Cleveland, and Philadelphia. In July, 2012, the Cavalier Voices participated in the World Choir Games in Cincinnati, Ohio, earning a Bronze Medal. They will be performing music by Columbus's own composer Michael G. Martin, and premiering a piece by Bethany Randall.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Columbus Chapter
American Guild of Organists

2017



Name:

Address:

Phone number(s):

Email:

Recommended by Columbus Chapter AGO Member (name):
(Please attach letter of recommendation)

Student Status

- Younger than High School
- High School
- University/College
- Other (explain)

Current organ teachers and/or educational institution:

Event for Scholarship Request

- Pipe Organ Encounter _____
- AGO Convention _____
- Other educational event (explain) _____

Application Process

Deadline for receipt of applications: **APRIL 30, 2017**

Please mail your completed application to:

Mark Meuser, Dean
 Columbus Chapter AGO
 mmeuser@hotmail.com
 804 Cherry Bottom Road
 Gahanna, Ohio 43230

The objective of the Columbus Chapter Scholarship Program is to encourage organ students in their educational process. There is no age limit for award recipients. Candidates are eligible if they are recommended by an AGO Columbus Chapter member, who is required to submit a recommendation form. The scholarships are intended to support attendance at programs that supplement the chosen course of study. Examples include AGO Pipe Organ Encounters, AGO national or regional conventions, or similar events. The total amount of scholarship funds dispersed in any given year will be at the discretion of the Columbus Chapter Executive Board. Generally, this amount will not exceed the amount of interest received on the principal of the scholarship reserved funds. Scholarship awards will be determined by the Executive Board, or delegated to a committee. One, multiple, or no scholarships may be awarded in any given year.

Letter of Recommendation
Student Scholarship Application
Columbus Chapter, American Guild of Organists

Name of Student Applicant _____

Student Status (check current status):

_____ Middle School _____ High School _____ Undergraduate School

_____ Graduate School _____ Other (explain) _____

Name of Referring Member _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Name of Current Organ Teacher _____

(if different than referring member)

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Name of Educational Institution _____

Request scholarship for organ student to attend educational program (check program):

_____ Pipe Organ Encounter (ages 13-18) _____ AGO Convention

_____ Other educational events or supplemental experiences (describe) _____

Teacher Recommendation

Explain why this student would benefit from an educational/enrichment program.