

2019 Presenters

Rebecca L. Abbott is Professor of Organ and Hymnology at the Sacred Music Institute of America in Columbus. She holds a Bachelor of Music and Literature from Wheaton College, with studies in Voice and Organ; a Master's in Religion with a concentration in Liturgy and the Arts from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, with additional studies in Sacred Music with Carl Daw and Julian Wachner at Boston University; a Doctor of Worship Studies from the Institute for Worship Studies; and certification in Musikgarten, for children from birth to age nine. Her "Royal Requiem" was recorded by the Mount Vernon Nazarene University Goliards in 2017. Active as a performer, guest lecturer, and hymn writer, she also works as an adjunct church music instructor and organist at MVNU, accompanist at Kenyon College, and pianist at Hope Lutheran in Sunbury, Ohio, and volunteers as editor of the American Guild of Organists Columbus chapter's newsletter. Rebecca founded Abbott Music Lab, LLC, and www.hymnnotes.com to connect people of all ages to their secular and sacred music heritage.

Jeremy J. Bankson serves as the Director of Music at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Dublin, Ohio, where he leads a dynamic and developing music ministry that includes several choirs and the Concerts at Prince of Peace Series. A native Nebraskan, Jeremy received his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he also pursued graduate studies in choral conducting. Active as a composer and arranger, he has led workshops, clinics, and hymn festivals for the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, the Fellowship of American Baptist Musicians, the American Guild of Organists, Leadership Program for Musicians, Augsburg Fortress and other churches and institutions around the country. His compositions can be found in the catalogs of Morning Star Music Publishers, Augsburg Fortress Press and Concordia Publishing House and have been heard on the nationally syndicated radio programs *Sing for Joy*, *The Lutheran Hour*, and *With Heart and Voice*.

Mari Kay Dono received her Master's of Science in Communicative Disorders from Marquette University and her Master's of Business Administration from Capital University. She achieved all three cantor certificates and Cantor Trainer status with the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. Presently serving as Director of Music and Organist at St. James the Less Catholic Church in Columbus, she also sings in the Resurrection Choir at St. Andrew Parish in Upper Arlington and is a pianist at Friendship Village Retirement Center in Dublin, Ohio. Licensed in the state of Ohio as both a Speech-Language Pathologist and Massage Therapist, Mari Kay began her Speech-Language Pathology career at Dodd Hall Ohio State University Hospitals, where she worked with neurological disorders. She has a long passion for working with vocal disorders, especially when those vocal problems interfere with the professional singing and speaking voice.

Richard K. Fitzgerald is currently the Director of Music and Organist of Saint Joseph Cathedral in Columbus, Ohio. Prior to this appointment, he served the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, as the Assistant Director of Music (2003-2007) and the Associate Director of Music (2013-2014), where his playing could be heard during internationally televised broadcasts. In addition to performing improvisations, Richard has taught organ improvisation at the Peabody Conservatory and has presented workshops on the subject to professional organizations. For his doctoral dissertation, Richard formulated a method for organ improvisation pedagogy that he continues to present as a basis for his teaching. Richard received the Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in Organ Performance from the Peabody Conservatory of Music and the Bachelor of Music in Sacred Music from Westminster Choir College.

Jason A. Hiester holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Voice and Choral Conducting from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Jason, a tenor, teaches voice and conducting and directs both the opera and choral programs at Ohio Wesleyan University. He performs professionally in opera, oratorio, choral, and jazz. His credits include roles with West Palm Beach Opera, Utah Festival Opera, Cincinnati Opera, Columbus Opera, ProMusica Chamber Orchestra, and Florida Grand Opera and concert work with Miami Bach Society, Musica Sacra of Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky Symphony, Columbus Bach Ensemble, Columbus Dance Theater, Central Ohio Symphony Orchestra, Vocal Arts Ensemble of Cincinnati, Springfield Symphony, and Vocal Arts Ensemble of Springfield. He was a winner of both the Schloss Leopoldskron competition in Salzburg, Austria, and the West Palm Beach Opera Competition. Locally, Jason is involved with Columbus Opera as Chorus Master and Assistant Conductor.

Jason J. Keefer is Director of the Sacred Music Institute of America; Assistant Professor and Director of Sacred Music and Principal Organist at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio; and Organ Artist-in-Residence at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Upper Arlington, Ohio. Jason holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts in Organ Performance from West Virginia University, a Master of Musical Arts in Sacred Music and Organ from Duquesne University, and a Bachelor of Science in Music Education and Organ from Roberts Wesleyan College. His doctoral dissertation was "A Style-Based Approach to Hymn Improvisation: A Teaching Manual for Organ Students," from which method he continues to teach courses and master classes. Jason studied with John Walker, David Craighead, Anne Musser Honeywell, Ann Labounsky, and Professor Edgar Highberger; coached with French organists Pierre Pincemaille and Jean-Pierre Leguay; and studied organ improvisation with Gerre Hancock, Ann Labounsky, and Jean Pierre Leguay. He also studied conducting with Brady Allred and Kathleen Shannon and Gregorian chant with Stephen Concordia.

Tyler W. Robertson moved to Columbus in 2012 and has been with St. Mark's since 2014. His twenty years of professional church music experience include service in most mainline Christian denominations as a director of music, organist, pianist, and bell choir director. At Baylor University he earned his Bachelor and Master's degrees in Organ Performance under internationally acclaimed organists Joyce Jones and Bradley Welch. In 2016, Tyler began work toward his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Conducting at the Ohio State University, where he is a student of Robert J. Ward. Tyler appears frequently at the organs of First Congregational Church in downtown Columbus, where he accompanies their monthly services of Choral Evensong and other special events.

Luke D. Tegtmeier serves as Organist at Asbury United Methodist Church in Delaware, Ohio, and, since 2015, has worked for Muller Pipe Organ Company. He holds degrees in Church Music from Valparaiso University and Luther Seminary and served Lutheran and Episcopal parishes for many years in Ohio and Minnesota.

Robert Wisniewski is presently Interim Director of Music at St. Joan of Arc Church in Powell, Ohio, and is also Assistant Organist for both St. Joseph Cathedral in Columbus and Blessed Sacrament Church in Newark. He served as Principal Organist/Assistant Director of Music at St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus (2004-2017), and St. Catharine Church, Bexley (1996-2004), and is also an Associate of the American Guild of Organists. His many performance credits include programs in 2014 for the Hymn Society of America and St. Paul's Cathedral, Pittsburgh, and a January, 2017, performance of Messiaen's "La Nativité du Seigneur" at St. Joseph Cathedral.

The Columbus Ohio Chapter of the American Guild of Organists invites you to

February Fanfare
— an outreach program sponsored by the American Guild of Organists —

February 16, 2019

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



**St. Mark's
Episcopal Church**
2151 Dorset Road
Columbus, Ohio 43221



Our mission is to

Enrich, Engage, and Excite
our colleagues in church music as we explore new
ways to increase our skills and exercise our talents.

The American Guild of Organists, through February
Fanfare, proudly supports the part-time musician.

Schedule 2019 February Fanfare

8:30-9:00 — REGISTRATION
9:00-9:45 — WORSHIP SERVICE (*Sanctuary*)

9:55-10:40 — WORKSHOPS I

- A. Vocal Techniques
for the Church Choir — Jason Hiester
(*Choir Room*)

This interactive workshop will involve audience participation on basic vocal techniques that can be applicable to the church choir. Issues to be covered are breathing, posture, phonation, choral warm-ups, and negotiating vocal registration.

- B. Hymn-Playing Master Class
— Tyler Robertson
(*Sanctuary*)

This program will focus on breathing with the congregation, introductions, registration for the small- to medium-sized organ, and recommended last verse reharmonizations. Materials for introductions and reharmonizations will be available for purchase from Cliff Hill Music.

10:50-11:35 — PLENARY SESSION:
“AFFIRMING THE INCARNATION THROUGH
CONGREGATIONAL SONG”—Rebecca Abbott
(*Parish Hall*)

11:45-12:30 — WORKSHOPS II

- A. The Aging Voice in the Church Choir
— Mari Kay Dono
(*Choir Room*)

This workshop will focus on breathing, vocal techniques, and posture specific to the aging voice.

- B. Organ Improvisation Workshop
— Richard Fitzgerald
(*Sanctuary*)

This workshop will focus on basic techniques for the beginner, e.g., how to present/accompany a theme, how to develop a theme, and use of repertoire as a structural model for improvisation.

1:40-2:25 — WORKSHOPS III

- A. Choral Techniques for the Church Choir
— Jason Hiester
(*Choir Room*)

This workshop will focus on choral conducting mechanics, including the use of preparatory gestures, cut-offs, beat patterns, and sub-division conducting and breaths.

- B. Basic Organ Maintenance
— Luke Tegtmeier
(*Sanctuary*)

This workshop will include tips for emergency fixes, simple cost-saving ideas, and bridging the gap between organist and organ builder. Attendees might even get the chance to tune a pipe!

2:35-3:20 — WORKSHOPS IV

- A. Accessible Repertoire for the Organ
— Jeremy Bankson
(*Sanctuary*)

Beginning organists or those looking for easy and quick to learn repertoire will find this workshop useful. Repertoire presented includes music with minimal or no pedal, or music that comes together without extensive work. The repertoire will explore a range of materials and gems that have been published in the last few decades.

- B. AGO Exams: Success
— Robert Wisniewski
(*Parish Hall*)

This workshop will focus on the AGO's Service-Playing and Colleague examinations, including a demonstration of exam-based materials and presentation of strategies for successful preparation for these exams.

3:30 — Convocation (*Sanctuary*)

4:00-4:30 — Social and opportunity to visit the Cliff Hill and Stanton's Sheet Music displays. (*Parish Hall*)

New this year....

MINI LESSONS FOR ORGAN AND VOICE

*will be offered by faculty from the
Sacred Music Institute of America.*

ORGAN LESSONS OFFERED

9:55-10:40; 11:45-12:30;
1:00-1:30 (over lunch); 1:40-2:25

BEGINNING AND ADVANCED VOICE LESSONS OFFERED

11:45-12:30; 1:00-1:30 (over lunch); 2:35-3:20

CANTORING LESSONS:

9:55-10:40; 1:00-1:30 (over lunch);
1:40-2:25; 2:35-3:20

*Consultation with Jason Keefer available
on professional certification programs
and lessons offered through the
Sacred Music Institute of America.*

12:45-1:30

** Please indicate session and time preference on
rsvp card.*