

THE WINDCHEST

OMAHA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS



FEBRUARY 2020

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facebook

Please like the Omaha Chapter Facebook page. Information is posted regularly! Our page name is: Omaha Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

FROM THE DEAN

The "Founding Fathers" of the American Guild of Organists were truly visionary when they listed education as a purpose for founding the guild. Education opportunities have been—and continue to be—a primary focus of AGO programming for more than a century, and the Omaha chapter of the AGO is no exception. In fact, the Omaha AGO chapter is recognized for development of education opportunities not only in our region, but nationally as well.

Consider the chapter's current programming: two upcoming workshops before the end of this season, including one titled "Basic Improvisation" (February 15); and "Service and Program Planning, Organization & Management" (April 25). Yet to come this season is the performance of the "B-Minor Mass" by Johann Sebastian Bach, (Friday, March 6), certainly a rare opportunity for musical growth, but for aesthetic, spiritual and artistic growth as well. Quoting from Spire Chamber Ensemble promotional material: "The B-minor Mass" is a pillar of human achievement on par with Michelangelo's "Sistine Chapel" and Shakespeare's collection of plays, and to witness it live is quite simply an essential life experience."

How about AGO certification opportunities offered by the Omaha chapter? Yes, our membership has at least one member preparing the take AAGO exams this spring in addition to one member who will finish Part II of the CAGO exam. Three members are preparing to play the SPC exam this spring. Moreover, National is developing a new certification program which "precedes" SPC. Omaha AGO is one of few chapters invited to serve as a "pilot project" chapter to "test run" examples of "what works and what needs to be changed." In its initial year of experimentation, this education opportunity may be either self-taught or taught as a class. This experimental education program will continue into the next season.

Omaha AGO has a significant history developing and supporting education events, not only at the local level, but the regional level as well. It has been noted that Omaha AGO membership lists 13 "Young Members," those members who are under the age of 30 years! Omaha

MISSION

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.

AGO members have an amazing number of organ students, some of whom, as teen-agers, play for regular services. National AGO has taken note of the increase in “Young Organist” enrollment. The “Young Organist” membership is the reason, for example, that the content, format and presentation of The American Organist (TAO) has been updated, offering a fresh and new perspective to the publication that appeals to young people.

The executive board of the chapter is actively developing an exciting series of events for the upcoming season. Meanwhile, take advantage of the significant opportunities for professional and personal growth the chapter offers this season.

Stay up to date! Watch the chapter’s Face Book and Website for up-to-the-minute news and updates!

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

Dr. J. Gordon Christensen, AAGO

Dean

THE FUTURE OF OMAHA AGO

The Omaha Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is alive and well! Our chapter meets frequently, provides outstanding educational opportunities, and strives to always nurture the art of playing and the appreciation of the organ.

Planning for the future will be an important agenda item on the February agenda for our Executive Committee. In anticipation of the possibility of hosting a Pipe Organ Encounter Advanced we are asking for everyone’s help in strengthening our chapter’s resources.

With the blessing of the Dean, Executive Committee Member will be reaching out to all members of the Omaha Chapter to determine how every member might participate in some way in service to our chapter and the mission of the AGO. In advance of a personal contact Mr. Hoffman will send an email containing details of the opportunities for service. Please contemplate how you may help and do all you can to contribute to the continued success of the Omaha AGO!

OMAHA AGO
EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE
MEETING

The Omaha AGO Executive Committee did not meet in January due to lack of a quorum. The next meeting is scheduled for February 11th at 9:30 a.m. A summary of the meeting will be included in the March edition of *The Windchest*.

PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTER ADVANCED

The Omaha Chapter of the American Guild of Organists submitted an application to host a Pipe Organ Encounter – Advanced in July of 2021. We will be notified in May of 2020 regarding the approval of our application. Until that time, we may not actively engage in many planning activities, including securing teachers. Should our application be accepted a committee will be appointed immediately and work will begin in earnest!

In anticipation of a positive outcome several members of the Omaha AGO have been working behind the scenes to have the groundwork in place to launch and active agenda to organize the event. Should our application be declined, the efforts being undertaken will benefit the chapter by putting in place sound committees and communication mechanisms.

OMAHA CHAPTER FEBUARY MEETING

2019 - 2020
FEBRUARY

OMAHA CHAPTER
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

Saturday, February 15, 2020 - 9:00 a.m.

Basic Improvisation

Presented by Michael McCabe

Dowd Chapel on the Boys Town Campus
13943 Dowd Dr, Boys Town, NE 68010

Discover the fundamentals of composing on the spot!



The February program of the Omaha Chapter of the AGO promises to be useful and inspiring! Those who have accomplished improvisation skills will find some new techniques and those who are beginning or have never attempted improvisation will find the way to begin!

LENTEN EVENSONG

Sunday, March 1,
4:00 p.m.

St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church

925 S 84th Street

The combined choirs of All Saints Episcopal Church, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, and Trinity Episcopal Cathedral offer the traditional Anglican service of Choral Evensong annually on the first Sunday in Lent. Rotating between the three churches, this year's liturgy will be held at St. Andrew's Church. Choral works will include Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis by Michael McCabe and the premiere of an anthem by Marie Rubis Bauer. Marty Wheeler Burnett, Michael Bauer, and Laura Scow will play and conduct.

REVIEW

Suggestion of Three CDs to listen to. They have all been nominated for Grammys.

Jan Kraybill, *The Orchestral Organ*, Reference Recordings, ©2019.

This recording, played on the Julia Irene Kauffman Organ, Casavant Frères, Op. 3875, at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Kansas City, MO, includes transcriptions of well-known and some obscure orchestral pieces, transcribed by organists, and in some occasions, the composer himself, including a world premiere and a first recording. Jan is only the third organist nominated for a Grammy, and the first woman organist nominated. This is an interesting recording involving transcriptions for organ of orchestral pieces.

Joyce DiDonato, *Songplay*, Erato, ©2019.

In this CD, Joyce improvises classical Italian vocal repertoire as well as contemporary selections. She is having fun with music and quotes Louis Armstrong, "You got to love to be able to play." As organists, we are encouraged to develop the skill of improvisation, so often used in previous centuries and by our French counterparts and making a comeback in our own time. *Songplay* is a fun example of a classical vocalist, having fun and improvising.

KC Chorale, Charles Bruffy, conductor, *Artifacts: The Music of Michael McGlynn*.

This recording explores the works of Irish composer Michael McGlynn (b. 1964). *Artifacts* is a remarkable collection of Chorale stalwarts and new favorites that deliver the movement and intimacy of a live performance. Recorded at the Cathedral of Saint Peter the Apostle in Kansas City, the album features elements of traditional Irish music, such as modal harmonies and ornamented melodies, as well as new compositions on ancient Irish texts. The Gaelic language and choral sounds are captivating and inspiring.

Sr. Claudette Schiratti, AAGO

GEORGE RITCHIE INTERVIEW

Please note the second part of an interview with *George Ritchie* is included in the most recent issues of *The American Organist*.

OPEN POSITIONS LISTED ON OMAHA AGO WEBSITE

Please visit the Omaha AGO website www.omahaago.org/open-positions for details regarding the following open positions in the area. We feature one open position in this month's newsletter. Please visit the Omaha AGO website at omahaago.org for information regarding all positions.

Pacific Hills Lutheran Church

Director of Music (Organist, Choir Director)

1110 South 90th Street

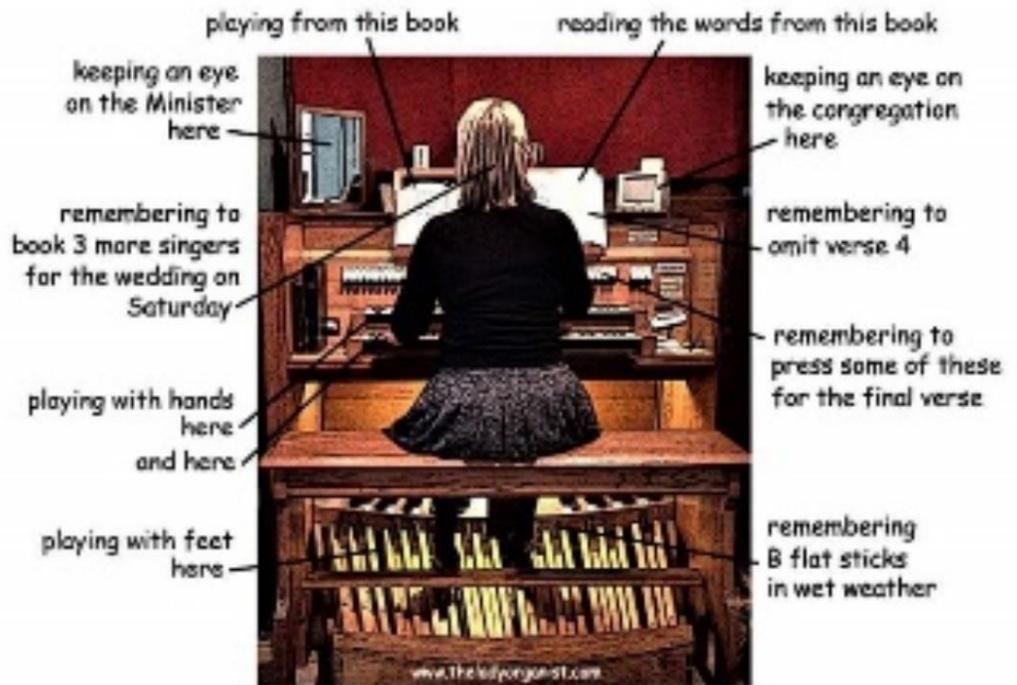
Omaha, NE 68124

Dennis Grindle, Consultant/Spokesman-Search Committee

Telephone: 402-690-1103

Email: dgrindle@seimjohnson.com

MANY ORGANISTS IN THEIR CURRENT POSTIONS!



THE CHURCH ORGANIST

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Rev. Nathan A. Sherrill
Rev. Timothy A. Frank
239 Frank Street
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503
712-322-4729

Presents:
Wednesday at Noon
Lenten Organ Recitals

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church invites you to a series of Lenten Organ Recitals to be held on Wednesdays at Noon during Lent. The free recitals begin at 12:00 p.m. lasting 35-40 minutes. A "home cooked" meal will be served in St. Paul's undercroft following the recitals.

2020 Series includes:

February 26th ~ Ambrose Terneus
Studying organ in France

March 4th ~ Zachary Zieschang, SPC
Organist/Director of Music ~ Zion Lutheran Church, Omaha

March 11th ~ Peggy Wolverton
Member ~ American Guild of Organist, Omaha Chapter.

March 18th ~ Jeff Hoffman
Organist at St. Barnabas Catholic Church
Omaha

March 25th ~ Timothy Conner, SPC
Part-time organist at Zion Lutheran Church, Manning.

April 1st ~ Thomas Koch
Part-time organist for St. Bridget's Catholic Church,
Omaha.





Nicole Keller, Organist

Sunday, February 2, 3 p.m.

Grace Lutheran Church
2225 Washington Street
Lincoln, Nebraska

Presented by Lincoln Organ Showcase & Grace Lutheran Church

♣ Tickets available in the choir
books at \$10.00 each.
Seated \$10.
Youth 20% (under admitted from
students with current academic
achievement letter)

Nicole Keller brings virtuosic technique and sensitive musicality to the 1969 Casavant and friendly acoustic of Grace Lutheran Church. An active solo and chamber music recitalist in the U.S. and abroad, Keller enjoys exploring all aspects of organ repertoire, especially pairing new music with the staples of the repertoire. She is on the faculty at the Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Music in Berea, Ohio and is Associate Organist at Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland. Keller received the Performer's Certificate and Master of Music in Organ Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York under the tutelage of David Higgs.

Sinai Festival Sounds

2020 Spring Programs

Nola Jeanpierre, Soprano &
Dr. Claudette Valentine, Accompanist

Sunday, February 16th at 3:00pm



Donna Hetrick
& Shayla Van Hal

Organists

Sunday, March 22nd at 3:00pm



Series Supported by Freewill Offering

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

WINTER

Sunday, December 1, 2019 - 1 PM—3 PM

Annual Cathedral Christmas Market

First Friday Reception: December 6, 2019

Closes: Sunday, January 5, 2020

Friday, December 6, 2019 - 8PM

Sunday, December 8, 2019 - 2 PM

Christmas at the Cathedral

The Omaha Symphonic Chorus,

Greg Zielke, Conductor

Call (531) 600-8889 for ticket sales and information

Sunday, December 15, 2019 - 3PM

MAGNIFICAT: Cathedral Vespers

Choral Festival Event with the Saint Cecilia Cathedral Choir,

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Choir and Guest Choirs

Saturday, Sunday, January 25, 26, 2020

35th Annual Cathedral Flower festival

For Everything a Season

Celebrating all occasions and honoring our florists

Sunday, February 16, 2020 - 3 PM

Sing Omaha Choirs

Master Chorale & Women's Choir

Mathew Hill, Conductor

Thursday, February 20, 2020 - 7 PM

Annual Cathedral Lecture

Cathedral Cultural Center - O'Donnell Lecture Hall

Completion of the Transformation of the Crystal Cathedral

Brother William Woeger, FSC, Liturgical Consultant and Designer

CATHEDRAL ARTS PROJECT



35 YEARS

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL



Compline at Trinity Cathedral

Ancient Worship for the Modern Soul

Compline – night prayer – is a contemplative office focused on spiritual peace. Trinity Cathedral's Schola Cantorum will offer music at this candlelit liturgy of prayer and reflection.

Compline is offered at 7:00 pm on
September 22
October 13
November 17



Cantata Choral Academy

Choral music education for children and youth in the Anglican tradition.

Fall registration now open

<http://trinityepiscopal.org/cantata>

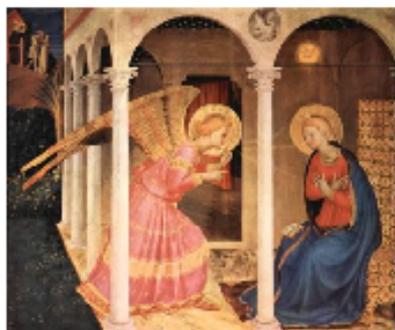
OPERAOMAHA



Opera Omaha ONE Festival Preview Concert

Thursday, December 5, 7:00 p.m.
Trinity Cathedral

Music of Alessandro Stradella, including motets
sung by the Trinity Cathedral Schola Cantorum
Free admission



MAGNIFICAT: Cathedral Vespers

Sunday, December 15, 3:00 p.m.
Saint Cecilia Cathedral, 701 N. 40th St., Omaha

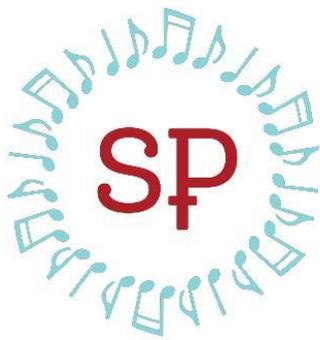
Choral Festival event with the Saint Cecilia
Cathedral Choir, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Choir,
and guest choirs



Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

113 N 18th St. (18th & Capitol)
Omaha, NE 68102
(402) 342-7010
trinityepiscopal.org

ST. PAUL'S MUSIC CONSERVATORY



St. Paul's Music Conservatory

Where Music Serves



Teaching:

SPMC has 12 faculty members who teach in professional studios within St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Reaching:

SPMC teaches many students through the church and community that may not otherwise have an opportunity to take music lessons.



Serving:

SPMC deploys students into churches and institutions throughout the community in order to encourage youth toward service and to show mercy and kindness to others.



St. Paul's Music Conservatory is located at 239 Frank Street in Council Bluffs. SPMC serves students in Eastern Nebraska and Southwest Iowa with professional studio lessons in the areas of Voice, Piano, Guitar, Organ, Strings, Winds and Brass. Our faculty is eager to serve the unique needs and interests of their students. For more information call:

712-322-8832 or email pastorfrank239@gmail.com

www.stpaulsmusicconservatory.org

Darrow Pipe Organ

721 Pearl Street
 Onawa, Iowa
 Phone: 712-251-4101
 712-490-5669
 712-252-1804
 darrowpipeorgan.com
 darrowpipe@aol.com
 New Instruments,
 Restorations, Tuning &
 Service

Pipe Organist

Church Services,
 Weddings, Funerals
 Claire Rae Roehrkasse
 Eason
 Colleague of American
 Guild of Organists
 Cell: 402-720-5305
 claireason@gmail.com
 956 Hwy 30
 North Bend, Ne. 68649
 Answering Machine:
 (Home) 402-652-3366

Keyboard Kastle

Gregory A. Johnson,
 Manager
 Allen Organ
 7031 Dodge Street,
 Omaha, Ne. 68132
 Ofc: 402-593-9400
 Cell: 402-7191923
 Ofc: 1-800-642-1271
 Fax: 402-593-1104
 Email:
 gj1814@earthlink.com
 keyboardkastle.com
 www.allenorgan.com

**Church Organs of
Nebraska**

2600 North 48th St.
 Lincoln, Ne. 68504
 Gerald Oehring
 402-437-7126
 churchorgansofnebras
 ka.com
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OMAHA CHAPTER OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**Dean J. Gordon Christensen, AAGO**

drjgordonchristensen@gmail.com + 712-352-0298

Sub-Dean Dirk Lindner

dirk16@cox.net + 402-614-0892

Secretary Gregory Johnson

gj1814@earthlink.net + 402-719-1923

Treasurer Gina Simpson

ginas@chirock.com + 402-312-1157

Immediate Past Dean David Schack

davidschack@cox.net + 402-339-3061

Member-at-Large Sonja Lundgren - 2017/2018 - 2019 - 2020

sonjaldgn@hotmail.com + 402-884-6426

Member-at-Large Jeff Hoffman - 2018/2019 - 2020/2021

omahaago@gmail.com + 402-317-8887

Member-at-Large Laura Rau - 2019/2022 - 2018/2019

laura.m.rau@gmail.com + 620-870-9768

**OMAHA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF
ORGANISTS - COMMITTEE CHAIRS****Education (AGO Certification) Julie Sandene**

jasandene@gmail.com + 402-551-8479

Chapter Historian Claire Eason

creason@gmail.com + 402-652-3366

Organ Historian David McCain

davidmccain@iowatelecom.net + 712-343-2328

Membership J. Gordon Christensen

drjgordonchristensen@gmail.com + 712-352-0298

Membership Directory Gina Simpson

ginas@chirock.com + 402-312-1157

Professional Concerns Jerry Brabec

jbrabec@stpaulomaha.org + 402-558-7318

Programming Dirk Lindner

dirk16@cox.net + 402-614-0892

Publicity J. Gordon Christensen

drjgordonchristensen@gmail.com + 712-352-0298

Referrals J. Gordon Christensen

drjgordonchistensen@gmail.com + 712-352-0298

Webmaster, Facebook, *The Windchest* Editor Jeff Hoffman

omahaago@gmail.com - 402-317-8887