

THE OPIUS



February 2020



The official publication of the St. Louis American Guild of Organists



A Conference for Church Musicians

Saturday, February 8

8:00am – 4:00pm

More information about the conference inside,
or check out our web-site:

www.agostlouis.org

Watch a special video by Dr. James Henry about the
upcoming February Flourish!

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/agostlouis>

WELCOME

IN THIS ISSUE

We WELCOME new members to the St. Louis AGO:

- ❖ Zachary Simon
- ❖ Jonathan Peterson

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Sub-Dean's Corner: CATHY CASSY



Thank you, Steven Ball for hosting another wonderful post-holiday get together! We already have next year's planned and it will be hosted by Rick Burk. A few pictures below, courtesy of Rene Zajner

Don't forget to enjoy our King of Instruments (KOI) radio broadcasts each Sunday evening at 6:00pm on Radio Arts Foundation 107.3 FM, 96.3 HD2 or rafstl.org. Consider sponsoring or contributing to the program funding. For more information go to: www.agostlouis.org/koi

Check out our ad in this issue of the OPUS.

If you're coming to the dinner before the March 9th presentation "Conducting from the Console" presented by organist Lynn Trapp, be sure to RSVP to Kathleen Boulduan. Jim Threlkeld will be hosting us at Hope United Church of Christ (6273 Eichelberger Street). As part of the Cathedral Concerts series, you can also hear Lynn perform at the St. Louis Cathedral on Sunday afternoon, March 8th.

Our final event for the year will be at Faith/Des Peres Presbyterian Church on May 18th with our annual awards and installation of Officers along with our guest speaker, National AGO's Director of Member Engagement & Chapter Development – Elizabeth George.

Planning for next year's program of events is underway; so if you have requests or suggestions, please do not hesitate to send them to me: subdean@agostlouis.org

I hope your year is already off to a great start! Wishing you all the best. See you at our next program event.

Cathy Cassy, Sub-Dean

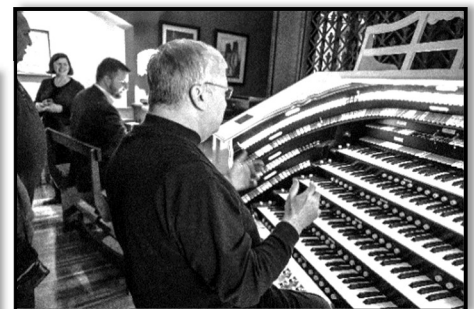
St. Louis AGO Chapter



Dr. Steven Ball entertaining guests
at the theatre organ



Tim Jansen's dessert of the evening



John Powel Walsh



Dean's Corner: BURNELL HACKMAN

Dear fellow AGOers:

First, I want to thank Steven Ball for hosting a most enjoyable after-Christmas party! All in attendance had a great time.

At our March Executive Committee meeting we will decide the fate of our radio program the *King of Instruments* (KOI). The program cost the chapter about \$5,200 a year. When the program was established it was hoped that contributions from chapter members and members of the organ industry would help keep the cost for the chapter to a minimum. That has not happened.

The best way for chapter members to show support of the program and for its continuation is to donate to keep the *King of Instruments* (KOI) going. That is very easy to do by visiting: www.agostlouis.org/koi or you prefer, you may mail a check payable to St. Louis AGO and mail to Mike Kaberline – PO Box 140067, St. Louis, MO 63114-0067. Please write KOI on the memo line. The cost of sponsoring a full episode of the program is \$150 and a half episode is just \$80. Contributions in ANY amount are most welcome.

Our National Convention is coming up this summer in Atlanta. We are so pleased to announce that chapter member Benton Blasingame will be presenting a recital at the convention at Lutheran church of the Redeemer on July 7 at 1:45pm and 3:45pm. CONGRATULATIONS BEN!!!

Bios for the 2020 Elections are included in this issue of the OPUS – Please take the time and VOTE! Your voice is important. Please vote on-line to save us postage on sending you a ballot.

As we enjoy a little respite between Christmas and Ash Wednesday, I hope you spend your time wisely and enjoy!

We'll see you at our March meeting!

Musically yours,

Burnell Hackman, Dean

St. Louis AGO Chapter

Service Playing	CAGO	FAGO	ChM	Associateship
	AGO CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP			
	SPC	AAGO		
	CHOIR MASTER	FELLOWSHIP	COLLEAGUE	

Remaining 2019-2020 Workshops

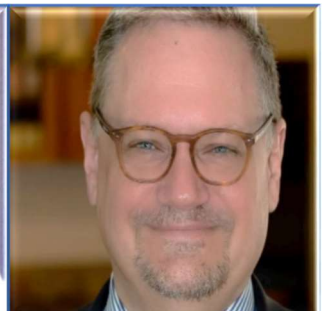
February 8 th	8am-4pm	February Flourish Locations
March 14 th	10am	Gethsemane Lutheran Church
Dawn Riske (CAGO) - Moderator		

ST. LOUIS AGO COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Educational Resources:	Dr. Barbara Raedeke	Placement:	Denis Doelling
Registrar:	Regina Morris	Membership:	Kendra Ruelser
Media Relations:	Dawn Riske (CAGO)	OPUS Editor:	Ted Cronbaugh
Photographer/Social Media:	Rene Zajner	Exam Coordinator:	Brent Johnson
Directory/Hospitality:	Al & Fern Black	Dinner Reservations:	Dr. Kathleen Bolduan
Auditor:	Denis Doelling	Programs:	Cathy Cassy
Web Master:	OPEN	Historian:	Randal Zerkel

ST. LOUIS AGO EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Class of 2020:	Lisa Cripe, Luella Foster (SPC), Bill Stein
Class of 2021:	Bob Chamberlin, Timothy Jansen, Martha Shaffer (CAGO)
Class of 2022:	Dr. Steven Ball, J.D. Brooks, Wes Kassulke



Burnell Hackman
Dean

email:
dean@agostlouis.org

Cathy Cassy
SubDean

email:
subdean@agostlouis.org

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Secretary

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burkr@sbcglobal.net

Mike Kaberline
Treasurer

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mike@kaberline.com

Mark Scholtz
Past Dean

email:
mark85inct@aol.com

CHAPTER WEBSITE:

www.agostlouis.org



Con Spirito

2019-2020 Season
CONCERT SERIES

Twentieth Anniversary Season

2019

Oct. 20 Sunday @ 3:00

**Hymn Festival:
Let All the Earth Rejoice**
Aaron David Miller,
leader and organist



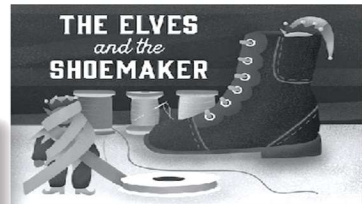
Nov. 10 Sunday @ 3:00

Women's HOPE Chorale
of St. Louis: *Illumination*



Dec. 8 Sunday @ 2:00

Imaginary Theatre Company:
The Elves & The Shoemaker



Dec. 15 Sunday @ 4:00

Chancel Choir & Orchestra
Christmas Concert



2020

French Friday Organ Series

Check for recital dates



Jan. 26 Sunday @ 3:00

Equinox Chamber
Players

April 19 Sunday @ 3:00

Jupiter String
Quartet

May 4 Monday @ 7:00
Annual Organ Dedication
Anniversary Recital
Bill Stein and Travis Evans



Join us for our
**Tree of Life Chapel
Lenten Recital Series**
each Friday @ noon from
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FEBRUARY

COMMUNITY CONCERT
CALENDAR

2019-2020


SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
2020			1	2	3	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

<p>FEB 2</p>	<p>The Fruit of Silence 2:30pm Cathedral of St. Peter 200 W. Harrison St – Belleville, ILL</p>	<p>FEB 9</p>	<p>Choral Evensong 5:00pm St. Peter’s Episcopal Church 110 N. Warson Road - Ladue</p>
<p>FEB 2</p>	<p>Trombones of the St. Louis Symphony 4:00pm Second Presbyterian Church 4501 Westminster Place – St. Louis</p>	<p>FEB 9</p>	<p>Early Music Missouri – Violin in England 3:00pm First Congregational Church 6501 Wydown Blvd – St. Louis</p>
<p>FEB 7</p>	<p>French Friday – Dr. Steven Ball 11:15am First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood 100 E. Adams Ave - Kirkwood</p>	<p>FEB 9</p>	<p>Around the World in 80 Minutes 7:00pm St. Paul’s Lutheran Church 12345 Manchester Rd – St. Louis</p>
<p>FEB 7</p>	<p>Midwest Winds 7:00pm Peace Lutheran Church 737 Barracksview Road – St. Louis</p>	<p>FEB 23</p>	<p>Metropolitan Orchestra Concert 7:00pm First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood 100 E. Adams Ave - Kirkwood</p>
<p>FEB 8</p>	<p>February Flourish Music Conference 8:00am-4:00pm Churches in Ferguson More info: www.agostlouis.org</p>	<p>FEB 28</p>	<p>Tree of Life Chapel Lenten Recital Series 12:00pm First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood 100 E. Adams Ave - Kirkwood</p>

To include your events on the
Community Calendar, please
send an email to:

events@agostlouis.org





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ELECTION

Executive Board



GAYE ANDERSON is the Organist and Choirmaster at the Episcopal Parish of St. Paul in Alton, ILL. Gay holds a Master's degree in Organ Performance from Webster University in St. Louis and a Bachelor of Music Education degree with emphasis in Piano Performance from Greenville College in Greenville, ILL.

Gaye has taught music in the public schools and in the private lesson setting. She runs Livery Haus Music Studio in her hometown of Marine, ILL. Gay continues organ studies with Canon Precentor Dr. William Partridge at Christ Church Cathedral in St. Louis. Gaye is married to attorney Roy Anderson. They have been blessed with two children: Son, David (organist/music director at Ferguson UCC) and daughter Lauren. Gaye is also an equestrian instructor at the family owned dressage and hunter/jumper stable Brier Bank Farm in Marine. Gaye, in her spare time, assists the staff at Gateway Music group, LLC. Additional interests include antiques, renovating old houses, and playing with their two Jack Russell 'hunt terriers.'



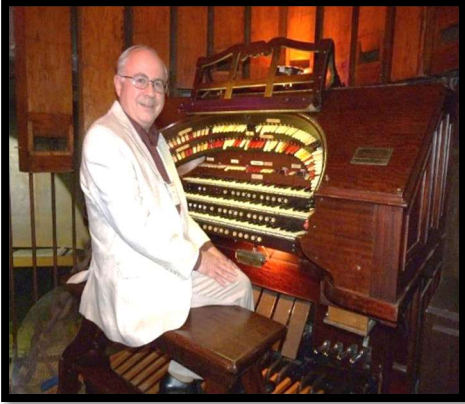
Andrew Peters is the Organist and Director of music at Second Presbyterian Church in St. Louis. At the church he directs the choral groups and handbell choir, plays the church's restored 1965 Schantz organ, and oversees the church's Couets Music Series as Artistic Director. He plays with the St. Louis Symphony as ensemble organist and is assistant conductor of the Metropolitan Orchestra of St. Louis.

A recipient of numerous organ awards, Peters won first place in the Twin Cities American Guild of Organists Young Artists Competition and second place in both the San Marino National Organ Competition and the Region VI AGO Young Artists Competition. He was also a Semifinalist in the National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance. In addition to playing solo organ recitals and leading hymn festivals, Peters accompanies silent films starring Harold Lloyd. A Graduate of St. Olaf College and the Cleveland Institute of Music, Peters has studied organ and church music with Agnes Armstrong, Douglas Cleveland, Carla Edwards John Ferguson, Wilma Jensen, Barbara and Noel Piercy, and Todd Wilson. Before coming to St. Louis in 2007, he had served Episcopalian, United Church of Christ, and United Methodist congregations in Connecticut, Minnesota, Ohio and Tennessee. His congregational hymn settings for brass and organ are published by MorningStar Music.



Shawn Portell has been a full-time church musician for the past 30 years and currently serves as Director of Music Ministries/Sr. Organist at Webster Groves Presbyterian Church – a position he has held since 1995. At Webster Presbyterian, Shawn leads a multifaceted choral, instrumental, and handbell music program for all ages. In addition, he is artistic director and founder of the church’s “Music in a Great Place” series. Now in its 23rd season, this series has presented hundreds of solo musicians, ensembles, choruses, handbell choirs, dancers, artists, and actors in unique worship services and concerts with artists representing talent locally, nationally and internationally.

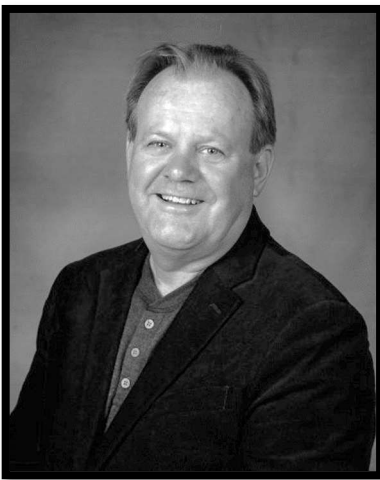
Under his leadership, the choir at Webster Groves Presbyterian was selected to perform at Carnegie Hall, NYC for local St. Louis composer, Robert Ray’s conducting debut singing his “Gospel Mass” with the IN UNISON chorus of the St. Louis Symphony, the Bel Canto chorus of St. Louis and singers from the University of Missouri – St. Louis. In addition, members of his choir joined Menlo Park Presbyterian church, Menlo Park, California for the Presbyterian Heritage Choral Festival singing Morten Lauridsen’s “*Lux Aeterna*” at the historic St. Giles Cathedral and St. Cuthbert Church in Edinburgh, Scotland. Through his 24 years at WGPC, he has conducted a diverse scope of larger choral/orchestral works most notable including: John Rutter’s *Magnificat*, Handel’s *Messiah*, Vaughan William’s *Mass in G Minor*, Faure’s *Requiem*, Rene Clausen’s *A New Creation*, Ola Gjello’s *Sunrise Mass* among dozens of Festivals of Lessons and carols performed during the Christmas Season. In addition, Shawn was recently appointed Music Director of the St. Louis Metro Singers in June of 2018. One of the oldest community choruses in St. Louis, this choir boasts 80 singers that sing 10-12 concerts each year consisting of a variety of choral literature – sacred, classical, Broadway show tunes and Americana. As a solo performer, Shawn’s instrument of profession is the pipe organ. A church organist since the age of 13, he holds a Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance and a Bachelor of Music Education – Vocal from southeast Missouri State University where he was a student of the late Dr. Gary Miller, and a Master of Music in Organ Performance from the Glenn Korff School of Music and the Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. Where he studied with Drs. Quentin Faulkner and George Ritchie. Weekly, he plays the four manual, 96 rank Gress-Miles pipe organ at Webster Groves Presbyterian, and has concertized throughout the Midwest and Eastern US, making his European debut at St. Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh, Scotland.



Dr. William Sullivan, a native of St. Louis, holds Bachelor and Master Degrees from Washington University and earned his Doctorate from Indiana University School of Music, where he studied with Robert Rayfield and Oswald Ragatz. He has a uniquely diverse background that includes 10 years in 501(c) (3) non-profit management, 32 years working for Fortune 500 businesses; 45 years in music, including adjunct college faculty positions and extensive work in musical theater on and off-stage. Sullivan has also chalked up behind-the-scenes credits as a studio musician, conductor, arranger and editor.

He is entering his 16th year as organist at the historic Laclede Groves Chapel (Lutheran Senior Services, Webster Groves Campus). An accredited Associate of the American Guild of Organists (AAGO) and an active member of the American Theater Organ Society, he has performed extensively in both classical and not-so-classical idioms and has been a regular on the Third Baptist Church (St. Louis) *Friday Pipes* noon-time concert series since its inception. A number of his live performances can be found on YouTube and he is occasionally presented on the *King of Instruments* (KOI) radio broadcast.

Sub Dean



Rene Zajner has been organist since the age of twelve, having started piano lessons when he was five years old. Growing up in Toronto, Canada, he followed the instructional outlines of the Royal Conservatory of Music, and became familiar with many churches throughout the city, including many various languages and musical styles. Upon relocation to Chicago, ILL, he sang with the choir at Holy Name Cathedral for over a decade, beginning under Richard Proulx and ending with Matt Walsh. Upon relocation to St. Louis, he began singing at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis under the direction of John Romeri, and continuing with Horst Buchholz, all the while seeking a way to stitch this musical experience together and offer service to local churches.

Rene has successfully done this, and is now the Director of Music at two churches – Our Lady of Providence Catholic Church in Crestwood, and Faith Des Peres Presbyterian Church in Frontenac. Rene has made many contributions to our chapter over the years, notably as chapter photographer and social media communicator, as well as having maintained and grown our website, as well as reviewing our operating procedures. Rene holds a bachelor of Arts degree in economics from the University of Toronto, and a Master of Arts degree in economics from Guelph University.

Dean



John Powel Walsh has been a life long resident of St. Louis and began piano and organ lessons in grammar school. John went on to study organ and music theory with Dr. Mario Salvador in high school and eventually studied organ and conducting at the University of Missouri – St. Louis with Dr. Ronald Arnatt. He earned a Masters degree in organ performance at Washington University – St. Louis, a Certificate at the Haarlem International Academy for Organists in the Netherlands, and studied voice coaching and conducting with Dr. Joseph Beck. Mr. Walsh's career includes being a life member of the American Guild of Organists (AGO),

organist and harpsichordist for the Bach Society of St. Louis and the Ronald Arnatt Chorale. John is the founder of the St. Cecelia consort, the St. Louis Hills Arts Council, founder of the Archangel Players, a music theory lecturer at the University of Missouri – St. Louis, Organist and Director of the Schola at the St. Louis Abbey and Priory School, and also serves as accompanist for Central Reform Congregation Synagogue. Mr. Walsh can also be heard on several recordings including: Emerald tribute, honoring the great Irish singer, John McCormack, Seasons of Grace – St. Louis Abbey, Eugene Field with Christine Brewer and Scott Kennebeck and other recordings.

Position Duties

Dean: *The Dean shall be the chief executive officer of the Chapter, and as such shall have the following duties and responsibilities:*

- ❖ Preside at all meetings of the Chapter and Executive Committee when present.
- ❖ Nominate the Chairs of all standing committees for appointment by the Executive Committee
- ❖ Nominate, for appointment by the Executive Committee, a person or persons to fill vacancies that may occur as the result of death, resignation, incapacity, removal or disqualification of any officer or duly elected member of the Executive Committee
- ❖ Create, with the approval of the Executive Committee, committees and correlate the work of the officers and standing committees
- ❖ Serve as *ex-officio* member of all committees, excluding the Nominating Committee
 - Note: “*Ex-officio*” means “by virtue of office held,” and carries no implication that the *ex-officio* member has no vote.)
- ❖ Submit reports at the general meetings of the Chapter, including issues and recommendations the Dean considers appropriate for consideration by the members of the chapter
- ❖ Carry into effect all directions and resolutions of the Chapter and Executive Committee and make such other reports to the Chapter and Executive Committee that the Dean shall deem necessary, or that policies of the Chapter or Executive Committee may require.

- ❖ Supervise signing and/or countersigning of contracts and other instruments for and on behalf of the chapter pertaining to usual, regular and ordinary affairs of the Chapter, as may be authorized by the Executive Committee
- ❖ Serve as primary Chapter liaison with the district Convener, Regional Coordinator for Professional Development, Regional Coordinator for Education, Regional councilor and Executive Director of the Guild
- ❖ Remain in office for a term of two (2) years
- ❖ May not be re-elected for a consecutive term
- ❖ Perform such other duties as are incidental to the execution of this office or that may be required of the Dean by the executive Committee
- ❖ Assist the Dean to ensure all regulations and reports for current maintenance of Federal IRS 501 (c) (3) status, online 990-N (e-postcard) report, and Missouri sales/use tax exemption status, and Missouri Biennial Registration report Form are maintained in current and good standing. The Federal Employee Identification number is 43-6050023. Missouri Not-For-Profit Chapter number is N01022826

Sub-Dean: *The Sub-Dean, in the absence of the Dean of the Chapter, shall exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of the Dean of the Chapter.*

- ❖ The Sub-Dean will serve as Chair of the Program Committee and, as such, be responsible for planning the annual program of activities for the Chapter
- ❖ The Sub-Dean shall remain in office for a term of two (2) years
- ❖ The Sub-Dean may not be re-elected for consecutive terms
- ❖ The Sub-Dean shall perform such other duties as are incidental to the execution of this office or that may be required of him/her by the Executive Committee
- ❖ In case of the Dean's death, resignation or removal, the Sub-Dean will succeed to the office of Dean for the remainder of the Dean's elected term

Executive Committee: *The Executive Committee is the representative governing body of the Chapter. The Executive Committee conducts the business of the Chapter when the full membership is not present*

- ❖ The Committee shall consist of all elected officers of the Chapter and all duly elected members of the Executive Committee
- ❖ A quorum of seven (7) Executive Committee attendees shall be sufficient to execute Chapter business
- ❖ All Chairs of standing committees and all District, Regional, and National Officers who are members of the Chapter may attend Chapter Executive Committee meetings with voice, but no vote
- ❖ Although invited to attend Executive Committee meetings, the auditor is not required to do so



St. Louis AGO CONFERENCE

Saturday – February 8, 2020 8am-4pm



*Our third AGO Conference is almost here!! What an amazing line-up of presenters, workshops and exhibitors is in store for this February Flourish. There is something for EVERYBODY! I hope to see you on February 8th in Ferguson! If you haven't registered yet – please do so online on our website: www.agostlouis.org (Look for the tab on the left side of the screen) You may also register on the day of the conference. **INVITE YOUR FRIENDS OR OTHERS WHO MAY BE INTERESTED IN THIS CONFERENCE!***

Dawn Riske – February Flourish Director

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE (as of 1/15/20)

- Locations: First Presbyterian Church – 401 Darst (in Ferguson)
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church – 33 N. Clay (in Ferguson)
- 8:00a-8:45a Registration, Continental Breakfast, Explore Exhibits – First Presbyterian Fellowship Hall
- 8:45a-9:15a **“Food for the Soul”**
- Welcome – Dawn Riske, February Flourish Director
 - Welcome – Burnell Hackman, St. Louis AGO Chapter Dean
 - Music – Organ selection
- 9:15a-10:15a **“Food for the Mind”**
- Keynote Speaker – Dr. Jim Henry
 - Workshop Session I
 - Where do I begin? A Step-by-Step guide for building the chorus sound from the ground up
- 10:15a-10:30a **BREAK**
- 10:30a-11:30a **Workshop Session II**
- ORGAN: Dr. Karen Black
 - *HELP! I am a pianist and they want me to play the organ*
 - CHORAL: Dr. Jim Henry
 - *A Kinesthetic approach to choral techniques*
 - HANDBELLS: Nancy Helmich
 - TECHNOLOGY: Kevin Uppercue
 - *Preparing music for congregations using FINALE*

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE (Continued)

11:30a-1:00p “Food for the Body”

- Lunch (provided)
- Prizes
- Visit the exhibits

1:00p-2:00p Workshop Session III

- ORGAN: David Sinden
 - *Improving your Improvisation I*
- ORGAN: Dr. Karen Black
 - *HELP! I am a pianist and they want me to play the organ (REPEAT SESSION)*
- CHORAL: Beth Duello
 - 10 Reasons to have a Children’s Choir
- HANDBELLS: Nancy Helmich
 - *Beyond the Printed Page*

2:00p-2:15p BREAK

2:15p-3:15p Workshop Session IV

- ORGAN: David Sinden
 - *Improving your Improvisation II*
- ORGAN: Kevin Uppercue
 - *Hymn Reharmonization: An Integrated Method*
- CHORAL: Angela Rocchio
 - *Introduction to Gregorian Chant*
- HANDBELLS: Dolan Bayless
 - *The Bells are in the Closet, Now What?*

3:20p-3:30p Closing Remarks

- Music – Organ Selection – David Sinden

3:30p-4:00p VISIT EXHIBITS



FEBRUARY FLOURISH SESSION LEADERS:

- Organ – Dr. Karen Black, Chair of the Wartburg University Music Department, Professor of Music, and College Organist; AGO Regional Councillor
- Organ – David Sinden, Organist & Director of Music at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church (St. Louis); co-host of podcast “All Things Rite & Musical”
- Choral – Beth Duello – Director of Music at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church; Director of Duchesne Branch of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians
- Choral – Dr. Jim Henry – Director of Choral Studies at University of Missouri – St. Louis, Director of the award-winning Ambassadors of Harmony; composer, arranger, educator
- Choral – Angela M. Rocchio - Cantor at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis; Founder of Cathedral Chant School, Peoria, IL
- Handbells – Dolan Bayless – Director of Traditional Music and Worship at Kirkwood United Methodist Church (Kirkwood); founder and conductor of ReBELLion Handbell Ensemble
- Handbells – Nancy Helmich – Director of Music at St. Paul United Church of Christ (Lebanon, IL)
- Music Technology/Hymn Reharmonization – Kevin Uppercue – Managing Editor for ECS Publishing Group (E.C. Schirmer, Galaxy, MorningStar Music); composer and organist



**EVERY SUNDAY EVENING AT 6PM
HOSTED BY:**



Brent Johnson

Bill Stein

Mark Scholtz

The King of Instruments program can be heard every Sunday evening at 6pm on Classic 107.3 FM, 63.3 HD2 or streaming from Classic1073.org You can also hear it on kingofinstruments.show

The King of Instruments is presented by the St. Louis AGO and the Organ Media Foundation.

Episodes in FEBRUARY:

- 2 Our Birthday Show
- 9 Birthdays of Hope-Jones/Langlais
- 16 Making it all up, Widor/Latry
- 23 British Birthdays

KOI turns 4 in February, our show is all around birthdays in February!!



Avis Blewitt

The Avis Blewitt Award can be presented to anyone who has made a musical impact on the St. Louis Community or our AGO Chapter. Wes Kassulke (weskassulke@gmail.com) is chairman of this committee. If you know someone who qualifies or should be considered for this award, please email Wes.

As stated in our by-laws:

The Avis H. Blewitt Award may be given annually to a person who meets the qualifications set forth under the guidelines given below: The Award process will include approval of the recipient at the March Executive Committee meeting and presentation of the award at the regular May meeting.

The Guidelines are as follows:

- ❖ *The nominee should have made a significant contribution to the field of sacred music in the metropolitan St. Louis area. Nominees may include church/synagogue/temple musicians, teachers, composers, or others. (Sacred music is defined as music that falls within the charter of the American Guild of Organists.)*
- ❖ *The awardee will receive an inscribed plaque or framed certificate. Guild Members will receive one year National AGO and St. Louis Chapter membership. Non Guild members will receive a one year subscription to The American Organist Magazine, and a one year subscription to the OPUS. The format of the award may vary, as appropriate. A record shall be kept of the awardees and the status of their awards.*
- ❖ *Nominations are to be submitted by March 1 to a member of the Avis H. Blewitt award Committee (appointed by the Dean.) This Committee will select and recommend the awardee(s), if any.*
- ❖ *The Executive committee will approve or reject the proposed awardee(s) at its March meeting.*
- ❖ *The award may be presented annually at the May Meeting. Current and past Avis Blewitt award recipients will be invited to the Annual Banquet as guests of the Chapter and their individual dinners will be provided at Chapter expense.*
- ❖ *All awardees will be listed in the annual Yearbook.*

Nunc Dimittis

It is with sadness that we announce that long time member and 2000 Avis Blewitt winner Dr. Marie J. Kremer died on Sunday, January 19, 2020. We thank God for a rich life, lived beautifully in the service of so many friends, students, colleagues and most especially, the Church. Marie passed away after a short illness and a long, wonderful life. She will be missed by so many. A more complete obituary will appear in the March OPUS.



**Stephen Tharp to perform in Concert:
Friday, February 21 – 7:30pm**

American Organist Stephen Tharp will perform a concert on the Illinois College Fine Arts Series in Jacksonville, Illinois on Friday, February 21 at 7:30pm in Rammelkamp Chapel on the Illinois College campus. Tickets will be available at the door for \$15.00; students of all ages are admitted free of charge. Jacksonville is a two-hour drive north of St. Louis.

The three manual, mechanical action organ, with 29 stops and 39 ranks, was built by Holtkamp Organ Co. in 1979, to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the college.

The concert will include works by Bach, Vierne and a new *Berceuse* dedicated to the renowned American Organist Dr. Fred Swann, composed by Dallas-based composer George Baker.

Stephen Tharp, hailed as “authoritative, impassioned, supremely musical and technically impeccable, every bit the equal of any organist” and “the consummate creative artist”, is recognized as one of the great concert organists of our time. Having played more than 1600 concerts across over 53 tours worldwide, Tharp was given the 2011 International Performer of the Year Award by the New York City chapter of the American Guild of Organists, and in May 2015 he was given the Paul Creston Award, which recognizes artistic excellence by a significant figure in church music and the performing arts.

An important champion of new organ music, Mr. Tharp continues to commission and premiere numerous compositions for the instrument, by such composers as Jean Guillou, George Baker, David Briggs, Samuel Adler, Philip Moore, Anthony Newman and Morgan Simmons. An active chamber musician, Tharp has performed on organ, piano, and harpsichord with artists such as Thomas Hampson, Itzhak Perlman, the American Boychoir and the St. Thomas Choir. His 15 solo organ recordings can be found on the labels Acis Productions, JAV Recordings, Naxos, Organum and Ethereal.

2019-2020 ST. LOUIS AGO PROGRAM YEAR:

SEPTEMBER 29:	PAUL MANZ HYMN FESTIVAL
OCTOBER 21:	RESOURCES FOR THE SUBSTITUTE ORGANIST
NOVEMBER 19:	PROGRAM CANCELLED
DECEMBER:	NO PROGRAM/MEETING
JANUARY 3:	EPIPHANY PARTY
FEBRUARY 8:	FEBRUARY FLOURISH
MARCH 9:	CONDUCTING FROM THE CONSOLE
APRIL:	NO PROGRAM/MEETING
MAY 18:	ANNUAL END-OF-YEAR MEETING/AWARDS

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NOW is the time to be thinking about NEXT YEAR! (see rates below)

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(2019-2020)

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ORGAN.MEDIA

FOUNDATION

Early in 2018, the *Organ Media Foundation*, the parent organization of the Internet radio stations *Organlive*, *Positively Baroque*, and the *Organ Experience* branched out into making videos about the individual pipe organs. In each of these videos, St. Louis AGO member Brent Johnson stands at the console with usually the resident organist. Each of the stops of the organ is explained, demonstrated, and discussed. From there, the organist performs a work or two to show off the capabilities of the organ. Then the cameras go behind-the-scenes, to show the parts of the organ the public rarely sees. Viewers are taken inside the pipe chambers or into the console. Sometimes the cameras go inside the action of the organ. It's an opportunity for the general public to not only see and appreciate all of the complicated engineering that goes into an organ, but also for organists to compare and contrast both the sound and building styles of instruments from different builders and instruments.

As of January 2020 there are more than 80 videos on the Foundation's YouTube channel. There are some occasionally different videos, such as the daily updates from the Pipe Organ Encounters in St. Louis this past summer and Philadelphia in 2018. Vintage promotional films from Wicks and Reuter have been digitized and archived for public viewing on the channel.

Some notable St. Louis organs that can be seen on the channel include the Schoenstein at Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church, the Casavant of First Presbyterian of Kirkwood, the new Parsons organ at Hoop Evangelical Lutheran, and the restored Pfeffer organ of the Shrine of St. Joseph. Some videos have even led to a renewed interest in neglected instruments. A video featuring Dr. Horst Buchholz demonstrating the Kilgen organ in the Chapel of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet has led the Sisters and their supporters to begin looking into having some work done to make the organ sound its best.

There are some other historic examples, such as Reuter's Opus 1 in Mattoon, ILL, and the 1770 David Tannenberg organ in Moselem Springs, PA, the oldest American-built pipe organ still playing. In 2019, the cameras were taken to Minneapolis to see the Schlicker organ of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, the organ that Paul Manz made famous in his recordings, and now played by David Cherwien. Organs that were heard in the Dallas OHS convention have been featured, and fans of the channel can look forward to previews of some of the organs used in the 2020 OHS convention in Columbus, Ohio.

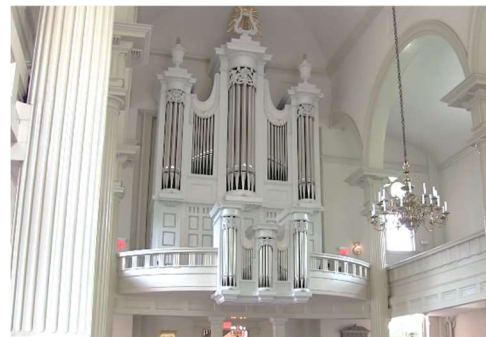
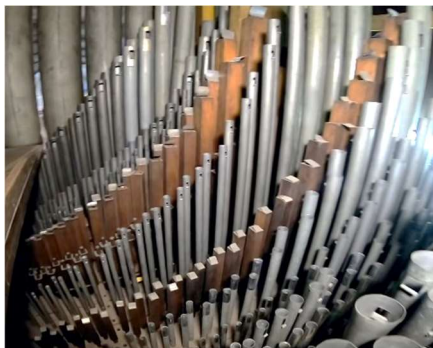
To find these videos and subscribe to the *Organ Media* YouTube channel, just go to YouTube and type in ORGAN MEDIA FOUNDATION in the search bar.

If you are interested in helping to create more videos about YOUR organ or another organ-related project, please contact Brent Johnson at the following email address.

brent@organmedia.org



Brent Johnson



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AGO Member Jan Kraybill Nominated for Three Grammy Awards

Jan Kraybill writes: I was absolutely thrilled that my most recent album, the second solo recording on the Kauffman Center's Julia Irene Kauffman Casavant organ, has been nominated for three GRAMMY awards, including Best Classical Instrumental Solo.

As far as I know, I am only the third organist – and the first female organist – to be nominated for a solo recording GRAMMY.