DEAN'S LETTER

Dear Colleagues,

December, with all its attendant cheer and chaos, is upon us. I hope that the coming weeks will bring much joyful music making and a healthy amount of downtime as well. In the interest of promoting the latter, we will not have a December program; rather, we will gather for the next time on Monday, January 4th at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Murfreesboro for a presentation by musicologist Barbara Owen on the organ works of Johannes Brahms. To encourage members to make the trip, we are working to provide bus accommodations as well as carpooling options from Nashville. Please stay tuned for further details!

In this season of gratitude, I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to a number of our members.

Thanks very much to all members and friends who attended Alcee Chriss's fantastic recital at Belmont United Methodist Church on November 9th. Thanks also to Gayle Sullivan for hosting us, to Rhonda Swanson for housing Alcee and transporting him to and from the airport, and to Darryl Miller for making the programs and for spending time with Alcee on Saturday. Finally, thanks very much to all who have made financial contributions above and beyond their dues to support the first-rate programming we enjoy in Nashville.

Best wishes to all of you in this busy season!

Nicholas Bergin Dean

JANUARY PROGRAM - MONDAY, JANUARY 4 - 7:30 PM

THE ORGAN WORKS OF BRAHMS: A PRESENTATION BY BARBARA OWEN

St. Paul's Episcopal Church 315 East Main Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37130

DINNER, 6:30 PM — Reservations, *due by December 30*, can be made online @ www.nashvilleago.org, click on Dinner Reservations, or contact Linda Winters at 615-456-2065 or @ lwinters357@gmail.com

There is no December program. If you need transportation or are willing to drive other members to Murfreesboro for the January 4 program, please contact Dean Bergin.

January Program presented by Barbara Owen



Barbara Owen holds degrees in organ and musicology from Westminster Choir College and Boston University and has also studied in Germany and Italy. She is the author of numerous periodical and anthology articles, entries in The New Grove Dictionary of Music, and several books,

including *The Organ in New England*, *E. Power Biggs:*Concert Organist, The Registration of Baroque Organ
Music, The Organ Music of Johannes Brahms, and The
Great Organ at Methuen. She formerly served many
years as Music Director at First Religious Society
in Newburyport, Mass. and Librarian of the A.G.O.
Organ Library at Boston University. Currently active
as an organist, lecturer, and organ consultant, she has
served the A.G.O. as Regional Councillor and Dean of
two chapters, is a Past President of the Organ Historical Society, a member of the advisory board of the
Instituto de Organos Historicos de Oaxaca, Mexico,
and a Trustee of Methuen Memorial Music Hall.

Honors include the American Musical Instrument Society Curt Sachs Award, the Westminster Choir College Alumni Merit Citation, the Max Miller Book Award, and the Organ Historical Society Distinguished Service Award.

Ms. Owen will present a program on the Brahms chorale preludes using music examples.

AmazonSmile for Nashville AGO Members

Members of the Nashville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists can now support our organization through the AmazonSmile program!

If you're not familiar with AmazonSmile, it features all of the same products at the same prices as the regular Amazon website, except Amazon will make quarterly contributions to our chapter if you use the AmazonSmile American Guild of Organists – Nashville Chapter landing page for all of your Amazon purchases.

One half of one percent (.5%) of any AmazonS-mile purchase will be donated quarterly to the Nash-ville Chapter of the AGO if you select our chapter as your charitable organization in the AmazonSmile program. Just use this link to land you on the AmazonSmile page specifically developed for our chapter - https://smile.amazon.com/ch/62-6046525. Save this log-in page as your Amazon "bookmark" on your web browser and note the Supporting: American Guild of Organists Location: Nashville, TN on the AmazonSmile banner.

From now on, each time you make purchases from AmazonSmile, you'll have the satisfaction of knowing you're automatically supporting our chapter. With the Christmas shopping season upon us, it's a great time to begin using AmazonSmile for all of your purchases from Amazon!



THE ORGAN MEDIA FOUNDATION

There is yet another way to experience great organ music online. The Organ Media Foundation has rolled out its third internet streaming audio station, The Organ Experience. This station broadcasts classical organ music 24 hours a day via its website at www.organexperience.com. A built-in web player automatically handles connecting listeners to the stream, and complete information about each work being played is displayed on the site.

This station is automated, and generates its own creative playlists. The music is grouped into 30-minute, 1 hour, or 2 hour blocks. The music of each block is chosen based on a specific theme. Some themes are broad, others very specific; there are currently more than 80 different themes up for selection. The information about each block of music can be found on the website, as well as a listing of upcoming blocks.

For each work, the listener is presented with the work title, the composer and dates with a link to the composer's biography, the performer with a link to his or her biography, the length of the work, the organ being played and a link to its specification, the album title and artwork, label and catalog, and links to purchase the album online either as a CD or as MP3, if available. In addition, there are frequently links to purchase the sheet music of the work, and often a link to a free PDF score, if the work is public domain.

All of the music heard is from the ever-growing broadcast library of the Organ Media Foundation, which currently holds just shy of 20,000 tracks from more than 1500 albums. The Organ Media Foundation is a listener-support non-profit 501(c)3 organization. All of its broadcasts are free to hear and are commercial-free.

This newest station joins the Organ Media Foundation's other two outlets, <u>Organlive.com</u> and <u>Positively-Baroque.com</u>. All of these stations have their own web players but are also available on internet radio devices, AppleTV, Roku, Iphone, Ipad, and Android devices. For more information about the Foundation and its projects, visit <u>organmedia.org</u>, and to tune in to The Organ Experience, visit <u>organexperience.org</u>.

The Organ Experience 6622 Michigan Ave, St. Louis, MO, 63111

2016 ATLANTA POE

The Atlanta Chapter is proud to announce the 2016 Pipe Organ Encounter (POE) to be held Sunday, July 24-Friday, July 29, 2016 in Atlanta, Georgia. The Atlanta Chapter will accept students ages 13-18. Students should be interested in Pipe Organs with Piano or Organ proficiency from Intermediate to Advanced. Watch our website for future announcements

Website:

www.agoatlanta.org/html/POE.htm

Contact:

Nicole Marane, POE Director, nicmarane@gmail.com

2016 AGO NATIONAL CONVENTION June 19-23, 2016 Houston, Texas

Information from Dan Fenn, Houston AGO Chapter:

Registration is now open with a Super Saver rate for regular members of only \$375 – good through December 31. The main convention website is www.AGOHouston2016.com.

Any convention, especially one as unique as an AGO convention, relies not only on funds from registration costs and advertisers, but also on donors at the local and nation-wide level to ensure its success. We hope that your chapter will graciously consider becoming an underwriter with a chapter gift. Perhaps your chapter would partner with us by helping to underwrite one of your own, Anthony Williams (one of our workshop presenters), by giving a gift in his honor.

More information as well as the convention mailing address can be found at www.agohouston2016.com/get-involved/sponsor.

NASHVILLE CHAPTER PROGRAMS

January 4, 2016 — Barbara Owen St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Murfreesboro

February 1, 2016 — Hymn Playing with Stuart Forster Vine Street Christian Church

> March 7, 2016 — Chelsea Chen Covenant Presbyterian Church

April 8, 2016 — Gala in Honor of Wilma Jensen West End United Methodist Church (sponsored by National AGO)

May 9, 2016 — Tom Trenney and Vox Grata St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Franklin

MEMBER NEWS

Our Dean, **Nicholas Bergin**, played a recital at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City on Sunday, November 22, as part of the Kilgen Organ Recital Series preceding the 4:00 Mass.

Kristen Schussler will be the new Director of Music and Worship at Middletown UMC in Louisville, Kentucky, beginning in January 2016. Congratulations and best wishes.

"Vintage Years, The Music of Our Memories", new CD featuring **Darryl Nettles**, pianist, and Tamica Harris, vocalist. Recorded at Sound Stage Studios in Nashville, this CD features 16 jazz standards by Rodgers and Hart, George and Ira Gershwin, Irving Berlin, and many others. The CDs are \$10 each. Send an email to dabble1960@gmail.com to order your copy.

Anthony Williams is presenting a workshop on Organ Music of Black Composers at the 2016 American Guild of Organists National Convention, which will be held next June in Houston, Texas.

Currently there are 196 paid members of Nashville AGO. Please send contact information for prospective members to Janet Schmidt, Nashville AGO Membership Chair, janetrschmidt@gmail.com.

YEARBOOK UPDATE:

William Cumming

wmnonecumming@gmail.com

Eric Wyse

eric@ericwyse.com

Christopher Keenan (Student)

2900 Swisher Street, #203 Austin, TX 78705 615-516-4057 keenan.chris1@gmail.com University Christian Church, Austin, TX, Organist

NEW MEMBER:

Caitlin Dowling

3300 West End Avenue, Apt. 411 Nashville, TN 37203 615-321-8505 Ext. 8829 emily.c.dowling@live.mercer.edu West End United Methodist Church, Music Intern

JOB OPENINGS

Dalewood United Methodist Church, Nashville, TN, is inviting applications for the position of Minister of Music and Worship (pianist/choir director). The position is part-time, year-round, with salary commensurate with experience and education. Service and rehearsals are all on Sunday mornings (9:30-12:30). Musicianship and a creative, collaborative approach to the total worship experience are highly valued. Contact Jay Dawson at jaytdawson@comcast.net or 615-739-7743.

First United Methodist Church, McMinnville, TN, has an immediate opening for an Organist for one Sunday service (10:30 AM) and Wednesday night rehearsal each week, as well as any special services during the church year. *Pianists are welcome to apply on a temporary basis.* Salary is negotiable. Contact Donna Campbell, Director of Music, at 931-808-8415 or Senior Pastor, James Johnson at 931-473-4419.

First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), Dalton, GA, is looking for a Director of Music and Organist for 20-25 hours per week, including weekly planning/administration as well as practice time and planning for choir rehearsal and worship service. Position may be filled by one or two people and will be available January 4, 2016. For a complete job description, see www.firstpresdalton.org. Inquiries and application materials can be submitted to Rev. Will Scott at wscott@firstpresdalton.org.

Mary Queen of Angels Catholic Chapel, 34 White Bridge Road, Nashville, needs an Organist to play 10:30 AM Mass Sundays and occasional Holy Days, including Christmas and New Year's Day (if possible). Organ is an Allen electronic. Call Greg Mueller at 615-202-5178 or email g.k.mueller@att.net for details.

Charlotte Hughes, Placement Chair

AVAILABLE SUBSTITUTES

A current list of available substitutes can be found at our Chapter Website, www.nashvilleago.org.



ARTS CALENDAR - DECEMBER, 2015

12/5 - 7:00 PM

Nashville Chamber Singers

20th Anniversary Christmas Concert

First Presbyterian Church

4815 Franklin Pike, Nashville

12/6 - 4:30 PM

Sleepers Wake! A Concert of Christmas Music

West End United Methodist Church

2200 West End Avenue, Nashville

The West End Chancel Choir and Orchestra

Matthew Phelps Conductor

Bach Cantata no. 141 "Wachet Auf"

Tavener "Two Ikons of the Nativity"

Howells "Collegium Regale"

Selected motets

12/7 - 7:30 PM

Christmas at the Cathedral

160 High School, University and Adult Choristers

Full Orchestra

Music of Rutter, Stopford, C. Jennings, Kim Arnesen, K.

Lee Scott, etc.

Free admission

Jackson Schoos, Music Director

Dawn Seidenschwarz, Organ

Cathedral of the Incarnation

2015 West End Avenue, Nashville

12/8 - 7:30 PM

Christmas at the Cathedral

160 High School, University and Adult Choristers

Full Orchestra

Music of Rutter, Stopford, C. Jennings, Kim Arnesen,

K. Lee Scott, etc.

Free admission

Jackson Schoos, Music Director

Dawn Seidenschwarz, Organ

Cathedral of the Incarnation

2015 West End Avenue, Nashville

12/8 - 7:30 PM

Nashville Chamber Singers

20th Anniversary Christmas Concert

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

116 North Academy Street, Murfreesboro

12/13 - 4:00 PM

Festival of Lessons and Carols

The Cathedral Choir and Senior Choristers

Michael Velting, Canon for Music

Michael Gebhart, Assistant Organist and Choirmaster

Christ Church Cathedral

900 Broadway, Nashville

12/13 - 4:00 PM

Glory to God in the Highest

First Presbyterian Church

4815 Franklin Pike, Nashville

Featuring the Nashville Symphony, the FPC Sanctuary

Choir, and Psalmody and Doxology Youth Choirs

12/13 - 5:00 PM

The Festival of Christmas featuring all choirs

Calvary United Methodist Church

3701 Hillsboro Pike, Nashville

12/13 - 5:00 PM

Lessons and Carols

Immanuel Baptist Church

222 Belle Meade Boulevard, Nashville

12/13 - 5:30 PM

Annual Candlelighting Service

West End United Methodist Church

2200 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN

Annual Lessons and Carols Service with combined choirs of West End United Methodist. Early arrival is recom-

mended.

12/13 - 6:00 PM

Carol Service and Feast of Lights

Belmont United Methodist Church

2007 Acklen Avenue, Nashville

Belmont UMC Choirs and Orchestra

Gayle Sullivan, Director; Robbie Jones, Organist

Prepared by Gayle Sullivan, Chair

The chapter website contains up-to-date calendar listings, as well as information for chapter meetings, substitutes, officers, and many, many other interesting and helpful items for the organist.

NASHVILLEAGO.ORG