

"The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ." ("AGO AT-A-GLANCE - American Guild of Organists")

"The vision of the American Guild of Organists is to engage, support, and uplift every organist." ("Mission, Vision, and Value Proposition - American Guild of Organists")



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### Note from the Dean - Indy AGO Year In Review

It seems like every news publication has a year in review. Why should the Fanfare not follow suit?

Starting in January it was my pleasure to host the **Epiphany Party** in our home. We had a wonderful evening with delicious food, fine drinks, and wonderful company.

Sadly, due to circumstances beyond our control we had to cancel **Jerry Custer's February workshop**. I was so sorry that didn't work out.

In March we had the **Indianapolis Pipe Organ Festival** at Plainfield United Methodist Church. It was a first-class event and I'm very grateful to Matt Gerhard and Nick Fennig for putting together a

wonderful afternoon of organ music. We also sponsored the chapter's part of the RCYO competition. Thanks to Michael Messina for coordinating this.

In April we co-sponsored with Christ Church Cathedral **Bach's St. John Passion**. Chris Caruso-Lynch did an outstanding job of preparing and presenting this monumental piece.

In May we held the **Sing For Joy Hymn Festival** with Organist Andrew Jacob and The Rev. Alexandra M. Jacob followed by installation of officers at Northminster Presbyterian Church.

After a summer of rest and regroup we had our **Kick-off Picnic** at Holliday Park in early September Later in September we co-sponsored along with the IU Organ department recitalist **Kola Owolabi**, who presented a masterclass and gave a wonderful recital at Christ Church Cathedral.

In October we co-sponsored with Trinity Episcopal Church Notre Dame organists **Phillipe Lefebvre**. In addition to hearing some world-class organ music, aided by the Trinity Choir, we started again our practice of meeting for a meal at the start of our events.

We had several folks complete AGO certification exams. Thanks to **Richard Perry** for being the exam coordinator.

We insured, lent out, and found a new home for our **Orgelkids** Kit. Glad it's being put to good use, and thanks for Brad Hughley for keeping it for us at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

All-in-all it's been a great year. We've recovered much of the lost momentum that challenged us during the Covid years.





Coming up, we have the Epiphany Party hosted at the home of John Seest, the Amanda Mole recital, the IPOF, group tickets for the Saint-Saëns Organ Symphony, and the Robert McCormick Hymn Festival and Installation of Officers. More details to come. We plan to continue to try to provide a catered meal prior to our events where it makes sense.

Thanks all for a great 2023!

Paul



Dear Indy AGO,

Our Sub-dean, Chris Caruso-Lynch will be taking a new opportunity in Salt Lake City at the end of January. Chris is resigning his position as Subdean effective at the end of December. I'm very grateful for all the work he has put in over the past two years and will miss having him be a part of our chapter. Fortunately for us, most of his work has been accomplished and we'll only need to do some coordinating

for the upcoming events. Our operating procedures state that the Dean may appoint someone to fill out the remainder of the term. I'm happy to report that Michael Messina has offered to assume the role of Sub-dean for the remainder of Chris' term.

I wish Chris all the best as he starts this new chapter of his life. Here is a link to the Christ Church Cathedral website announcement for more

details. <a href="https://www.cccindy.org/cccmusicdepartment/">https://www.cccindy.org/cccmusicdepartment/</a>

Please join me in expressing our gratitude to Chris for his service to the Indy AGO.

Best,

Paul Guyer, CAGO Dean, Indianapolis AGO







# Programs Sponsored by the Chapter



Here's the link to our Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/IndyAGO">https://www.facebook.com/IndyAGO</a> and our website: <a href="https://www.indyago.org">www.indyago.org</a>. Please "like" us on Facebook: @IndyAGO

## **Epiphany Party**



Tuesday January 2, 2024

Appetizers at 5:30 PM, Meal at 6:30 PM

## Home of John Seest 5212 N. Capitol Avenue, Indianapolis, IN

You are invited to the annual AGO Epiphany party on Tuesday, January 2 at the home of John Seest at 5212 N. Capitol Avenue. Appetizers are at

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5:30 pm and dinner is at 6:30 pm followed by a carol sing (including the Twelve Days of Christmas!). Please bring a dish and/or drinks to share. A ham will be provided.

Reservations are not required, but an RSVP at:

https://forms.gle/2hYVDCwtSrBqbb5g8

would be helpful to plan for seating. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Amanda Mole

ORGAN RECITAL AT ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Friday March 1, 2024, 7:00 PM

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 6050 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis Catered meal prior to the recital at 6:00 PM in the St. Paul's Parish Hall

Indianapolis Pipe Organ Festival
Sunday April 21, 2024, 3:00 PM

Plainfield United Methodist Church, 600 Simmons St, Plainfield, IN

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A Night at the Symphony

SAINT-SAENS SYMPHONY NO. 3 "ORGAN" WITH CONDUCTOR KAZEM ABDULLAH CHRISTOPHER CARUSO-LYNCH, ORGANIST

May 17, 2024: 8:00 PM May 18, 2024: 5:30 PM

Hilbert Circle Theatre, 45 Monument Cir, Indianapolis

Robert McCormick Hymn Fest

Installation of Officers, Memorials

May 24, 2024, Time: TBA

Northminster Presbyterian Church, 1660 Kessler Boulevard East Drive, Indianapolis

ROBERT McCORMICK

**Concert Organist** 

"The instrument's countless colors, textures and dynamics were exhibited by McCormick in playing of technical wizardry and superb musicianship."





(Michael Caruso, Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia, PA, 2020)

Described by *Choir & Organ* as "indomitable and immensely gifted" and by The Macon Telegraph as "an artist of rare sensitivity and passion", **Robert McCormick** is widely heralded by his colleagues as one of the finest concert and church musicians of this era. Concert appearances across the United States include Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, the



Summer Organ Festival at the Riverside Church (New York), the Pittsburgh Organ Artists Series, the East Texas Organ Festival, Basically Bach Festival at St. Peter's Lutheran (New York), the Great Organists series at St. John's Cathedral in Albuquerque (New Mexico), the Atlanta Summer Organ Festival, and recent recitals and workshops for Harrisburg, PA and Little Rock, AR American Guild of

Organists chapters, among many others. His concerto appearances with orchestra include Samuel Barber's Toccata Festiva, Camille Saint-Saëns' "Organ" Symphony, and Joseph Jongen's Symphonie Concertante. He has been a featured artist and clinician at numerous conventions and conferences of the Association of Anglican Musicians, and the Royal School of Church Music in America, playing recitals and services, and leading workshops in choir training, service playing, and organ improvisation. For the 2019-2020 academic year, he taught improvisation at Westminster Choir College in New Jersey. As a composer, his choral and organ works are published by Encore (UK) and Selah and have been performed throughout the U.S and in Europe. He is known widely for his creative and unique abilities in organ improvisation. His recording from St. Paul's, K Street, We Sing of God, was released in June 2010 on the Pro Organo label. *Choir & Organ's* review of the disc describes the choir as "one of the most responsive and adaptable choirs on the Eastern seaboard" and further states that "[McCormick] also shines at the organ."

Mr. McCormick is the Organist and Choirmaster of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, a parish deeply rooted in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. From 2008–2016, he was Director of Music at St. Paul's Parish, K Street, Washington, D.C. Under his direction, the St. Paul's choirs performed at conventions of the AGO, the Organ Historical Society, and the Association of Anglican Musicians and were heard nationally on the radio programs Pipedreams and With Heart and Voice. From 2001–2008 he served as Organist and Music Director at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, New York. He served for two years as sub-dean of the New York City chapter of the AGO and was co-chairperson of the 2014 National Conference of the Association of Anglican Musicians.

He holds the Bachelor of Music degree in organ performance, summa cum laude, from Westminster Choir College. During his time at Westminster, he was also Assistant Organist at Trinity Church, Princeton. His teachers have included McNeil Robinson and Robert Carwithen. Robert McCormick is represented in North America exclusively by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC.

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## **Community Programs**



### Kokomo Zion Church

Where People Gather to Celebrate, Serve, and Grow in Christ

Kokomo Zion Church 5051 E. 400 N. Kokomo, IN 46901

Sunday, January 28th at 3pm Music from the Movies



## **Organist: Nick Fenning**

Free Concert: Chamber Music XVII Sunday, February 4, 2024 at 3:00PM Bartlett Chapel Global Methodist Church

Concert 4: Magic of Mozart

Hendricks Symphony Orchestra and Charus featuring the works of "Magic Flute" and "Requiem"

Friday, February 16, 2024 at 7:30PM Sunday, February 18, 2024 at 3:00PM

Please monitor Facebook for venue information

#### Concert 5: Magic of Youth

Hendricks Symphony Orchestro and Chorus featuring the works of Mendelssohn and Shostakovich

Friday, April 26, 2024 at 7:30PM Sunday, April 28, 2024 at 3:00PM

Please monitor Facebook for venue information

hendrickssymphony.org





January 2024





KOKOMO, INDIANA The Rev. Sharon C. Walker, Pastor Mr. Thomas Dearchs, Minister of Music









St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, The Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Maine, the Mayo Clinic Medical Center In Rochester, Minnesota. Washington Music Festival in Fort Angeles, Cadet Chapel at West Point Military Academy, Myers Park United Methodist in Chartotte, North Carolina, and Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, New Jersey, home to the world's targest pipe organ. They also presented a wildly successful headlining program for the L'Organo Series at the Piccolo-Spoleto Festival in Charleston. South Carolina in May of 2015, where they performed the formal dedication concert for the new organ at The Citadel and set a new record for the largest crowd for in the over thirty-year history of

In their mission to expand the world of trumpet and organ, Stephen and Justin

are constantly adapting works from other genres and instrumentations. such as jazz, Broadway. орига. and music, They popular have also commissioned and premiered many new works for trumpet and organ, including commissioned works by componers such as Mark Hayes, Craig Courtney, and Alegandro Basulto. Desix Visix also frequently perform for private events, house concerts, and restaurants in an "sampleagged" actting with plano, where they present a mix of classical, pop, broadway, and Just music. A reception will follow the





### WHAT WILL YOU PLAY ON WOMAN COMPOSER SUNDAY?



The AGO will once again observe Woman Composer Sunday on Sunday, March 10, 2024. Members are encouraged to include music by women composers in their services and other performances on that day.

If you're not sure what you might play or are seeking new repertoire, the AGO Task Force on Gender Equity arranged for three works by women composers to be reprinted in The American Organist magazine: *Largo*, 1857, by Elizabeth Stirling (Jan.); *Children of the Heavenly Father*, 1964, by Roberta Bitgood (Feb.); and *Let Us Break Bread Together*, 2020, by Martha Sobaje (March).

The Task Force will also present a webinar on Monday, Feb. 12 that will highlight further repertoire and explore the legacy of the AGO's first female president, Dr. Roberta Bitgood (1975-81).

Click here to sign up for the Task Force's monthly email newsletter.

#### AGO QUICK LINKS



AGO Job Center – Vacancies and career opportunities

<u>Classifieds</u> – Instruments, music, and services for sale

Member Discounts - Save \$\$\$ with these AGO partners.

Employing Musicians in Religious Institutions - AGO guide

## **Positions in Search of Professionals**

## **Substitutes and New Employment**





The Indy AGO provides a substitute referral service for area churches and institutions with an immediate need for an organist or choir director for worship services, funerals, or weddings. Many of those on the substitute list are retired organists and choir directors. Our substitute list also includes chapter members who have experience in multiple worship settings.

The Substitute Coordinator will provide you with contact information on Indianapolis Chapter members who show they are available for your circumstance.

It will be the responsibility of the church, institution, or designated personnel to contact substitutes and make arrangements for rehearsals, practice time, music list and special music requests in a timely manner, and appropriate compensation. Download <u>Guidelines for Engaging Substitutes</u> for our best practices on successfully managing a substitute.

Please use our **Contact Us form** to connect with an available substitute.



Speedway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Position Description

**Director of Music/Organist/Accompanist – Part Time** 

**Position Summary: The Director of** 

Music/Organist/Accompanist works in partnership with the Senior Minister and other staff in the planning and execution of all worship services. The Director of

Music/Organist/Accompanist is primarily responsible for all music needed for worship including (but not limited to) organ, piano, instrumentalists, soloists, choirs, and other musical offerings.

hpolites@speedwaychristian.org

### **Holly Polites, Secretary**

hpolites@speedwaychristian.org

5110 West 14th Street Indianapolis, IN 46224 (317) 244-7656 Phone (317) 252-0759 Fax



Type: Special

Name: Joyce Smidley

Address: 9001 State Road 42 City/St/Zip: Poland, IN 47868

Email: jasmidle@iu.edu Phone: 812-986-2471





## **Benefits of Membership:**

New AGO Member Benefit!: Join the Royal College of Organists (RCO) for £25.00 and receive a package of digital benefits including access to iRCO, the College's outstanding digital content hub that contains hundreds of videos, webinars, audio files, papers, articles and

other educational material for the organist and choral director, as well as full access to online education and workshops. Click here to become an Affiliate member today.

<u>Career Services</u>: Our Job Board is your resource for organist employment, offering <u>employers</u> immediate posting and <u>job seekers</u> instant access. The AGO offers <u>career</u> <u>development and support</u> for you at all stages of your career.

<u>Take Advantage</u>: The AGO has partnered with Forrest T. Jones and Company to extend a variety of high-quality and competitively priced insurance plans to our members. As a new member, you are eligible to receive a life insurance policy worth \$60,000 at no charge for two years.

<u>Get Involved</u>: Be an active part of your local AGO chapter by volunteering or taking on the role of an officer. Or just enjoy being a member by attending meetings, recitals and other related events.

As a professional association of musicians, the American Guild of Organists expects the highest standard of professional behavior on the part of its members. AGO members are bound by a <u>Code of Ethics</u> and guided by a <u>Code of Professional Standards</u>.

**NOTE:** For announcements in the Fanfare, please send date, time, location, costs, and applicable information, e.g., artist, program, content, address, parking: to Nick, Paul and/or me, (Graphics are always welcome).

More information is better than less. Complete information is required.

PLEASE include a contact person, phone number and email. Physical address is extremely important.

nfennig1@gmail.com

paulguyer@gmail.com

john.rohe@gmail.com

