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American Guild of
ORGANISTS

LEXINGTON, KY CHAPTER

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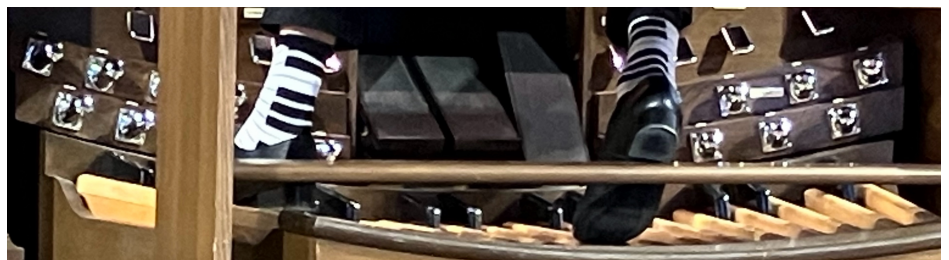


One day last week when I arrived at the console at church to practice I discovered the crescendo pedal wide open and almost all of the stops drawn. Someone had been messing around with the organ! I was indignant. How dare they! But upon reflection I realized my reaction was all wrong. How wonderful that someone wanted to try out the organ! I should be inviting everyone to give it a go.

This is basically the idea behind the Royal College of Organists' *Play the Organ Year*, "a year-long effort by the whole organ-playing community, not just to increase the number of people learning to play the organ, but also the number enjoying live and recorded organ music. . . . The best way to achieve both these objectives is to get as many people as possible not just hearing and seeing the instrument, but playing it!"

"The organ is a magnificent instrument unlike any other – powerful, versatile, visceral and enormous fun to play. At the heart of *Play the Organ Year* will be an attempt to open this experience to as many people as possible - to encourage them to take a step towards the organ, to lay hands on it wherever possible, and to discover for the first time the unique and thrilling experience of playing this remarkable instrument." AGO has joined with the RCO in promoting this year-long effort. Let's all see what we can do to spread the joy of organ playing!

- Nancy



RECENT AGO EVENTS

February 1 & 2: Bach Workshop and Concert with James Kibbie at Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington



*Upper left: A delicious lunch in the fellowship hall preceding the workshop;
Lower left: James Kibbie introduces “new” Bach repertoire;
Right: Lisa Hall plays two selections from Orgelbüchlein and Dr. Kibbie discusses
registration, affect, and toes & heels*

Free internet downloads of James Kibbie’s recordings of the complete Bach works on original German baroque organs are available at <http://www.blockmrecords.org/bach>





Workshop attendees with James Kibbie (center)



The audience gathering to hear the Dirksen Portativ Organ Dedication Concert with James Kibbie on Sunday afternoon



Kibbie at the Portative Organ

The concert was performed on both the Portativ Organ and the Holtkamp organ, and included works by Handel, Haydn, Franck, Distler, Bach, Fela Sowande, Florence Price, John Weaver, and Louis Vierne.

*February 23: Owen Tellinghuisen in Recital
at First Presbyterian, Lexington*



Owen Tellinghuisen



Owen's first Ale8

A native of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and a graduate of Indiana University, Owen will receive IU's Performer's Diploma in Organ Improvisation later this year. He performed works by Widor, Bruhns, Bach, William Grant Still, and Durufle - all without music. You can listen to part of the performance [here](#).

UPCOMING AGO EVENTS

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT AGO EVENTS!

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 11:30 am: Post-Easter Celebratory Lunch (TBA)

We will share a collective sigh of relief and swap Easter stories that no one except organists, church pianists, and choral directors would understand.

FRIDAY, MAY 23,* 7:00 pm: Andrew Johnson Recital at The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 533 East Main St., Lexington, KY 40508

Andrew Johnson is currently pursuing a DMA degree in organ performance and literature at the Eastman School of Music. Andrew previously earned an MM degree and a graduate performance diploma from the Peabody Conservatory. He was a finalist in this past summer's National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance (NYACOP). He has already earned his AAGO and ChM certifications, winning the award for the highest marks on the ChM exam. He has recently been named one of *The Diapason's* "20 under 30" Class of 2025!



Take a listen: [Venite Adoramus](#). To find out more, visit andrewjohnsonorganist.com.

*This recital was originally scheduled for May 30. We have moved it up a week so that Andrew can participate in an organ tour of Germany organized by his alma mater.

MORE LOCAL EVENTS

Sunday, March 2, 7:30 pm - Kentucky Bach Choir Concert: *Light Eternal, Light Perpetual*

First Presbyterian Church, Lexington

Vicki Bell, Guest Conductor

kentuckybachchoir.org

Sunday, March 9, 5:00pm - Lexington Chamber Chorale
Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington
“The Power of Singing: Poetry and Music”
<http://lexingtonchamberchorale.org/>

Spring Quartet - Amadeus Lex
Thursday, March 13, 7:00pm - St. Mark Catholic Church, Richmond
Friday, March 14, 7:00pm - Union Church, Berea
Saturday, March 15, 7:00pm - St. Luke Church, Lexington
<https://www.amadeuslex.com/home>

Sunday, March 16 - Christ Church Cathedral
3:30pm - Concert - Hayden Ives-Glasgow, organ, Indiana University
4:00pm - Evensong with the Cathedral Choir

Sunday, April 13 - Christ Church Cathedral
4:00pm - Gabriel Faure’s Requiem with the Cathedral Choir, organ and orchestra

Wednesday, April 30, 7:30pm - Cincinnati Museum Center, featuring the 1929 E.M.
Skinner Organ in the rotunda: Bryan Anderson, with Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
Principal Flute, Randolph Bowman
Cincymuseum.org

Friday, May 16 - Christ Church Cathedral
7:30pm - Madrigal Singers Choral Concert, SCAPA, Ryan March, conductor

Sunday, May 18 - Christ Church Cathedral
3:30pm - Concert - Neal Campbell, organ, Trinity Episcopal Church, Vero Beach, Florida
4:00pm - Evensong with the Cathedral Choir

Sunday, June 8 - Lexington Chamber Chorale
5:00pm, Ashland, the Henry Clay Estate, Lexington
“The Power of Singing: Celebrating Lexington”
<http://lexingtonchamberchorale.org/>

Friday, June 13, 7:00pm - William Robinson Recital
Cathedral of Christ the King



NEWS & MISCELLANY



Brenda Portman Maureen Howell

CONGRATULATIONS . . . AND FREE MUSIC!

Congratulations to Brenda Portman (Cincinnati Chapter) and Maureen Howell (formerly Lexington Chapter) who were both first place winners in the 2025 Woman Composer Sunday composition contest sponsored by the AGO's Task Force for Gender Equity. You can view and download their winning compositions [here](#) for free!

Woman Composer Sunday is March 9 this year. Join organists around the globe by including works by women composers in your services and recital programs that day.

A NOTE OF THANKS TO THE LEXINGTON CHAPTER from Rockford, Illinois:

Thank you for your generous donation to the Rockford AGO Chapter's January Jubilee. We had 23 registrants and 53 total in attendance. The weather cooperated so everyone could attend. We had a tight schedule, but our people stayed within the time frames we set. We had great presenters, good food and many good comments on the whole day!

Thank you,

Cheryl Lemke
Dean - Rockford AGO





FREE ESTEY REED ORGAN TO GOOD HOME!

From Jim Fitzpatrick:

I have a nice reed organ that I would like to re-home. This instrument has one manual (divided keyboard), 8 speaking stops, 16' & 4' couplers, and Tremulant. The left side of the keyboard also has a beautiful sounding Harp Aeoline stop that is exquisite and a loud Vox Jubilante stop (Diapason Celeste) on the right side. One expression pedal and one Crescendo pedal. No pumping is required as this instrument has an on board electric blower.

This instrument was rescued from an Episcopal church in Eastern Kentucky just before it was slated for delivery to the city dump. The organ was completely repaired, cleaned, case refinished, new wiring and new stop knobs installed. There is also a device inside to stabilize temperature and humidity levels.



This instrument would be great in someone's home or in a chapel or church. It has been in my home for the past 20 or so years and now in the way. If interested, contact Jim Fitzpatrick 859-338-9136 phone or text or email: jrf51ky@gmail.com

PLEASE VOLUNTEER! PUBLICITY / SOCIAL MEDIA

Here is something concrete you can do to help the *Play the Organ Year 2025* effort. If you have any skills in this area, or even NO skills but a willingness to help publicize our chapter, we need you! Lynn Vera, Grant Holcomb, and Jane Johnson have given AGOLex an online presence for several years now, but are unable to continue. Expert assistance is available from the (national) AGO Chapter Specialist Support Team for someone willing to take this on. Please call or text Michael Dunn at 859.749.6971 or email dunn.michaelr@icloud.com.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE to register for one (or both) 2025 Regional AGO Conventions this summer. . .

The West Regional Convention is in Phoenix, AZ, June 16-19, and the Southwest Regional Convention is in Fort Worth, TX, June 30-July 3. For more information:

[Regional Conventions](#)

AGO LINKS

Interested in membership? Click here → [Join AGO](#), or contact AGO Headquarters at 212-870-2310. To visit the AGO website click here → agohq.org/. For more information on AGO exams and certification → [click here](#).



ORGANISTS WANTED

An opportunity to stretch your playing skills!

The Bluegrass Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society (BG ATOS) is looking for more organists willing to play the organ at the Kentucky Theatre on Friday nights and, next summer, for their Wednesday Classic Movie series. If you are interested please contact Bill Webber at 859.298.8962 or williamwebberiv@gmail.com

For more about the Kentucky: kentuckytheatre.org

agohq.org/

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.

JOB OPENINGS

First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster:

Our church is searching for a part time **organist/pianist** starting immediately. This position is for Sunday worship and special events. Pay is negotiable. Musicians will have the option of playing a 2 manual pipe organ or a baby grand piano.

Interested parties may contact Donna Powell dmpowell44@roadrunner.com or Kitty Barsotti barsotti@windstream.net

[posted 9/1/24]

First Presbyterian Church, Winchester: Choral Director/Organist/Pianist

We will consider hiring one person or dividing the position, depending on the applicant pool. We have a nice 1975 2-manual Schlicker organ; 9 ranks.

Please direct inquiries to:

Rev. Wanda Olive

859/744-3722

fpcwinchesterky@gmail.com

First Presbyterian Church

130 Windridge Dr.

Winchester, KY 40391

[posted 1/1/25]

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GREAT MUSIC

at Christ Church Cathedral
March 2025

Concert & Evensong

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

3:30pm ORGAN CONCERT

Hayden Ives-Glasgow
Indiana University

4:00pm EVENSONG

with the Cathedral Choir



Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem*

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 13

4:00pm

The Cathedral Choir
Erich Balling, *Conductor*

Kathleen Balling, *Associate Conductor*



Lisa Hall, *organ*
Craig Price, *bass soloist*
Rachel Renee Miller, *harp*
Clyde Beavers, *cello*
Margie Karp, *violin*
David Davenport, *timpani*

Childcare is available.

Please visit our website www.ccllex.org/music for more information on the Cathedral Choir, Great Music Series, and Friends of Cathedral Music.



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HUMORESQUE

More words to add to your vocabulary . . .

Coffee (n.) the person upon whom one coughs.

Abdicate (v.) to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.

Esplanade (v.) to attempt an explanation while drunk.

Lymph (v.) to walk with a lisp.

Balderdash (n.) a rapidly receding hairline.

Rectitude (n.) the formal, dignified bearing adopted by proctologists