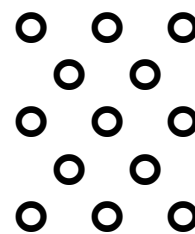


# THE DRAWKNOB



*Newsletter of the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter  
American Guild of Organists*

November 2023

## Chapter Event Denver Brass5 with Rick Seaton, Organist

**Friday, December 1, 6:00 pm  
St. Andrew United Methodist Church  
9203 S. University Blvd.  
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126**

**B**rass, Organ, Christmas ... What more do you need? Help us celebrate the season with this epic collaboration between The Denver Brass5 and lauded organ soloist Rick Seaton. This concert is presented by the American Guild of Organists. This performance is FREE; \$20 donation encouraged.



## Historic Denver Organ Tour

**Churches on Hampden and University  
Saturday, December 9, 9:00 am**

**J**oin Historic Denver, Inc. and the American Guild of Organists on Saturday, December 9, for a morning filled with architecture, history and beautiful organ music! At each of the selected sites you will hear a short history and architecture of the building, the history of the organ and a selection of live music! This year participants will make a short drive between the sites, each of

which has abundant parking. Churches to be visited are:

Calvary Baptist Church  
6500 E. Girard Avenue

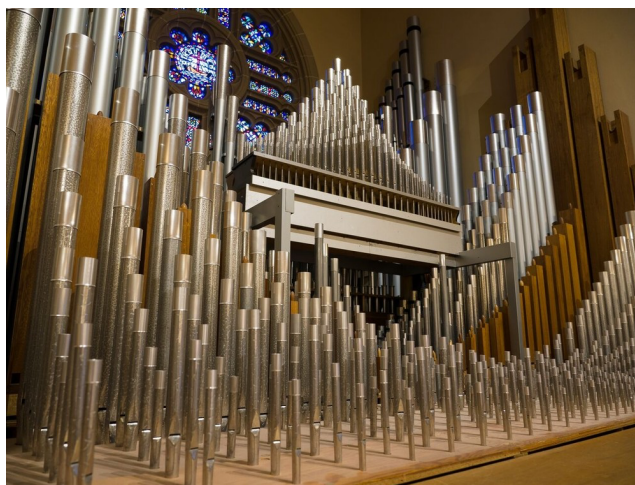
Christ Church (Episcopal)  
2950 S. University Boulevard

Wellshire Presbyterian Church  
2999 S. Colorado Boulevard

Make your reservation with this link:

<https://fareharbor.com/embeds/book/historicdenver/items/496096/?full-items=yes&flow=160925>

Members of the AGO should choose the \$20 Members link; General charge is \$25.



## September Concert by Scholarship Winners

**Y**oung organists who participated in the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter's Scholarship program gave a concert on September xx at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

They were taught by chapter members Cindy Lindeen-Martin, Wil Smith, and Mark Alan Filbert, who is also chair of the program



Pictured are Annemarie Montgomery, Juliana Neufeld, Jakoby Butler, Isaak Vaughan, Jackson Kastens, Adrian Schreurs, and Raditya Muljadi.

- Our annual scholarship concert was excellent in many ways and, YES, there were more than 5K hits on YouTube.
- We have increasing members classified as young organists (under the age of thirty years of age.).
- Our chapter Young Organist Coordinator position is now filled by one of new Board members, Isaac Johnson.
- I am seeing an increase in organ concerts—both locally and nationally.

It is a HUGE goal to make a positive impact on an issue that many see as already decided. The issue I speak of is the decline of organ music. And yet, our young organists are fearless—trying out new repertoire and applying new skills to attract and retain audiences. What fun to watch new trends!



*SO, how can our chapter support this resurgence?* Your local chapter has taken the first step. Our programs and learning never ceased during the pandemic. In fact, we continued and escalated the emphasis on skills building and broadening the diversity of our musical offerings, while struggling with the realities of the pandemic. For example, our program on women composers, which was written and directed by a chapter member, Dr. Lyn Loewi was also played nationally. Our programming has become more inclusive of under-represented groups.

*The big question is how can a member like you help get the word out about the organ?* The pieces are in place! We all know that seeing and hearing a pipe organ played well is not one bit forgettable. Our chapter has programming of excellent quality and diversity. We have excellent communication resources in place—website, (David Vogels, webmaster); our monthly newsletter, *The Drawknob* (Tom Strickland, editor); and a chapter Facebook page (Ben Ehrlich, administrator), and marketing efforts by Jon Busch and Jack Walsh. If we each use these resources and “get the word out,” we can broaden our audiences. *Attend as many events as you can.* Many of our events have receptions, which is an excellent way to connect

**THE DRAWNOB**  
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 Carole Hedrick, Faythe Freese, Cindy Lindeen-Martin (2025)  
 Jon Busch, Karl Isaac Johnson, Jack Walsh (2026)

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## The Dean’s Mixture

Happy Fall. I am beginning to see signs of a resurgence in the world of organ music. Although signs may appear small, all put together we can count them a move in the right direction.

Just a few examples:

- Organ and church music academic programs are opening and re-opening.

with other organists. Help us publicize upcoming events—use your church announcements, tell your friends and colleagues. Use social media to share our announcements.

More awareness = More attendance.

Here's to fall, Thanksgiving, and yes, Advent!

Billie Busby Smith, Dean

## Navigating the AGO National Website: Educational Advancement at Your Fingertips

Ah, websites. They can be confusing or enlightening. The AGO national website, [www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org), is the latter, not the former. There is, however, so much material that it can be hard to navigate. Read across the tool bar at the top of the home page and you will find topics on Guild structure, chapter and membership information, competitions, new music, and yes, there is even a gift shop.

However, the focus of this article is on education, so let's take a look at what is found under Education.

The first dropdown deals with Webinars, Recitals and Workshops. If you missed the webinars the first time around, do not despair. They have been saved and are there for you to log onto anytime that you have a free moment. A sampling of topics listed include Certification, Organ Teaching and Technology.

Certification webinars include discussion on counterpoint, orchestration, transposition, fugue, and the new aural perception segment of the AAGO exam. Organ Teaching provides areas of group teaching, improvisation, literature, and Achievement Awards. Technology explains successful online streaming, virtual meeting options and Google, Skype, Zoom.

So, when you have a little downtime, cruise through the AGO national website, with an eye on Education.

Denise Lanning, FAGO  
Education Coordinator

## Save the Dates Our Chapter Programs 2024

**January 2024** – Friday, January 19 – 7:30pm

- Graham Schultz Organ Concert and Reception  
Saint John's Episcopal Cathedral

**February 2024** – Friday, February 23 – 7:30pm

- Members Lenten Organ Recital  
St. John's Episcopal, Boulder  
Deadline for sign up Monday, January 15

**March 2024** – no event because of Easter

**April 2024** – Friday, April 19 – 7pm

- Harpsichord Showcase  
Featuring 4 harpsichords, organ, and strings  
in collaboration with Augustana Arts  
Augustana Lutheran Church

**May 2024** – Monday, May 20 – 5pm

- Chapter annual meeting and dinner  
St. Gabriel the Archangel Episcopal Church,  
6190 E. Quincy Ave., Cherry Hills Village

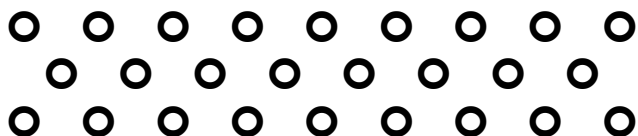
## Employment Opportunities

**St. Stephen's Episcopal, Aurora** is seeking a **Director of Music** familiar with the Episcopal tradition to coordinate and expand its music program and direct its adult choir and bell choir. The Director of Music will select hymns and special music with the Rector, be responsible for the music budget, direct the choir during Sunday services and Thursday evening rehearsals and be responsible for instrumental musicians. The successful candidate will also develop a children's choir and assist in preparations for a second Sunday service beginning Fall 2024. Fundamental keyboard skills are desirable, along with choir and vocal training skills. Compensation: \$16,000-\$20,000 negotiable; consistent with experience and music budget. Additional compensation available if able to play organ, as well as for special services outside the regular church program. This position includes four weeks' paid vacation but does not include benefits. For more information or to apply, please contact [rector@ststephensaurora.org](mailto:rector@ststephensaurora.org)

**Hope Lutheran Church, Aurora**, is seeking an **Organist** to lead the congregation in the liturgy and hymns during Divine Service. This position requires availability for Sunday Morning service at 9:15am, and infrequently other worship services as required. The salary is fixed at \$120 per service. The Organist will receive hymns from the Pastor, and coordinate on other music for the service, and with other musicians as opportunities arise. The Organist performs pre-service and post-service music, and during the offering. Other musicians may also perform during these times and so coordination is required between Organist and other musicians. Contact the Pastor for more information or to apply: [pastorolson@hopeaurora.org](mailto:pastorolson@hopeaurora.org)

**Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Fort Collins**, is seeking an **Organist and/or Pianist** to support all worship services and provide music ministry to our congregation. The ideal candidate will provide Sunday service music from the organ or piano, accompany our musical groups and work closely with our Pastor. This is a paid position with compensation commensurate with skill and experience. Please send inquiries and resumes to John Miller, [dickensbass2@gmail.com](mailto:dickensbass2@gmail.com).

**Sixth Church of Christ, Scientist in Denver** is looking for substitute organists and/or pianists. The primary need is for Sunday morning services (10:00-11:00). We also have Wednesday evening services (7:30-8:30). Music consists of three hymns per service, appropriate church music before and after the service, and for Sundays, accompanying a vocal solo and playing two minutes during the collection. Pay is \$150 for Sundays and \$120 for Wednesdays. Sight-reading skills a plus. The church has a Moller organ with 13 ranks, including chimes. Please contact Scott Huffman at [shuffman123@comcast.net](mailto:shuffman123@comcast.net) for further information.



## Calendar

*Saturday, November 11, 6:00 p.m.*  
*Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church,*  
*1980 Dahlia St., Denver*

### Colorado Bach Ensemble

In this special concert, the Ensemble will be collaborating with and featuring choirs from area high schools. The singers of CBE and the HS choirs will be performing selected contemporary choral works by Zanaida Robles, Dan Forrest, Jonathan Reid, Stephen Paulus, and more. Through this collaboration, we hope to introduce these young musicians to the incomparable music of J.S. Bach, while inspiring them to continue singing throughout their lifetime. In the second half, CBE will perform Bach's Mass in F Major, BWV 233 and a final chorus, Ruht Wohl, from St. John's Passion with the high school singers. Tickets: \$30 General Admission | \$15 Community Access | \$10 Student

*Sunday, November 19, 3:00 pm*  
*Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception*  
*1535 Logan Street, Denver, CO 80203*

### Micki Boxer, Mezzo-Soprano, Sacred Vocal Concert

Concerts are free, last one hour and a free-will offering is collected.

