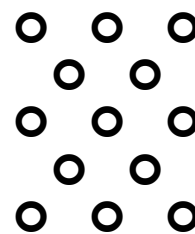


THE DRAWKNOB

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

April 2024



A Harpsichord Showcase: Bach and Beyond

Sunday, April 14, 7:00 p.m.
St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
2425 Colorado Ave., Boulder, CO 80302

Friday, April 19, 7:00 p.m.
Augustana Lutheran Church
5000 E. Alameda Ave., Denver, CO 80246

We all know Johann Sebastian Bach as an incredible composer, but did you know that Bach was also apt to arrange (remix in modern terms) music from his peers from time to time? During the early 1730s, Bach was composing for weekly concerts for a society devoted to music, called the Collegium Musicum. In searching for inspiration for these weekly performances, he found a concerto by another famous composer, Antonio Vivaldi, that Vivaldi had composed for four violinists. Bach took Vivaldi's piece and arranged it to instead feature four harpsichords, creating one of the most famous harpsichord concertos today.



Bach's Concerto for Four Harpsichords is one of the pieces being performed at *A Harpsichord Showcase* presented with [Denver Rocky Mountain AGO](#) on April 14 and 19.

Cosponsored by Augustana Arts and featuring lead harpsichordist Jerimiah Otto, this program will include J. S. Bach's concerto for four harpsichords and a variety of other works by Bach, Couperin, Mozart, and Soler for harpsichords, organ, and strings, plus an original composition for four harpsichords by Otto. Harpsichordists Linda Mack, Mark Alan Filbert, Thomas Strickland, Aaron Hirsch, and Dr. Robert Hjelmstadwill also perform. An informal harpsichord walk-and-talk and a reception will follow the Augustana concert. Both concerts are free and open to the public. Donations will be accepted at the door for the Boulder program; reservations for the Denver program are requested through [Augustana Arts](#) (which has a Pay-What-You-Choose ticketing model).

The Dean's Mixture

Happy Day after Easter — or as we used to say in North Carolina, Easter Monday.

As I write this, Holy Week is beginning. Both a blessed and very busy time for church musicians. I wrote last month about how quickly we were moving toward Easter. With this "early Easter" complete, it is now time to indulge our love of our profession ... and has your AGO chapter got possibilities for you!

During the winter, I have enjoyed AGO events more than ever. As always, there was a thoughtful and quality performance, no matter the event. A high point for me was seeing colleagues — some of whom I had not seen in years, hearing performers



whose performances I have enjoyed before or for the very first time. I enjoyed chats with organists of ALL ages!

April and May are packed full of AGO programs and events, concerts by most of our local choruses and many church choirs — not to mention the Colorado Symphony and other wonderful instrumental groups. Check out our chapter's newsletter, our chapter website and Facebook page for more information about chapter events. Talk to your colleagues and follow their performances. *THEN, treat yourself to lovely music without one minute of practice or rehearsal time. By the way, be sure and invite friends and colleagues to join you for chapter events!*

Hoping to see you soon!
Billie Busby Smith, Dean

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*Published by the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter
American Guild of Organists*

All items for publication must be submitted by the 20th of the month preceding publication.

General items to the editor, Thomas Strickland, phone: 720-870-5503, e-mail: DrawknobEditor@q.com

Employment Opportunities to Benjamin Ehrlich, e-mail: ehrlichbenjamin88@gmail.com; text only: 720-236-0256

Dean: Billie A. Busby Smith, bilbuzbee@comcast.net

Sub-Dean: Linda Mack, lindajoymack@hotmail.com

Secretary: Andrew Peters, peters@augustanadenver.org

Treasurer: Cathy Bruno, cathy.bruno@gmail.com

Registrar: Diane Gallagher, dianegallagher48@gmail.com

Members at Large:

Mark Kelly, Charles Nolen, Cheryl Saborsky (2024)

Carole Hedrick, Faythe Freese, Cindy Lindeen-Martin (2025)

Jon Busch, Karl Isaac Johnson, Jack Walsh (2026)

Chapter address, Website address, and Facebook

P.O. Box 101448, Denver, CO 80250-1448

www.agodrmc.org

<https://www.facebook.com/agodenver>

A Call for Singers

Do you like to sing, but are always playing? Come be a part of our choir at the annual meeting Choral Evensong on May 19, 2024. Our Evensong choir will provide the anthem and support the singing of the Preces, Suffrages and hymns. We will use settings by Robert Powell and Arlen Clark and the anthem will be *If ye love me*, Thomas Tallis. We are also in need of an organist(s) to play for the service. Mark will be

serving as Cantor and directing the choir. We will rehearse at 5:00 pm before Happy Hour. Please contact Mark Kelly at worship@stgabriels.org to express your interest in singing. He will provide you with copies of the music we will sing for advance preparation.

Candidates for Chapter Election

Next month you will receive a ballot for the Chapter election. Here is some information about the nominees.

Dean • Andrew Peters

Andrew Peters serves as director of music and organist at Augustana Lutheran Church in Denver. He previously worked for fourteen years at Second Presbyterian Church in St. Louis where he oversaw the restoration of the 1965



Schantz organ and founded the Coutts Music Series. In addition to playing solo organ recitals and leading hymn festivals, Peters accompanies silent films starring Harold Lloyd. Since 2013 Peters has been ensemble organist with the St. Louis Symphony.

A recipient of numerous awards, Peters has received the Paul and Ruth Manz Organ and Church Music Award, the John Rodland Memorial Church Music Scholarship, and the Peter B. Knock Memorial Church Music Scholarship. He won first place in the Twin Cities American Guild of Organists (AGO) 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.

As a member of the AGO, Peters serves as secretary for the Denver Rocky Mountain AGO executive board. He was previously program chair and dean of the Nashville AGO Chapter and later worked on the national AGO's Committee on the New Organist (CONO). In St. Louis he served on the chapter's executive committee, directed the

2010 Pipe Organ Encounter, and chaired the 2015 Region VI Convention.

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. He has served Episcopalian, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, and United Methodist congregations in Connecticut, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Tennessee. His music is published by Augsburg Fortress, MorningStar Music, and Paraclete Press.

Sub-Dean • Linda Mack, SPC

A native of California, Linda Mack grew up in the San Francisco Bay area where she began formal musical instruction at age six studying piano, organ, brass instruments, and, in college, the harpsichord. After completing Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in organ performance from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, Linda moved to Salt Lake City, Utah, where she expanded her career as a teacher, performer, and producer of a weekly radio program of organ music, *Te Deum Laudamus*. During her time in Utah, Linda served as Dean of the Salt Lake City Chapter of AGO and earned the Service Playing Certificate. She was a member of the local arrangements planning committee of a Regional Convention in Salt Lake City and was in charge of organizing the Competition.

In 1987, Linda completed a Master of Library Science degree from Brigham Young University and returned to Michigan joining the Andrews University Library Faculty as Music Librarian. Simultaneously she continued an active performing career, serving as keyboardist and program annotator for the Andrews University Orchestras, directing the university's Early Music Ensemble, and was music director for Episcopal



churches in southwest Michigan. She was a founding member of the Southwest Michigan's Twin Cities Organ Concert Series, serving as president, member of the programming subcommittee, principal performer as organ/harpsichord soloist, organ accompanist, and singer, participating in nearly every aspect of the series, including publicity (contacts with print media, radio interviews, writing press releases), negotiating contracts, financial management, grant writing, etc.

In 2012 Linda's husband, Ed, took a position at Denver Health and Linda, Music Director/Organist at Christ Episcopal Church in Denver. She is currently singing in the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Choir and the St. Martin's Festival Singers, and serves as a substitute organist around the Front Range. Since moving to Colorado Linda has been active on the board of the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, serving as Sub-Dean, publicity assistant, scholarship chair, and hospitality coordinator.

Registrar • Diane Gallagher, CAGO

Diane Gallagher has served as registrar for the DRMC the last two terms and looks forward to another term in which a new membership renewal software from National will be implemented. She has also served as



Dean and Registrar for the Denver Chapter in the past and Chairperson of the Hospitality Committee for the 1988 National Convention in Denver. AGO has been an important part of Diane's musical life dating back to becoming a member of the Kansas City Chapter at a time when a new member joined at the formal invitation/sponsorship of an active member.

Educationally, Diane received a Bachelor of Music Education at the University of Kansas where she studied with Dr. James Moeser. She continued organ study with Dr. John Ditto at the

University of Missouri Conservatory in Kansas City. In the Denver area, Diane has served as organist in several churches including Wheat Ridge United Methodist and Trinity United Methodist. She presently serves as a substitute organist in various denominations and serves on the Board for the Colorado Bach Ensemble.

Members-at-large (three to be elected):

Member • Liam Harty, SPC

Liam Harty graduated from Knox College with a BA in Music, during which time his primary musical focus was organ studies and singing with the Knox College Choir. In recent years he has renewed his interest



in organ performance, currently studying privately with Cindy Lindeen-Martin and earning the AGO’s Service Playing Certificate in June 2023. He is presently working towards completing the exams for the Colleague certification and on occasion will serve as a substitute for church services. He has also continued to pursue his interest in choral music and sings with The Colorado Choir (and also serves on their Board of Directors) and the Metropolitan Choral Festival. Since graduating from Knox, Liam has pursued a career in academic libraries and is currently the Library Collections Procurement & Processing Manager for the University of Denver Libraries.

Member • Barbara Hulac

Barbara Hulac is newly retired as the Associate Minister of Music and Organist at Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church in Denver, Colorado. During her 40+ years of music ministry at Montview, Barbara has collaborated with countless musicians and



ensembles. She has served as rehearsal accompanist and administrator for Montview’s Westminster Choir.

A native of Pennsylvania, Barbara held her first church organist positions during her teenage years. She earned a bachelor’s degree in Church Music with a Major in Organ Performance from Westminster Choir College, where she studied with Dr. Donald McDonald. Barbara has previously been organist at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church and assistant organist at St. John’s Cathedral, both in Denver.

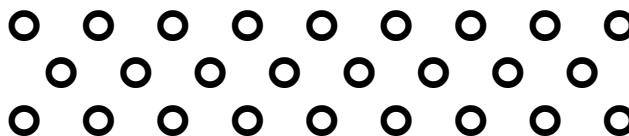
Member • Kathryn Walsh, SPC

Kathryn Walsh is the organist at Holy Name Catholic Parish for the Saturday Masses and the Associate Organist at The Church of the Holy Ghost in downtown Denver, where she is involved in a full music program, playing the organ and accompanying, as well as singing with the choir.



Kathryn has enjoyed a musically rich life, starting at the age of three and discovering a love for the organ at the age of fifteen. She is currently studying organ under the instruction of Gwen Blumenschein, who has been her teacher for the last seven years.

In 2021 Kathryn received the Service Playing Certification through the AGO. She is a passionate and dedicated musician who is overjoyed to be a part of the sacred music community here in Colorado. She is excited to join the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter of the AGO as a Board Member-At-Large, where she hopes to continue growing on her journey as a professional musician.



Coming in May
Festive Evensong,
Annual Meeting, and Dinner

Sunday May 19, 2024
St. Gabriel the Archangel Episcopal Church
6190 E. Quincy Ave.
Cherry Hills Village, CO 80111

The Chapter program year concludes with a festive event including a worship service, meal, and meeting to conduct the Chapter’s official business and install new officers.

- 5:30 • Gather in the church’s St. Francis Garden for *Happy Hour*
- 6:00 • Move to Church nave for Pentecost Sunday *Evensong and Service of Remembrance* with the St. Gabriel’s and AGO Choir, directed by Mark Kelly
- 6:45 • *Dinner and Annual Meeting* in the Parish Hall

The traditional service of choral evensong will feature singers from St. Gabriel’s choir and volunteers from the AGO. Music will include settings by Robert Powell, Arlen Clarke, and *If ye love me* by Thomas Tallis. If you would like to sing in the choir, please contact Mark at worship@stgabriels.org for copies of the music. We also need organists to accompany the service and provide the prelude and postlude. We will rehearse at 5:00 in the choir loft prior to Happy Hour.

Dinner Menu

- Garden Salad with Ranch and Italian Dressing*
- Chicken Marsala*
- Vegetarian option available upon request-*
- Roasted Vegetable Penne Pasta*
- Steamed Vegetables*
- Oven Roasted Potatoes*
- Dinner Rolls with Sweet Cream Butter*
- Dessert-Assorted Cheesecakes*
- Beverages-Wine, Iced Tea, and Water*

Dinner: \$25. Please RSVP by Friday, May 10 to worship@stgabriels.org. Ample parking is available at the church.

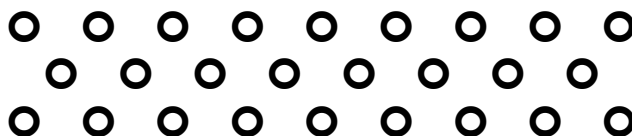


Workshop at Augustana

“H hearts, Hands, and Voices” is for church musicians to gain ideas and expertise while networking with others. Workshop sessions will be offered on hymn playing on the organ, anatomy of the singing voice, leading choral rehearsals, handbells in worship, and more. Presenters include Denise Lanning, The Rev. Kent Mueller, Blake Nawa’a, Andrew Peters, and Deacon Shanna VanderWel. Sponsored by the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians (ALCM) and held at Augustana Lutheran Church, 5000 E. Alameda Ave. in Denver.



The workshop begins with registration at 9 a.m. and concludes at 2:45 p.m. Cost is \$45, fulltime students \$20. Lunch is included. Deadline to register is April 16. More information and registration is at <https://alcm.org/event/denver-co/>



Organ Free to a Good Home



Martin Pipho is hoping to give away a Baldwin organ with three speakers. It was his dad's and was kept in good condition. The organ is in the Denver area. piphofam@gmail.com 720-560-9962 (mobile)

Early Messiaen in Boulder

Isaac Johnson will be performing a lecture-recital focusing on the earliest organ works of Olivier Messiaen on Monday, April 15, 5:00 pm, St John's Episcopal Church, 1419 Pine St., Boulder.



It is often assumed (and written) that Messiaen's modal systems emerged fully-formed from his

earliest works, including "Le banquet celeste." This research, however, shows how Messiaen's modes slowly developed, and inherited idioms from late-Romantic chromatic music, especially from those French composers who exerted a personal influence on the young Messiaen. The program will include discussion of "Le banquet céleste," "Apparition de l'église éternelle," and "Diptyque," with a focus on and full performance of the posthumously-discovered and published "Offrande au saint sacrement" and "Prélude pour orgue." Free and open to the public.

Save the Dates

Our Chapter Programs 2024

April 2024 – Sunday, April 14 – 7pm

- Harpsichord Showcase
Featuring 4 harpsichords, organ, and strings
St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
2425 Colorado Ave, Boulder, CO 80302

April 2024 – Friday, April 19 – 7pm

- Harpsichord Showcase
Featuring 4 harpsichords, organ, and strings
in collaboration with Augustana Arts
Augustana Lutheran Church
5000 E. Alameda Ave., Denver 80246

May 2024 – Sunday, May 19 – 5pm

NOTE CORRECTED DATE

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

Employment Opportunities

New **Music Director** sought by **Peoples Presbyterian Church, Denver**. This position requires approximately 15 hours per week. Music Director is responsible for organizing and directing the Peoples' music program, including choosing choir and congregational music for the Sunday morning service, rehearsing a small, but enthusiastic choir on Saturday mornings, conducting the choir for Sunday morning services, and providing music for special seasonal services, weddings and funerals. Familiarity with jazz and gospel idioms is helpful and experienced pianists will be prioritized. Music Director works with the Pastor, Worship

Life committee, and church organist in planning services. Salary range: \$17,500 to \$19,500. A full job description is available upon request. Please forward your resume and compensation requirements to peoplespresdenver@gmail.com.

St. Andrew Lutheran Church (ELCA) in **Arvada** has opened a search for an **Organist/Pianist** to lead the congregation's singing during worship on Sundays from 10:30-11:30am, and seasonal services. Compensation is \$150 per service. Musical resources include an Allen organ, an upright Baldwin piano and a music library. Interested candidates contact Pastor Sara Wirth at pastorsarawirth@gmail.com to apply or for more information.

Ascension Lutheran Church in **Littleton** is seeking a **Choir Director** to direct its adult choir which sings September-May, approximately 3 Sundays per month at the 8:00 service, and occasional Saturdays, plus additional special services. Familiarity with Lutheran music and liturgy is highly valued. For more information or to apply please contact Dawn Munson at office@alutheran.org.

Calendar

Sunday, April 14, 7:00 pm
St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
2425 Colorado Ave., Boulder, CO
and
Friday, April 19, 7:00 pm
Augustana Lutheran Church
5000 E. Alameda Ave., Denver, CO 80246

A Harpsichord Showcase:

Bach and Beyond

Chapter events. See page 1.

Monday, April 15, 5:00 pm
St. John's Episcopal Church
1419 Pine St., Boulder

Isaac Johnson

Lecture-Recital focusing on the early works of Messiaen
See page 6.

Sunday, April 21, 3:00 pm
Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception
1535 Logan Street, Denver, CO 80203

The Vittoria Ensemble

David McNeil, Director. Concerts in the Cathedral Basilica are offered free of charge. A donation is accepted during the program. For information contact PBordeleau@denvercathedral.org.

Friday, April 26, 7:30 pm
St. Paul Lutheran Church
1600 Grant St., Denver, CO
and

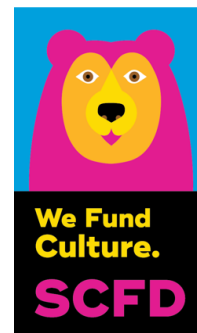
Saturday, April 27, 7:30 pm
Mountain View United Methodist Church
355 Ponca Pl., Boulder, CO
and

Sunday, April 28, 3:00 pm
United Church of Christ
1500 9th Ave., Longmont, CO

Seicento Baroque Ensemble

Prima Melodia: Birth of Baroque

This then-new style, born in Italy, emphasized a singer's emotional expression through text painting and highly ornamented vocal lines, with vocal demands unequalled by any style since. Evanne Browne, Artistic Director. Featuring apprentice artists Ann Jeffers, Andrea Weidemann, Emily Anderson, and Gabrielle Razafinjatovo. With continuo and cornettos. Information and tickets at <https://seicentobaroque.org/>



ANNOUNCING: THE 2024 SUMMER ORGAN LESSON SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

One of the most significant endeavors of the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter of the American Guild of Organists has been its commitment to the Summer Organ Lesson Scholarship Program through which, for nearly two decades now, promising piano students have been awarded scholarships for six free organ lessons with qualified chapter members during the summer with the opportunity to perform at the September chapter meeting. This year the tradition continues with the 2024 Summer Organ Lesson Scholarship Program for which publicity materials and an application form are now available on the chapter website (www.agodrmc.org) or from Scholarship Coordinator Mark Alan Filbert (markalanfilbert@msn.com). They are also attached to the message delivering this issue of *The Drawknob*.

The schedule for this year's program is as follows:

APPLICATIONS DUE: Monday, 15 April 2023

Submit to Mark Alan Filbert at the above email address

AUDITION: Saturday, 4 May 2024, 10:00 am-3:00 pm

Mark Alan Filbert Music Studio, 4427 South Atchison Circle, Aurora, CO 80015

ORIENTATION: Saturday, 18 May 2024, 10:00-11:30 am

Saint Paul Lutheran Church, 1600 Grant Street, Denver, CO 80203

INSTRUCTION: Six Organ Lessons from June-August 2024

Dates/Locations to be arranged with Assigned Organ Teacher

FINAL RECITAL: Sunday, 8 September 2024, 7:00 pm

Saint Paul Lutheran Church, 1600 Grant Street, Denver, CO 80203

All chapter members are encouraged to share this information with their students and/or colleagues who teach piano. The two-part audition will include an assessment of the student's keyboard skills (two prepared piano pieces, one of which must be a *Two-part Invention* by Johann Sebastian Bach, a short sight-reading exercise, and two-octave major and minor scales in the keys of the audition pieces) and a brief interview to discern the student's level of interest in organ study, sincerity of purpose, and sense of vision.

Chapter members are needed to assist with every aspect of the program. If you have an interest in serving as an audition judge, helping with the orientation session, teaching summer organ lessons, or assisting with the final recital, please contact Mark for more information.

Most important of all, however, is spreading the word about this signature program of the Denver Rocky Mountain chapter!