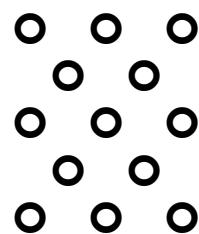


# THE DRAWKNOB



Newsletter of the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter  
American Guild of Organists

February 2026

## David Pickering presents The Genius of G. Donald Harrison

Saturday, February 7  
9:00 am Refreshments and Music Swap  
9:30-11:00 am Lecture  
Linda Mack Music Studio  
East side of Denver

David Pickering, Professor of Music at Kansas State University, is spending his sabbatical year in Denver while he completes a book on the life of G. Donald Harrison. As President of the Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company, Harrison defined the “American Classic” style. Dr. Pickering will present a biographical sketch, including some new and interesting information, and a survey of Harrison’s work as an organbuilder. Refreshments and a large music swap will be provided. **The address for the Linda Mack Music Studio will be emailed to the Chapter on February 5.**

Active recitalist, recording artist, scholar and author David Pickering is Professor of Music at Kansas State University. His students have excelled in competition and as church organists in a variety of denominational settings. His career as a performer has carried him across the United States as well as to Austria, Canada, England, Finland, Germany, and Japan.

Pickering’s four solo recordings have focused on the organ music of American composers. His scholarly works are published by the Organ Historical Society Press (*The Auditorium Organ*) and Wayne Leupold Editions (*Arthur Poister: Master Teacher and Poet of the Organ, Harold and Catharine, Leroy Robertson Organ Works*), and articles and reviews appear in *The American Organist* and *The Diapason*.

Pickering completed his degrees from the University of Kansas and Brigham Young University in organ performance and musicology. His teachers include Parley Belnap, James Higdon, J.J. Keeler, and Arlene Small. He has also pursued technical studies with pianist Sheila Paige and completed a Gokhale Method Foundations course in postural therapy with Julie Johnson. He and his wife, Melinda, are the parents of seven children. He is on sabbatical leave from Kansas State University for the 2025–2026 academic year, writing the biography of G. Donald Harrison.



G. Donald  
Harrison, above



David Pickering,  
left

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## First Annual Epiphany Zoom Happy Hour

**Friday, January 9, 7-8 p.m.**

The first Zoom social event brought together about 17 members for pleasant conversation. A special surprise guest was Sheryl Sebo, our Regional Ambassador. (This position was formerly known as Regional Councillor.) The Zoom link had been arranged by Cathy Bruno; Linda Mack served as moderator, and a good time was had by all.



## The Dean's Mixture

Thank you to those of you who attended the Epiphany zoom gathering on January 9. An extra thank you to Cathy Bruno for setting up the zoom logistics, Linda Mack for serving as host, and Tom Strickland for sending out the information to the chapter.

While it may feel that winter will last for a while, some of you may be already thinking ahead to your summer plans. As part of this process, I would encourage you to consider attending the AGO national convention. This year's convention

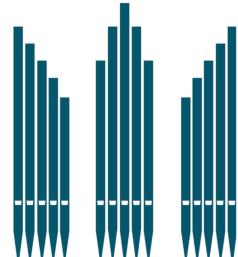
takes place in St. Louis from July 6-10. The early registration for this event lasts through March 31. Pricing varies depending on your age and whether you are an AGO member or spouse/partner of a member. There are many direct flights between Denver and St. Louis to get you there easily. For more information visit [agostlouis.org](http://agostlouis.org).

As we head toward Lent, I hope all of you are having a good winter. Thank you for being part of this AGO chapter.

Andrew Peters, Dean

## Celebrate Woman Composer Sunday

A member recital featuring works by women for organ with other instruments and voices will mark the day. The program is scheduled for 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 8, at Bethany Lutheran Church. Please note the change in venue from what was announced earlier. Church. To volunteer as a performer — **more are needed**, or receive a listing of potential pieces, contact David Vogels, [dsvogels3@gmail.com](mailto:dsvogels3@gmail.com).



## WOMAN COMPOSER SUNDAY

## Summer Scholarship Program

Each summer, the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter of the AGO offers scholarships for organ instruction to talented young pianists (age 13-18). Scholarship students study with faculty selected from DRMC members who are hired to provide six lessons. On Sunday afternoon, August 31, all scholars will be presented in concert on one of the fine pipe organs in the Denver Metro area.



Throughout the winter and spring we will be asking for volunteers to support this program. This really is a golden opportunity to support young musicians and strengthen the future of our profession. SO, GET READY!!

We are currently seeking qualified teachers to teach the students in the Scholarship Program. Please contact me and I will send you information and application. I would like to fill these positions before the end of February.

Billie Busby Smith  
Scholarship Coordinator, DRMC Summer  
Scholarship Program

### ...And He Called for His Pipe...

...and he called for his bowl, and he called for his fiddlers three.

Well, Old King Cole may have needed his bowl and fiddlers, but all we need for our Pedals, Pipes and Pizza event on April 18 is **PIPES**. Organ pipes.

Yes, the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter is sponsoring

another **Pedals, Pipes and Pizza** on Saturday morning, April 18 at Saint Andrew United Methodist Church, 9203 South University Blvd., Highlands Ranch. This national AGO program introduces young children to the wonders of the pipe organ and concludes with everyone devouring pizza.

Each child in attendance will receive a tote bag with information on the AGO plus a small wooden pipe. So, if you have any small wooden organ pipes laying around the house and would like to donate them please contact Denise Lanning at [deniselanning@netscape.net](mailto:deniselanning@netscape.net) and we can arrange a pick-up. Or better yet, bring them to the chapter programs on February 7 and March 8.



In addition, each tote bag will contain a copy of The American Organist magazine. So, again, if you have some old TAO copies you would like to part with (especially ones that have information on Pipe Organ Encounters), donate those also.

More specific information on registration and the morning's schedule will appear in the March and April issues of the Drawknob.

### Practice Organ Needed

A Boulder-area choir member who is a very accomplished pianist has commenced organ lessons. He is looking for a home practice organ that would have 2 keyboards and full standard pedalboard (no flat or partial pedalboards please) at a reasonable cost. If you know of a suitable instrument, please contact me and I will connect you with the buyer.

Lydia Morrongiello  
516-383-0301  
[Lmorrongiello@yahoo.com](mailto:Lmorrongiello@yahoo.com)

### Employment Opportunities

**St. Matthew's Episcopal Church** in Parker is seeking a **Director of Music and Organist**. Position could be divided. One Sunday service at 9:30, Dewey Layton pipe organ. Salary Range: \$27,300 commensurate with experience. The musician is entitled to separate compensation for providing services at funerals, weddings, and other functions. See descriptions and more information at <https://www.stmattsparker.org/we-are-hiring> Contact the rector at [rector@stmattsparker.org](mailto:rector@stmattsparker.org). Position open until filled.

### Saint Paul Choral Library available

On Sunday, 28 December 2025, after 141 years of faithful ministry, a final liturgy of Holy Closure was held at Saint Paul Lutheran Church at 1600 Grant Street in Denver. The congregation is hopeful that area churches might benefit from the extensive choral library that remains. Thus, any area church musicians are welcome to make an appointment to peruse the library and take any items (and as many items—

be sure to bring boxes!) that they may find useful for their choirs by contacting Pastor Barbara Berry-Bailey by email at [pastorbarbara@stpauldenver.org](mailto:pastorbarbara@stpauldenver.org) or by phoning Our Savior's Lutheran Church at 303.831.7023, where a message may be left for her if she is not in the office.

The choral library at Saint Paul is located in a long narrow room lined with six lateral file cabinets along the south wall. Over a thousand choral octavos, usually with at least thirty copies each, are located in the first four cabinets from the left and in the top two drawers of the fifth cabinet. The lower drawers of the fifth cabinet contain a number of anthem collections. The sixth cabinet contains two drawers of handbell music and two drawers of Psalm settings, including a complete set of choral parts from the *Ionian Psalter* in numbered folders. (The *Ionian Psalter* accompaniment volumes are not included and would need to be purchased in order to use the congregational antiphons.) Also available in plastic bins on the shelves above the file cabinets are numerous major works, including many cantatas, oratorios, and Requiem Masses; a ladder will be available for access to the shelves. On the opposite wall are two cabinets with choral cubbies, which contain copies of the *Augsburg Choirbook* and the *Chantry Choirbook*, as well as choral parts for numerous congregational Mass settings, including the Marty Haugen *Mass of Creation*, the Steve Janco *Mass of the Angels and Saints*, the Craig Phillips *Festival Eucharist*, the Richard Proulx *Community Mass*, and the Libby Larsen *Celebration Mass*, the latter having been commissioned by Saint Paul Church for its 125th anniversary in 2009. (Individual copies of these items will need to be collected from each cubby.) Ultimately, the six file cabinets will also become available, so anyone interested in those should mention it to Barbara. While it is a very sad day

for the Saint Paul Community of Faith, hopefully the congregation's rich heritage of choral music will continue as other parishes benefit from the use of the Saint Paul Choral Library.

**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.

**To do this**, we encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music; inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors; provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support; nurture future generations of organists; promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

