



THE TALLAHASSEE ORGANIST

The Official Newsletter of the Tallahassee Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

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DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dear AGO Members and Friends,

As we prepare for the start of another school year (and look forward to cooler temperatures), I'm pleased to announce the beginning of another great year for the Tallahassee Chapter of the AGO. Roger Ponder has again agreed to host our Kickoff Party, to be held at 6:30 p.m. on **Friday, August 25th** (see details below). Then it will be "take two" for Prof. Iain Quinn's recital at Trinity United Methodist Church downtown; an electrical failure caused postponement of that event (a benefit for the FSU Organ Scholarship Fund) from Sunday, June 11th to Sunday, September 10th at 3 PM. October will feature a lecture and recital at First Presbyterian by acclaimed organist Kimberly Marshall, as well as a visit by Patrick Scott (organist at the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta), who will provide live organ accompaniment for the silent film *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* at our Spooktacular event on October 20th at 7 PM. In November, student member Alice Robinson will report on her participation as an E. Power Biggs Fellow at this summer's Organ Historical Society Conference in Minneapolis.

In January, we will welcome William Porter (from the Eastman School of Music), who will perform Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 5 with the Bach Parley. Later on, a Chapter Recital is planned for mid-April. Full details will be provided at the Kickoff Party on August 25th—we'll see you there! Check out our website (www.tallahasseeago.org) for dates, times, and locations.

A friendly reminder—**pay your dues!** (See below for full information.)

All the best,

Joe Kraus
Dean, Tallahassee AGO

"The deadline for newsletter submission is the 15th of every month!"

Visit your chapter website: <http://www.tallahasseeago.org/>

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Remember that new AGO memberships and renewals are now on a “rolling” yearly basis: in other words, you have twelve months of membership from the time you actually pay your dues. To take care of this, access the ONCARD system to pay electronically or to download a membership form to pay by postal mail (sent to the National AGO Office). You can search your e-mail for “It’s Time to Renew Your AGO Membership,” or go to this link online:

<http://www.agohq.org/membership/join-as-a-chapter-member/>.

Membership rates are: \$100 for Regular members, \$75 for Special (Senior) members, \$40 for Students, and \$75 for Partners. You will receive a renewal notice upon expiration of your last year’s membership.

LOCAL 2017 AGO EVENTS

On Friday, August 25th, at 6:30 p.m., Tallahassee AGO Chapter’s Welcome Back Kickoff Party for 2017–18 will be held at the home of Roger Ponder, 1703 Semalachee Drive in Tallahassee.

Bring a dish of any kind to share, and your favorite beverage. (Iced tea and paper goods will be provided.) Also, bring any music that you might like to swap with your colleagues. For further information, or if you get lost, you may call Roger at 656-6585 or e-mail him at rponder@fsu.edu.

On Sunday, September 10th at 3:00 p.m., a recital will be given by Dr. Iain Quinn, organ professor in the FSU College of Music, to benefit the FSU Organ Scholarship Fund. This recital will be presented at Trinity United Methodist Church, 120 West Park Avenue, and will be co-sponsored by the Tallahassee Chapter of the AGO and The Tallahassee Bach Parley. The recital will include works by Herbert Howells, Camille Saint-Saens, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Iain Quinn, Anton Heiller, and Alexander Glazunov. The suggested donation is \$10.

On the weekend of October 13th, Kimberly Marshall, holder of the Patricia and Leonard Goldman Endowed Professorship in Organ at Arizona State University, will visit Tallahassee as a Housewright Scholar at FSU. On Friday evening, October 13th, she will give a lecture at Lindsay Recital Hall in the Kuersteiner Music Building. She will also present a recital at First Presbyterian Church, 110 North Adams Street, on Sunday afternoon, October 15th at 3 p.m.

Looking ahead, our annual Organ Spooktacular will be held on Friday, October 20th, at St. John’s Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street, downtown. Guest organist for this event will be Patrick A. Scott from the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta, who will accompany the silent film *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Further details at the Kickoff Party and in our next newsletter.

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UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

Every Sunday evening from September 10th through December 3rd, 2017 and January 7th through April 29th, 2018, St. John's Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street in Tallahassee, presents a weekly Service of Compline from 8:00 to 8:30 p.m. This ancient monastic service includes beautiful chants by the all-male choir, interspersed with scripture. Membership in the choir is open to any interested male singer by audition—contact Mike Norris at norris.mr@gmail.com.

On Friday, September 15th, at 8:00 p.m. in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall on the FSU campus, the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra will present *Night at the Oscars*, a concert of film music featuring themes from movies such as *Star Wars*, *Indiana Jones*, *Titanic*, *Vertigo*, *La La Land*, and many more. Tickets may be purchased at the door one hour before the concert, by going online to www.tallahasseesyphony.org, or by calling 224-0461.

On Thursday, September 21st, at 7:30 p.m. in the Thomasville Center for the Arts, 600 East Washington Street in nearby Thomasville, Georgia, the Thomasville Entertainment Foundation will present Chris Brubeck's *Triple Play*, featuring Chris Brubeck, Joel Brown, and Peter "Madcap" Ruth in a journey through the landscape of American music, with a lively set list of Delta blues, New Orleans jams, Tin Pan Alley standards, and original tunes. For more information and to purchase tickets, please go to www.tefconcerts.com or telephone 229-226-7404.

On Sunday, September 24th, The Artist Series presents the acclaimed Juilliard String Quartet in concert at 4:00 p.m. in Opperman Music Hall on the FSU campus. The quartet, world-famous for its performances, recordings, and work in the education of major artists and ensembles, will present its first performance for The Artist Series! For more information and to purchase tickets and/or season passports, go to www.theartistseries.org or telephone 850-445-1616.

On Sunday, October 1st, at 4:00 p.m., St. John's Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street, will present the Anglican service of Evensong, one of the oldest in the Anglican tradition, dating back to the original *Book of Common Prayer of 1549*. The service will be sung by the choirs of St. John's, and will be preceded at 3:30 by a short organ recital presented by Teodora Mitze-Circiumaru, a doctoral organ student at The Florida State University College of Music. The service is free and open to the public; free childcare is available.

St. John's Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street, presents *Tower Bell Tuesdays* on the following Tuesdays in October: the 3rd, 10th, and 24th. At 12:00 noon on each of these days, there will be a brief concert by St. John's tower bells, followed by tours of the tower, with opportunities to

meet the ringers, ask questions, and even to try playing the bells. Enjoy a tasty lunch from the St. John's Lively Café and the lovely fall weather in Eve's Garden, while listening to the serenade of the bells.

On Tuesday, October 10th, at 7:30 p.m., the Thomasville Entertainment Foundation presents the fantastic male choir *Chanticleer* in concert at the Thomasville Center for the Arts, 600 E. Washington Street, Thomasville, Georgia. Music director William Fred Scott is bringing the Grammy Award-winning "orchestra of voices" to his hometown of Thomasville for a program evoking the grand scale and human cost of war, through works by Dufay, Janequin, and Bates. For more information and to purchase tickets, please go to www.tefconcerts.com or telephone 229-226-7404.

On Sunday, October 15th, the Artist Series presents pianist Leonard Colafelice in concert at 4:00 p.m. in Opperman Music Hall on the FSU campus. In August 2016, Mr. Colafelice was awarded Second Prize in the renowned Cleveland International Piano Competition, also receiving the Audience Prize, Best Performance of a Russian Piece, and the Junior Jury Prize. At the age of 19, he was one of six finalists in the highly regarded Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition in Tel Aviv, Israel. For further details and to purchase tickets, visit The Artist Series website www.theartistseries.org, or you may telephone 850-445-1616.

On Friday, October 20th, at 8:00 p.m. in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall on the FSU campus, the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra will present *Hero Beethoven*, featuring pianist Stewart Goodyear. The concert will include Beethoven's *Leonore* Overture No. 3, his Piano Concerto No. 5 (the "Emperor"), and his Symphony No. 8 in F Major, Op. 93. Tickets may be purchased at the door one hour before the concert, by going online to www.tallahasseesymphony.org, or by calling 224-0461.

On Tuesday, October 24th, Opening Nights presents Chris Thile, mandolinist, in concert at 7:30 p.m. in Opperman Music Hall on the FSU campus. Thile, a multiple Grammy Award winner, MacArthur Fellow, member of Punch Brothers and Nickel Creek, and new host of "A Prairie Home Companion," is a mandolin virtuoso, composer, and vocalist, with a broad outlook that encompasses classical, rock, jazz, and bluegrass. On this program, Thile will perform Bach solo violin works on the mandolin, as well as his own compositions and contemporary music. Tickets for this event are \$65.00, and may be purchased online at www.tickets.fsu.edu, by phone at 850-644-6500, or in person at the FSU Fine Arts Ticket Office located in the FSU Fine Arts Bldg. at the corner of Call and Copeland Streets—open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

On Saturday, October 28th at 3:30 p.m., the Big Bend Community Orchestra will present a concert in the Maguire Center at Westminster Oaks Retirement Community, 4449 Meandering Way in Tallahassee. (More information in the next newsletter.)

For information about upcoming **concerts and recitals in the Florida State College of Music**, visit www.music.fsu.edu and click on "View All Events."

UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

There are no events listed in our area of the Southeast Region at the present time (any within reasonable driving distance from Tallahassee, at any rate). We'll keep you posted.

NATIONAL AGO NEWS

The next National Convention of the American Guild of Organists, entitled "Bach, Blues, and BBQ," will be held July 2nd through 6th, 2018, in Kansas City, Missouri. For information and to sign up to receive the convention newsletter, visit the convention website at www.agokc2018.com.

Closer to home, the 2020 National AGO Convention will take place practically in our own front yard, in Atlanta, Georgia! The dates are July 5–9, 2020. To sign up for the convention newsletter and to get other information, visit the convention website at www.agoatlanta.org/ago-atlanta-hosts-2020-conference. Let's all plan now to attend!

EXECUTIVE BOARD NEWS

The Executive Board of the Tallahassee Chapter of the AGO met on Thursday, June 8th, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Dean Joe Kraus. Present were Dean Kraus, Sub-dean Rod Gorby, Secretary Patty Herrington, and Member-at-Large Adam Cobb. Treasurer Roger Ponder was unable to attend but sent his treasurer's report. Old business included a wrap-up of the (successful) Tallahassee Sacred Music Conference/AGO January Jubilee held on February 3rd & 4th, 2017. New business included planning for Iain Quinn's recital (originally) on Sunday, June 11th, and program planning for 2017–2018.

Our new/old treasurer will once again be Ed Self, replacing Roger Ponder who wishes to retire (again). Ed has been treasurer in the past and did a great job. (He and Roger keep playing musical organ benches with this position every three years or so.)

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MEMBER NEWS

Margaret-Mary Owens graduated from the FSU College of Music at the end of the Fall 2016 semester with her Bachelor of Music degree in Organ Performance. She will be attending the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York this fall to work on her Master's Degree in Organ Performance.

Dr. Iain Quinn, Assistant Professor of Organ at FSU, has accepted an appointment as Director of Music and Organist at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Thomasville, Georgia. We wish Dr. Quinn well as he prepares to begin his new position at St. Thomas.

We welcome two new organ performance majors from the FSU College of Music: Teodora Mitze-Circiumaru (starting her DM) and Nathaniel Brown (pursuing his MM).

Enjoy organ music in its infinite variety each week with *PIPEDREAMS* from American Public Media, each Sunday 7:00–9:00 p.m. on WFSQ (91.5 FM) and on the internet at any time (24/7) at www.pipedreams.org.

August 13th—At the Sydney Town Hall...resident musician Robert Ampt introduces us to the most famous historic organ in the southern hemisphere.

August 20th—Toccatà, Again! ...whether fiery demonstrations of tactile agility or thoughtful meditations on cosmic principals, this genre provides a touchstone for the organist's art.

August 27th—Summer Music...from around the world, marvelous melodies and evocations of this season of universal pleasure.

September 3rd—Concert Pieces...a special segment of the repertoire dedicated to the display of a performer's skill and an instrument's resources.

September 10th—O How Glorious...common sense tells us that the pipe organ's most important "stop" is the room in which it speaks.

September 17th—From Royal Albert Hall...a BBC Proms concert focusing on the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, with newly commissioned scores and traditional repertoire, too.

September 24th—Winning the Prize... revisiting laureates of the American Guild of Organists National Young Artist Competition in Organ Performance, and other contests.

October 1st—Out of Their Minds...following a centuries-old tradition, these French organists have created new music in the moment through artful improvisation.

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POSITION AVAILABLE

Centenary United Methodist Church in Quincy is searching for an organist for their Sunday morning service. At present the position is Sunday only, playing hymns and service music (\$150/week—negotiable). Additional compensation could be available if the organist were to accompany the Wednesday evening choir rehearsal and the choral anthem on Sunday morning. (Currently, a pianist plays for the choir.) Anyone who is interested can contact Centenary's Choral Director, Scott Leaman: leamanscott@gmail.com; cell phone 850-284-8796.

INSTRUMENT AVAILABLE

The St. John Neumann Retreat Center, 685 Miccosukee Rd. in Tallahassee, has a Lowrey organ in its chapel that is no longer being used. The instrument is practically new, and the Center is willing to give it away to anyone who is interested. Contact Dasha Francis Nixon, 850-224-2971; www.neumanncenter.org.

ADD YOUR VOICE

If you have information about any upcoming events, news about chapter members, information about open choral or organ positions, corrections to previous newsletters that you'd like to share, or anything else of musical interest, please e-mail these items to the newsletter editor at pherrington@fsu.edu. Of special interest for the future would be any programs planned for Fall, Reformation, Halloween, Thanksgiving, All Saints, Advent, or even Christmas that your church or other organization might be planning to present.

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