



Dean's Column

David Jenkins

Transition to Oncard Membership Renewal

We are now beginning our transition to membership renewals using the national AGO system called *Oncard*. Until this year we have been using our own local chapter renewal system through *WildApricot*. Most of you will not notice any big difference. Regular members, Special Members (65+), and Chapter Friends will receive email renewal notices – or a mailed print renewal form – and will renew directly through the AGO national system.



Note, however, that all members *under thirty years of age* will have a special renewal system this year, because the AGO has announced *The Year of the Young Organist*.

Although our chapter has already been offering free membership to those under 30, AGO is now asking all chapters to invest in the future of the Guild by doing the same for one year beginning July 1.

Young organists will not receive an actual renewal notice, but will receive a letter informing them about *The Year of the Young Organist* program and the free membership that is included, as well as instructions on how to access the submission form. As more information is available, it will be posted on the AGO [website](#).

All members should take the time to log in to the *Oncard* menu and update their personal information, as well as their business and music employer information. You can also establish login credentials if you have not already done so on the AGO login [site](#). Help is available [here](#), or by phone, 212-870-2310. Local help is available from our TCAGO registrar [Jeffrey Patry](#), 612-327-9894.

Chapter elections

I would like to extend my thanks to all who helped with the chapter elections this year: Nominating Committee chair Carolyn Diamond and her committee members, chapter secretary Joyce Brown, communications coordinator Jeremy Haug, and the staff at the UST Print Shop. I apologize for the unfortunate mishap with the mailing, and I accept full responsibility. As of this writing I understand that the corrected mailing has arrived in members' mailboxes and we are back on track. Thanks for everyone's patience and understanding! Results of the election will be announced in the June *Pipenotes*. Thanks to all the candidates for their willingness to serve the chapter.

Some have asked why we still hold our election by paper mail, rather than electronically. In fact, it has been my goal to institute electronic proxy balloting, but at the time we were preparing for the election, we could not find an electronic

Chapter Events 2020-2021

- Monday, March 8
TCAGO Virtual Meeting
on Professional Concerns
- Sunday through Sunday, March 14-21
Bach Birthday Bash (Virtual)
- Saturday, April 17
Student Competition (Virtual)
- Sunday, May 2
TCAGO 2020-2021 Year-End Virtual Meeting

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proxy voting service at a reasonable cost for our small non-profit organization.

We also consulted with Eric Birk, the executive assistant at the AGO national office. He gets this question all the time from chapters like ours. Chapter elections must meet certain standards of the national organization for confidentiality and privacy. Elections held by SurveyMonkey or email do not meet the standard. His best advice was to continue the tried-and-true paper balloting by mail.

It costs over \$17,000 for our national organization of 14,000 members to hold elections using an electronic proxy service. I have now just heard of a new low-cost service for small non-profits that the Rockford Chapter will be using for their elections this year. I will be interested to hear about their experience.

Happy Eastertime and happy spring!

TCAGO 2020-2021 Year-End Virtual Meeting

Sunday, May 2, 4:00 p.m. CDT

The meeting will include an opening welcome and brief update by David Jenkins; a promotional video teaser of the Northrop documentary for the Fall 2021 opening event; show-and-tell 'spotlights' from members showcasing what they have been up to the past 12 months; and insights into two questions you will be asked during the meeting registration process:

Our musical lives have changed during the past year:

What have you embraced?

What has been challenging?

We look forward to your participation and engagement. If you are not able to attend, but want to share responses to the above questions, please send those to [Jeremy Haug](#) or [David Jenkins](#) in advance of the meeting.

Zoom virtual meeting registration can be done [here](#). Once you register, you will receive the Zoom meeting details and calendar invitation.

We recommend you join a few moments early to get set up and connected. If you have any questions, please contact [Jeremy Haug](#) or [David Jenkins](#).

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TCAGO Student Competition Winners

Mary Newton

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the 2021 AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists were virtual competitions. The Twin Cities competition was held on Saturday, April 18. In consultation with the National AGO and TCAGO chapter dean David Jenkins, a scenario was agreed upon that minimized risk to everyone involved and still allowed the Twin Cities to be a venue for the competition.

On the day of the competition, the three judges – Laura Edman, Jacob Benda and Sam Backman – and I gathered in person at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Minneapolis to listen to the recordings. We all wore masks and observed social distancing. We had an excellent sound system and the recordings were of high quality. There were three competitors who submitted recordings, and the schools represented were St. Olaf College, Northfield, and Dordt University, Sioux Center, Iowa. Each recording was played without interruption, like an in-person performance. After hearing all three recordings, the judges deliberated and chose the first and second place winners.

The first-place winner, Sarah Palmer, St. Olaf College student of Cathy Rodland, won the \$2,000 award sponsored by the Schubert Club. She will go on to represent the Twin Cities at the regional virtual competition on May 8. Additionally, one of her recordings will be featured on the May 2 TCAGO Chapter Virtual Meeting.

The second-place winner, Katie Gunn, St. Olaf College student of Cathy Rodland, won the \$1,000 award, which was generously sponsored by TCAGO member Phil Asgian. A recording of hers will also be featured on the May 2 TCAGO Chapter Virtual Meeting.

A special thank you to the judges for being a part of this competition and to Sam Backman for hosting our group at Holy Cross! I am grateful we could host a competition this year.

First Place Winner: Sarah Palmer

Sarah Palmer is a junior at St. Olaf College, studying with Catherine Rodland. She began studying the organ two years ago. During the summer of 2019, she attended the



Jacobs Organ Academy at Indiana University and studied with Christopher Young. She has transcribed many pieces for the organ and is currently focused on music for concert band. In her spare time, Sarah enjoys reading, exercising, and playing the piano and trumpet.

DAVID J GESLIN CPA

5775 WAYZATA BLVD SUITE 700
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55416
DAVID@DAVIDGCPA.COM

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Second Place Winner: Katie Gunn

Katie Gunn is a sophomore at St. Olaf College pursuing a B.M. in Church Music/Organ. She is a student of Catherine Rodland, and Organ Scholar at Colonial Church of Edina. Katie studied with Carol Rosenthal and Mattilda Middleton prior to her time at St. Olaf. Growing up in Indianapolis, she sang in the choir of Christ Church Cathedral from 2007-2019. She has attended numerous RSCM courses: the Carolina Course in 2015 and 2017-2019 and the Washington, D.C. Course in 2016. In the summer of 2020, Katie was an intern at the Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation in Indianapolis.



Photo: Grace Alexander

Jessica Park Recital

Saturday, May 15, 7:30 p.m. [livestream](#)
Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas
University of St. Thomas

(This concert was originally scheduled for a date in April.) In-person attendance will be allowed for a maximum of 90 people. There will be a QR code for people to scan once they enter the Chapel to track the attendance. A livestream will also be available.

[University of St. Thomas Chapel](#)
 Cleveland and Laurel Aves., Saint Paul

VocalEssence WITNESS Concert

Sunday, May 16, [streaming](#)

This year's WITNESS performance celebrates the power of art to change the world, and highlights the role of music in social movements. The VocalEssence Chorus and Ensemble Singers, the Singers of This Age, and the VocalEssence Teaching Artists will perform, with help from audience favorites from over the 30-year history of the WITNESS concert series: Melanie DeMore, Rosephanye Powell, Alysia Lee, and Ysaye Barnwell.

[VocalEssence on Demand](#)

Dean Billmeyer Concert

Tuesday, May 25, 7:30 p.m. CDT
Live-Stream Option [Available](#)
Carlson Family Stage

University of Minnesota Organist Dean Billmeyer continues to showcase Northrop's restored pipe organ in a variety of works that illustrate the instrument's palette. The program will include music of Bach performed in Karl Straube's uniquely Romantic idiom.



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RENAISSANCE QUANTUM BY ALLEN

Saint John's Holtkamp-Pasi Abbey Organ

The wait to hear this beautiful instrument in concert is almost over! As COVID-19 vaccinations increase, and the State's mandates about gathering in groups are being eased, concerts and celebrations are beginning to be scheduled.

Saturday, September 18, 7:00 p.m.
Solemn Blessing of the Expanded Holtkamp-Pasi Abbey Pipe Organ
Abbot John Klassen, OSB, presiding
Organists: Fr. Robert Koopmann, OSB, Dr. Kim Kasling, Fr. Anthony Ruff, OSB, Br. David Klingeman, OSB, Br. Jacob Berns, OSB.

World premiere of an organ piece by William Bolcorm, *Three Intermezzi for Organ*, commissioned by Saint John's Abbey through the generous donation from Jeff (SJU '87) and Jamie Barnett; played by Fr. Robert Koopmann, OSB.

Singing of the newly commissioned hymn text *Never Silent In Your Praises* by Sister Delores Dufner, OSB, to the newly-commissioned hymn tune SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY, by Sally Ann Morris.

Sunday, September 19, 2:00 p.m and 3:00 p.m
2:00 p.m., Demonstration of the instrument by Michael Barone (*PipeDreams*) and Fr. Bob Koopmann, OSB
3:00 p.m., Inaugural Concert by Stephen Tharp.

Saturday, February 26, 2022, 7:30 p.m.
The Canadian Brass with organist Greg Zelek.

More events are planned but not yet firmly scheduled. Updates will be posted on the Abbey Church [website](#).

[Saint John's Abbey and University Church](#)
Collegeville, Minnesota



IN CONCERT: UNIVERSITY ORGANIST
DEAN BILLMEYER
May 25, 7:30 pm CDT
Program includes Bach performed in Karl Straube's Romantic idiom.
Get Live-Stream or In-Person tickets at northrop.umn.edu.

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Dean Billmeyer. Photo © Patrick O'Leary, University of Minnesota

Calendar of Events

May

Saturday, May 15, 7:30 p.m, [livestream](#)

Jessica Park, organist

Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas

University of St. Thomas

Sunday, May 16

WITNESS! Concert

VocalEssence

[VocalEssence on Demand](#)

Wednesday, May 19, 12:30 p.m.

St. Olaf Organ Series

Jessica Park, Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas,

University of St. Thomas

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

Sunday, May 23, 2:00 p.m.

Westminster Streaming Recital Series

Christopher Ganza, organist

Cathedral of Saint Paul, Saint Paul

Tuesday, May 25, 7:30 p.m.

Dean Billmeyer, organist

Northrop Auditorium, University of Minnesota

84 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

September

Saturday, September 18, 7:00 p.m.

Solemn Blessing of the Expanded Holtkamp-Pasi

Abbey Pipe Organ

Abbot John Klassen, OSB, presiding

Saint John's Abbey and University Church

Collegeville, Minnesota

Sunday, September 19, 2:00 p.m.

Demonstration of the Holtkamp-Pasi Abbey Organ

Michael Barone, *Pipedreams*

Fr. Robert Koopmann, OSB, organist

Sunday, September 19, 3:00 p.m.

Inaugural Concert

Stephen Tharp, organist

Saint John's Abbey and University Church

Collegeville, Minnesota

February

Saturday, February 26, 7:30 p.m.

The Canadian Brass with

Greg Zelek, organist

Saint John's Abbey and University Church

Collegeville, Minnesota

STEPHEN HAMILTON

Concert Organist

October 9, 2021 9:30 AM	Organ Master Performance Class University of Dubuque Dubuque, Iowa
October 9, 2021 1:30 PM	Church Music Repertoire Workshop University of Dubuque Dubuque, Iowa
October 10, 2021 3:00 PM	Inaugural Organ Concert (Dobson pipe organ) University of Dubuque Dubuque, Iowa
December 6, 2021	Church of Saint Mark (Catholic) 7:00 PM Saint Paul, Minnesota
February 27, 2022 3:00 PM	The Church of Saint Joseph Bronxville, New York
April 10, 2022 3:00 PM	Dupré: Le Chemin de la Croix Narrator: Michael Barone Cathedral of Saint Paul St. Paul, Minnesota
July 10, 2022 4:00 PM	L'église de la Madeleine Paris, France
July 13, 2022 7:00 PM	Trier Saint Peter's Cathedral Trier, Germany
July 16, 2022 7:30 PM	Abbey Ottobeuren Ottobeuren, Germany
July 22, 2022 7:30 PM	Magdeburg Dom Magdeburg, Germany
July TBA, 2022 8:00 PM	Evangelisch-Lutherische Kreuzkirchgemeinde Dresden, Germany
July 29, 2022 7:00 PM	St. Matthäus Lutheran Church Munich, Germany

TCAGO Elected Board

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Membership Coordinator: [Laura Edman](#) (h) 651-439-1071,
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TCAGO Organ Database: [David Engen](#) (c) 612-801-8662

Chapter Website - www.tcago.org

Website Administrators: [David Engen](#) (c) 612-801-8662;
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Facebook - facebook.com/twincitiesAGO

Pipenotes

Pipenotes is the official publication of the Twin Cities Chapter, American Guild of Organists, and is published nine times a year, September through June. December and January is a combined issue.

Deadline date

Information for *Pipenotes* should be received no later than the fifteenth of the month preceding publication.

Materials may be sent to [Merritt Nequette](#), editor.

Letters to the Editor

Signed Letters to the Editor are always welcome.

Mail letters to [Merritt Nequette](#).

2748 Lexington Avenue N., Saint Paul MN 55113

TCAGO Event Promotion via Pipedreams

A comprehensive listing of organ events statewide is available online via the *Pipedreams Organ Calendar*. Information there is only as good as the information provided to it, so you are encouraged to send event listings for inclusion at the earliest possible time.

For both on-air and website listings of organ-related activities, *please send information to Pipedreams* host (and longtime TCAGO member) [Michael Barone](#), or by mail to: *Pipedreams* Calendar, 480 Cedar St., Saint Paul, MN 55101. In a pinch, you may call 651-290-1539.

You are also encouraged to regularly request organ selections on the *Friday Favorites* show with [Steven Staruch](#). Help promote the inclusion of more organ music in MPR's programming.

NOTE: It is requested that you include this text in printed programs for any local organ concerts you play or present:

Enjoy the gamut of the pipe organ experience...from ancient to modern, sacred to secular, classical to popular...with weekly broadcasts of *Pipedreams* from American Public Media. Broadcasts in the Twin Cities are heard Sunday mornings (6-8 a.m.) on KJSN-99.5FM and other stations in the Classical MPR network. For your convenience, *Pipedreams* also is globally available 24/7 at www.pipedreams.org or www.yourclassical.org/pipedreams.

The [Organ Calendar](#) is accessible online and is read in week-appropriate summaries beginning at 7:00 a.m. during each Sunday morning *Pipedreams* broadcast.

Additional note from Michael:

In these Covid-complicated days, mail is better sent to me at my home address: 456 Cherokee Avenue, Saint Paul MN 55107. The office phone still works, and I get emails of messages left there.