THE DEAN’S LETTER TO MEMBERS

Hello all! Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our September Chapter Zoom meeting, and to Kenna Payne for organizing it. This month, the Organ Recital Repertoire Series presents Robert McCormick in concert at St. Bridget Catholic Church, as both an in-person concert for guests who have pre-registered and in livestreamed and recorded form for those who can’t make it. More information can be found on the following page. In this issue, you'll also find a summary of our latest Executive Committee Meeting, as well as information about the rescheduled POE+ program. Our next Chapter meeting will be a conversation with Elizabeth George, the Director of Member Engagement & Chapter Development for the National AGO. More information on that will be forthcoming.

Stay safe and see you all soon!

Christopher
creynolds@stpaulsrva.org
804-643-3589

EDUCATION CONCERNS

Dear Richmond Chapter AGO members,

We are now in the season of autumn. Usually we are busily working with our choirs getting ready for times such as All Saints, Advent and Christmas. This year things will be quite different. Some of us have not gotten to play for many months. Others are playing to empty naves but recording so it can be used for digital worship. Some of us are doing outdoor services. Those whose congregations are meeting indoors may have extra services to play due to the physical distancing practices needing to be observed and the number of folks wishing to attend. Hopefully this will end soon and we can return to services as usual. Try to be positive during this trying time. Hopefully soon we will have those fourteen straight days of declining numbers.

I listened to the AGO webinar regarding copyright laws and our current situation with Covid-19 and doing services across the internet. If you are playing music as part of a live streaming or podcast activity, you need to have a music license with the added feature for the streaming/podcast activity. If you do not have this, you could be in for a bit of trouble using copyrighted material. This is a heads up for you. I am not endorsing any particular licensing agency. I will say One License (stated as being for more liturgically inclined services) and CCLI (stated as being for more evangelically inclined services) were mentioned. Also mentioned were for individual use was ASCAP and two others. My hearing could not make out the other two names. Sorry about that. (Editor’s Note: the webinar can be viewed from a link at the following page: https://www.agohq.org/ago-webinars-and-supporting-documents/)

Remember to wash your hands often and use hand sanitizer. Also, think about those flu shots.

Mary Campbell
804-337-3935
Education Chairman
ORGAN REPertoire RECITAL SERIES
presents Robert McCormick in concert
Friday, October 2, 7:30 PM
St. Bridget Catholic Church, 6006 Three Chopt Road, Richmond

For the first recital in the 2020-21 Organ Repertoire Recital Series, we are very pleased to be able to present Robert McCormick in his Richmond debut. Described as “indomitable and immensely gifted” (Choir & Organ) and as “an artist of rare sensitivity and passion” (The Macon Telegraph), Mr. McCormick is widely heralded by his colleagues and deeply admired for his creative and ethereal abilities in organ improvisation and his commanding, eloquent performances of repertoire of all styles. He is the Organist and Choirmaster of St. Mark’s Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, having previously served at St. Paul’s K Street in Washington and St. Mary the Virgin in New York.

REQUIRED: Masks and Advance Reservations for well-distanced seating
From Friday, Sept. 25 through Sunday, Sept. 27 — Patrons of the AGO Recital Series may reserve seating early by emailing Allen Bean at abean@saintbridgetchurch.org, or by phoning 804-525-7892.
From Monday, Sept. 28 through Thursday, Oct. 1 — Everyone may reserve seating by going to Saint Bridget Church’s Friends of Music web page (https://www.saintbridgetchurch.org/Ministries/Music-Ministry/Concerts-and-Friends-of-Music) and clicking on “Make a Reservation,” or by phoning the church office at 804-282-9511.

The recital will be live-streamed on the church’s website and will also be available for viewing later.

PROGRAM

A Trumpet Minuet
Variations sur un thème de Clément Jannequin, JA 118
Prelude and Fugue in E-flat, BWV 552
Pastorale from Suite for Organ
Prelude and Fugue in B-flat, op. 16/2
Voluntary on “Engelberg”
Evening Song
Ave Maris Stella from Vêpres du commun des fêtes de la Sainte Vierge, op. 18
Improvisation on submitted themes

Alfred Hollins (1865-1942)
Jehan Alain (1911-1940)
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Joel Martinson (b. 1961)
Clara Schumann (1819-1896)
arranged for organ by Barbara Harbach (b. 1946)
Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)
David Hurd (b. 1950)
Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)
Executive Committee Meeting Notes  
September 23, 2020  
Via Zoom Meeting

Scott Hayes presented plans for a program in late October or early November. Elizabeth George, the Director of Member Engagement & Chapter Development for the AGO, will discuss membership recruitment, retention, and engagement.

Kenna Payne, Treasurer, presented Chapter Financial Statements through 8/31/2020. Dues are 60% of budget; most renew in July, and others in November and May. $51,000 is in the investment account. Donations to the Organ Repertoire Recital Series are up 18% over last year.

Jackie Bitler-Row reported that the auditors completed their review on August 16, 2020, and after careful review, they found no audit exceptions.

Kenna Payne reported that the POE+ dates have been set for August 8-13, 2021. The committee will start working again in January. They will try to retain the same teachers who had previously agreed to serve for the July 2020 program that was postponed.

At the June meeting, the Executive Committee began discussion on the topic of membership growth, recruiting, and retention. Chris Reynolds asked the board members to brainstorm ideas over the summer, and to think about what is working and what is not. A number of ideas were presented and discussed.

POE+ UPDATE

The national office of the AGO has approved the rescheduling of the Chapter’s hosting of the Pipe Organ Encounters – Plus (POE+) to the second week of August 2021, from Sunday, August 8 to Friday, August 13. After the first of the year, we’ll be back to work on it and will be arranging for teachers, presenters, volunteers, and anyone else we might need. So mark your calendars now for that week, and be ready to answer the call in the spring!

Steve Henley  
Kenna Payne  
Co-Directors

FROM KENNA PAYNE, TREASURER

I know we’re all being careful in our electronic lives, hoping to not fall victim to scams through our Facebook page, Twitter feeds, email accounts, or anything else. The rule of thumb to remember is if you aren’t sure about something, DON’T RESPOND OR EVEN OPEN THE DOCUMENT. Several years ago the AGO’s directory information was obtained disreputably and every once in a while, I get an email from “Cheryl” or “Chris” or “Mary” to take care of a wire transfer quickly or to do some shopping for the sender. They can make the email look like it is a valid one coming from these people in our chapter. However, it is an attempt to get the Chapter’s money or banking information. Because the language and the request just don’t make sense, I call the true person or send him/her an independent email to check on it. Of course, the first message was confirmed to be an attempt at a scam. I just permanently delete the email. So be careful, and if you’re not sure – don’t open or respond!

The Richmond AGO is on FACEBOOK

Stay connected with Richmond AGO members and notices of meetings, recitals, and other events through the chapter's official Facebook page. Look for us on Facebook: Richmond Chapter - American Guild of Organists, or go to the Richmond AGO web page www.richmondago.org and click on the Facebook icon.

FOR PHOTOGRAPHS AND ORGAN SPECIFICATIONS OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA CHURCHES, PLEASE VISIT

The Churches Of Virginia  
Web Site Available at  
www.ChurchesOfVirginia.org
COVID-19

From the Editor: Here is a list of potentially useful resources related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The July/August issue of the Stoplist, which can be found at [LINK] contains more extensive information. If you have other resources to suggest or would like to write about how you, your church, or other musical organizations with which you are involved are handling the pandemic, please e-mail me at ryan.tibbetts@gmail.com.

The National AGO website has a list of COVID resources here: https://www.agohq.org/responding-to-covid-19/


Videos from this summer’s Virginia, DC/Maryland, and Delaware ACDA Voices United Conference: https://www.youtube.com/c/ACDAVoicesUnited/videos. Several relate directly to the current situation, including a presentation discussing the making of virtual choirs videos.

2020-21 SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT

William Bullock is an enthusiastic multi-instrument musician in 11th grade at Collegiate School in Richmond, VA. Music has been his passion since age five, beginning with piano and adding violin and saxophone before middle school. Listening to organ music every Sunday has sparked his interest and desire to learn the organ. William is heavily involved in music and youth ministry at church. He is also a member of the adult-handbell choir, The Reveille Ringers, playing for others around Richmond. As a member of the Collegiate orchestra (violin) and jazz band (piano), he has a variety of performance opportunities throughout the year in concerts, jazz festivals and even occasional bookings at a local jazz club. He has enjoyed performing in the Central Regional Orchestra for two years, as well as playing by invitation in the University of Richmond Symphony Orchestra, a highlight for the sixteen-year-old. Last summer, William joined and traveled abroad with Greenspring Music Academy on the Queen Mary 2 to London as the entertainment on the ship, playing piano and chamber music for the guests.

William studies violin with Helen Coulson and has been studying piano with Gabriella Ryan since the age of five. Mrs. Ryan has encouraged music theory as well as performance, and last March he successfully completed Level VIII of the VMTA theory test at VCU. One of his favorite hobbies is just sitting down at the piano to play and practice. At home, his family may hear Bach, Debussy, and Chopin before a change to improvised youth choir anthems or excerpts from his favorite musicals including Wicked and Jesus Christ Superstar. Over the summer he tried his hand at piano tuning for his family and others. William was also accepted into American Protégé to play a scheduled performance for Carnegie Hall in 2021! When he is not in front of an instrument, he can be found playing baseball or tennis with friends and teammates. William is attracted to the complexity and power of the organ and is excited to take on its many challenges.

AROUND THE TOWN

Obviously, there’s not a whole lot going on around the town right now, but if you have events coming up – even events that are being livestreamed! – please send them by the 15th of the previous month to the editor at ryan.tibbetts@gmail.com.

St. Bede Catholic Church in Williamsburg maintains a YouTube page with a number of recent performances and music from liturgies played by organists Aaron Renninger and Carina Sturdy. The page may be found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5XHVKhxxPRhJHeLk0Xy-;jKg/videos.
SUBSTITUTES

The persons listed below have indicated a desire to be called for substituting at church services. No specific qualifications are implied by their inclusion on this list. The employer is responsible for determining that a substitute will adequately meet the needs of the church. Questions should be addressed to Betty Girardeau. If you no longer wish to be included on the substitute list, please ask that your name be removed from the list by emailing Betty Girardeau at bettyg@redfamiliar.com or by phone at 804-647-0825.

Substitutes Available (Including Sundays)

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balz, Bill</td>
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<td>Gay, Esther</td>
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Substitutes Available for Special or Non-Sunday Morning Events Only

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MOVING?
Be sure to notify us of any changes in your mailing or email addresses so that you will continue to receive your copy of the “Stoplist” without interruption.
POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Listings in this column appear for a maximum of 90 days and then are removed unless an extension is requested. When a listing is removed, therefore, it does not necessarily mean that the position has been filled. To submit a listing, please contact our Referral Service Director, Betty Girardeau, at bettyg@redfamiliar.com and phone 804-647-0825

GINTER PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1010 West Laburnam Avenue, Richmond VA, 23227
Seeking part-time organist/choir director for one Sunday morning service. Choir rehearsals are held prior to the Sunday morning service. There are four paid section leaders. Special services on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Christmas Eve. Moller three manual organ. Compensation $13,000 to $15,000 based on training and experience. Two weeks paid vacation yearly. Interested candidates should contact Horace Ford via email at horaceford2@gmail.com or by phone at 804-387-6021.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
8100 Shady Grove Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23111
Seeking part-time organist for weekly Sunday morning service, weekly adult choir rehearsals, Sunday School music, and special midweek services primarily during Lent and Advent. Choir does not sing during June, July, August. Upon request and availability would provide music for weddings and funerals. Rogers 2 manual organ of 34 stops. Salary $13,800.00 per year, negotiable. Familiarity with liturgical service preferred. Submit resumes to Organist Search Committee at the church address, e-mail bitelyre@gmail.com or phone 804-427-7500.
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Christ the King Lutheran Church, Cary NC
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The Village Chapel at Bald Head, Bald Head, NC
St. Paul’s Baptist Church, Charlotte NC
Trinity United Methodist Church, Sumter SC
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