
PIPE & PEDAL

Monthly newsletter of the Baltimore Chapter, American Guild of Organists
April 2023

Dean's Letter

Spring has officially arrived. The earth is awakening from its winter rest, and the sounds of birds and life greet us in the morning quiet. As the poet Pack Browning wrote (and Samuel Barber so beautifully set in his Easter Chorale):

The winter land receives the year.
Her smallest creatures rouse and cling
To swelling roots and buds that stir
The restless air to reel and ring!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
The sounds of waking fill our ears.
We listen to the live earth sing
And praise our loving Source and Spring.

The Baltimore Chapter of the AGO continues our awakening from the winter of COVID. We made some strides in the past year, but much remains to be done. Our nominating committee has presented us with a slate of four strong candidates to fill two seats on the Executive Committee: Ted Davis, Jordan Prescott, Chris Schroeder, and Warren Hood. Each of them brings vision and talent and I look forward to working with those elected and finding roles for the others. I encourage you to read their biographies and vision statements, and to cast your ballot. Voting is one of the simplest ways you can support the chapter and help shape its future. The instructions for how you may cast your ballot are in this issue of *Pipe & Pedal*. The deadline for receipt of ballots is April 24.

While we always need to be looking forward, we would be remiss to not acknowledge the work of our two retiring Executive Committee members: Paul Byssainthe and Daniel Fisher. We are grateful to them for their work and dedication to Baltimore AGO and wish them the best as they transition to other roles.

Finally, I hope that you will join us for our two remaining programs of this season: Eric Plutz' Concert at Brown Memorial Park Avenue Presbyterian Church on April 23, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. and the Lancaster Organ Crawl with the Hilbus Chapter OHS on May 20, 2023. There is more information about these in this issue.

Peace,
Bert

In Memoriam

It is with sadness that we share the news of the passing of Daniel Aune's father yesterday. Daniel shared that he died peacefully surrounded by family. Daniel also requested continued prayers for his mother's recovery from her recent serious stroke.

May his soul rest in peace.

Vote!

Executive Board, Class of 2026

The 2023 Baltimore Chapter elections are for two Executive Board (Class of 2026) positions. There are four nominees, and we thank you for taking the time to learn about each of the candidates and to vote. Your involvement in this process is what helps keep the Baltimore Chapter, AGO strong and vibrant, now and into the future.

As we vote this year, we want to take the opportunity to thank our outgoing board members, Paul Byssainthe, Jr. and Daniel Fisher, who have served during the last three years. Thank you for helping to be good stewards and for working hard to keep us together and growing.

We thank the Nominating Committee, chaired by John Holland, and including Andrew Johnson, John Heizer, and Joy Bauer for their work in preparing the slate of nominees.

Finally, thank you to each of our nominees for stepping up to help us do this very important and meaningful work.

This year, there are two ways to vote.

- Online Voting - <https://forms.gle/AzJWvarsseG6Wfnf9>
- Mail Voting: send your vote to:
Alex Mendelsohn
3924 Cloverhill Road
Baltimore, MD 21218

Please read the bios starting on page 4 and then vote for the two candidates of your choice .

All votes due by Monday 24 April 2023 at 11:59 pm

Results will be announced in the May 2023 issue of the *Pipe & Pedal*



BALTIMORE CHAPTER OF THE
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

BALLOT

to elect

Baltimore Chapter Executive Board, Class of 2026

Board Member
(vote for two)

listed alphabetically

_____ Ted Davis

_____ Warren Hood

_____ Jordan Prescott

_____ Chris Schroeder

All votes due by Monday 24 April 2023 at 11:59p.

Mail To: Alex Mendelsohn, 3924 Cloverhill Rd., Baltimore, MD 21218



Candidate Bios

~ Ted Davis ~

I am a career church musician serving as organist/choirmaster at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in West Baltimore since 2005, as well as a past dean of the Baltimore AGO. In addition to working as a choral conductor, organist, and composer, I also have extensive background with harpsichord and early music. Previous work includes holding church positions in Alabama (my native state), Illinois, Virginia, and Massachusetts. I hold degrees in choral conducting, and harpsichord, and, most recently, a DMA from Peabody in organ performance.

As a member of the Baltimore AGO Executive Committee, I would bring a particular interest in exploring ways the chapter might build community among the chapter membership and bring more visibility in the broader community to our instrument and its legacy.

~ Warren Hood ~

No bio submitted by deadline.

~ Jordan Prescott ~

A doctoral candidate at Peabody Conservatory, Jordan Prescott, AAGO is a member of the music theory faculty at Johns Hopkins University having previously served on the keyboard faculty at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. Additionally, he serves as Organist-Choirmaster at Grace and St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Mount Vernon. His leadership in the AGO has included tenures on the Baltimore and East Carolina chapter boards, the National Committee on Young Organists, and the National Nominating Committee. He was a featured presenter at AGO OrganFest 2020 and the 2022 AGO National Convention in Seattle. His scholarship is frequently published in *The American Organist* and *Tracker* magazines.

A microcosm of the wider organization, the Baltimore Chapter of the AGO is weathering a period of post-pandemic transition and undergoing a realignment of priorities. Led selflessly and boldly by Bert Landman and Marvin Mills, I have been deeply impressed by many of the new initiatives undertaken since the last election. If elected, I commit to aiding the success of those initiatives. Additionally, I will advocate for a broader marketing scheme to increase the visibility of Guild programs and will take an active role in diversifying the program offerings of our chapter.

~ Chris Schroeder ~

Chris serves as Minister of Music and Organist at Grace United Methodist Church in Baltimore and has been on staff close to ten years. At Grace, Chris leads a active music ministry with an adult choir of thirty voices that includes five paid soloists, oversees the Handbell and Children's Choirs and manages a vibrant concert series that hosts many musical ensembles within the Baltimore area. On occasion, Chris presents solo organ recitals around Maryland in addition to accompanying on organ for various ensembles.

Chris has been an active member of the Baltimore chapter of the AGO since he moved to Baltimore in 2010. He served as Treasurer and Registrar for the chapter in prior years and has supported the chapter by his attendance at events and concerts. Chris is pleased to have been asked to join the board and looks forward to working with other dedicated organists in promoting the organ and its continued importance in worship.

Upcoming Baltimore Chapter Events

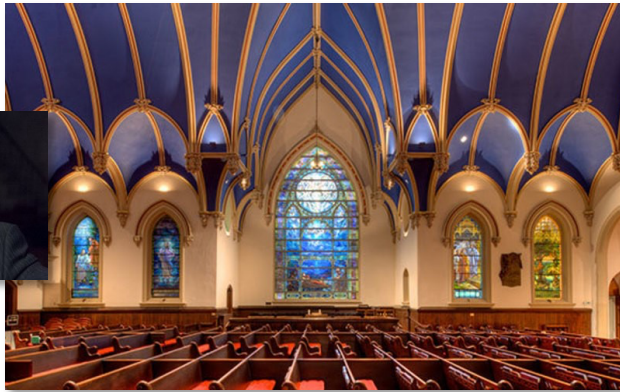
Sunday 23 April 2023 @ 3:00p

Eric Plutz, concert organist

Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church/Bolton Hill

(co-sponsored)

- *Concert Overture in C Minor* by Alfred Hollins
- “Come Sweet Death” by Johann Sebastian Bach, arr. by Virgil Fox
- “Scherzo” from *Deuxième Symphonie*, Op. 20 by Louis Vierne
- *Partita on “Detroit”* by David Hurd
- *Passacaglia*, BWV 582 by Johann Sebastian Bach
- *Carillon* by Leo Sowerby
- *Toccata on “Lift Every Voice”* by Mark Miller



Saturday 20 May 2023

Organ Crawl to Lancaster, PA

with Hilbus Chapter, OHS

More details will be available in the May 2023 *Pipe & Pedal*.

More information about the Hilbus Chapter, OHS: <http://www.hilbus.org/>

Follow the Hilbus Chapter on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/hilbus>

Summer Conferences!!!

Early bird pricing for many of the summer conferences expires this month. If you aren't sure of what you want to do this summer, take a look at and think about attending an organ conference.

AGO Northeast Region/Mid-Atlantic Region – White Plains, NY – July 3-6

- <http://westchester2023.org/>

Full list of AGO 2023 Regional Conferences

- <https://www.agohq.org/conventions/>

Organ Historical Society / Royal Canadian College of Organists / American Institute of Organbuilders
Toronto, Ontario – July 2-3

- <https://organhistoricalsociety.org/2023-RCCO-OHS/>

Shenandoah University 2023 Church Music Institute

SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY'S
CHURCH MUSIC INSTITUTE
In-person, Two-week Conference Event

2023 FEATURED CLINICIANS

Nicole Keller
Week 1: June 18-23
Organ Week

Mark Hayes
Week 2: June 25-30
Piano & Organ Week

Dr. Wayne L. Wold, Director
cmi@su.edu

su.edu/cmi

SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY
Shenandoah Conservatory

The Church Music Institute (CMI) at Shenandoah University (SU) goes back many decades. Hundreds of church musicians from a wide variety of denominations have participated in these summer sessions. Teachers have included SU faculty plus outstanding guest clinicians. In 2020, due to the pandemic, CMI had to cancel its summer sessions. For 2021, we were able to bring back CMI in a virtual format. Now, for summer of 2022, CMI is back in its full-two-week format, and credits can once again be earned toward a Church Music Certificate at either the graduate or undergraduate level.

More information including clinician bios and a sample schedule can be found at www.su.edu/cmi. You can also contact Dr. Wayne Wold, Director at cmi@su.edu.

Local & Local-ish Events

To submit individual events for listing on the Baltimore AGO Calendar and in the *Pipe & Pedal*, please visit <http://www.baltimoreago.org/submit-events>.

Events through 31 April are listed below.

For a full listing of events, please visit <https://www.baltimoreago.org/events>

Sunday 16 April 2023, 4:00p

Bach at St. Bartholomew's: Bach Can Dance

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church (4711 Edmondson Avenue, Baltimore, MD, 2122)

The first of 2 concerts in the 16th annual "Bach at St. Bartholomew's" series. Performed by Theo. S. (Ted) Davis, this concert features a joyous and flair-filled sampling of dance and dance-inspired music for organ and harpsichord. Join us for wine and an informal lecture 15 minutes before the concert. Freewill offerings benefit the music events series at St. Bartholomew's and the parish outreach program fund. More information online at:

<http://stbs-md.org/event/bach-at-st-bartholomews-bach-can-dance/>

Program to include:

Organ: Toccata in F, BWV 540a

Harpsichord: "French" Suite, b minor, BWV 814

Harpsichord: Partita in D, BWV 828

Organ: Fugue in F, BWV 540b

Sunday 16 April 2023, 4:00p

The U.S. Army Field Band Soldiers Chorus: Let Freedom Sing

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church (8501 Loch Raven Boulevard, Towson, MD, 21286)

For over two centuries the American voice has proclaimed the message of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Join the Soldiers Chorus as they pay tribute to the American journey and the Army's role in protecting the freedoms of all Americans. The concert is free and open to the public. The church is accessible. Doors open at 3:30pm. For more information: www.ihmchurchmd.org or 410-668-7935.

Flyer: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1R_PP8ANPkFKsKk_8vk32GTgRpyJvJrye/view?usp=sharing

Friday 21 April 2023, 7:30p

Jessica Tong & Michael Sheppard

First & Franklin Presbyterian Church (210 W. Madison St., Baltimore, MD 21201)

Part of the Spire Series, 2022-2023 Season

Sheppard, pianist, and Tong, violinist share a rare, singular vision in their approach to music-making and have presented adventurous programs that integrate both well-loved and lesser-known masterpieces for violin and piano. The program features Schubert's Violin Sonata No. 1 in D Major, Poulenc's Violin Sonata, and Lili Boulanger's Nocturne et Cortège for violin and piano.

For tickets and more information, visit <http://www.firstfranklin.org/tong-sheppard>

Sunday 23 April 2023 @ 3:00p

Eric Plutz, concert organist

Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church/Bolton Hill (1316 Park Avenue, Baltimore, MD, 21217)
(co-sponsored)

- *Concert Overture in C Minor* by Alfred Hollins
- “Come Sweet Death” by Johann Sebastian Bach, arr. by Virgil Fox
- “Scherzo” from *Deuxième Symphonie*, Op. 20 by Louis Vierne
- *Partita on “Detroit”* by David Hurd
- *Passacaglia*, BWV 582 by Johann Sebastian Bach
- *Carillon* by Leo Sowerby
- *Toccata on “Lift Every Voice”* by Mark Miller

Tuesday 25 April 2023, 6:00p

Peabody Vocal Chamber Ensembles

Emmanuel Episcopal Church (811 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD 21201)

Part of the Music at Emmanuel, 2022-2023 Season

Join members of Peabody Institute’s vocal ensembles in a performance of small ensemble repertoire from across centuries! Under the leadership of Director of Choral Studies Beth Willer, NEXT Ensemble, Peabody Camerata, and the Peabody Hopkins Conservatory Choir are committed to the expansion and evolution of the vocal ensemble art through the commissioning of new works, collaboration with living creators, and the incorporation of new media into performances. Experience the next generation of choral singers in this memorable program!

Tickets in advance or at the door; \$10 suggested donation

More information: <https://emmanueldowntown.eventbrite.com>

Friday 28 April 2023, 7:00p

Felix Hell in Recital

Grace United Methodist Church (5407 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD, 21212)

Part of the Music at Grace Concert Series

Music at Grace Concert Series presents an organ recital presented by world-renowned organist, Felix Hell. A suggested donation of \$25 per person will help support Grace's concert series and music ministry. Felix Hell is a native of Germany, currently living with his family in Baltimore County. Felix is one of the most sought-after concert organists in the world. He has been featured as a recitalist and concerto soloist in more than one thousand concerts throughout North America, Europe, Asia and Australia. His vibrant personality, creative registrations and exemplary playing is not something to miss!

More information: <http://www.graceunitedmethodist.org>

Saturday 29 April 2023, 10:00a

Organ Masterclass with Felix Hell

Grace United Methodist Church (5407 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD, 21212)

Felix Hell will lead a masterclass for area organists at the organ console at Grace Church. Please reach out to Chris Schroeder (chris@graceunitedmethodist.org) if you'd like to play in the masterclass. All are welcome to participate and observe.

Sunday 30 April 2023, 3:00p
Charm City Bronze: 10th Anniversary Concert
Cathedral of Mary Our Queen (5200 N. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21210)

Join Charm City Bronze Handbell Ensemble as we celebrate our 10th Anniversary Season with a concert featuring classical, sacred & popular music. Featuring music of Bach, Grieg, Langlais, Schubert, Rimsky-Korsakov & Satie with flute, trumpet, violin, harp, piano & organ.

For more information about Charm City Bronze and to see highlights of 10 years of Handbell Ringing, visit: www.charmcitybronze.com. Contact info: Beau Lochte, Artistic Director & Founder | 410-830-9988 | charmcitybronze@gmail.com

Sunday 30 April 2023, 4:00p
Bach at St. Bartholomew's: Bach to the Faith
St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church (4711 Edmondson Avenue, Baltimore, MD, 2122)

The second of 2 concerts in the 16th annual "Bach at St. Bartholomew's" series. Performed by Theo. S. (Ted) Davis, this concert features a joyous and flair-filled music for organ and harpsichord. Join us for wine and an informal lecture 15 minutes before the concert. Freewill offerings benefit the music events series at St. Bartholomew's and the parish outreach program fund.

Program to include music from Clavierübung III, Bach's musical monument to his Lutheran faith. Audience participation included! More information online at: <http://stbs-md.org/event/bach-at-st-bartholomews-bach-to-the-faith/>

For event listings: An events email will be sent mid-month, on the first Friday after the 15th. Events will also be listed in the monthly *Pipe & Pedal*. To be included in the *Pipe & Pedal* (sent on the 1st of the month) events should be received by the 25th of the month prior to publication.

Placement Service

placement@BaltimoreAGO.org

Please visit <https://www.baltimoreago.org/placements> any time to see open positions.

Christ Church – Organist/Choir Director (placed 28 March 2023)

Address: 111 South Harrison Street, Easton, MD 21601, USA, Easton, MD 21601 United States
Phone: (410) 822-2677
Size of Congregation: 800-899
Contact Name: William Ortt
Contact Phone: (410) 822-2677
Contact Email: christchurcheastonmd@gmail.com
Number of weekly services or liturgies: 2
Number of weekly rehearsals: 1
Number of music ensembles: 2
Average Ensemble Size:
Total Hours per Week: 20
Type of Instrument: Rodgers Infinity Series. Model 484MV
Music budget this fiscal year: \$25,000
Annual Minimum Salary: \$35,000
Annual Maximum Salary: \$40,000

Brown Memorial Park Avenue Presbyterian Church – Minister of Music (placed 18 February 2023)

Address: 1316 Park Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21217 United States
Phone: (410) 523-1542
Size of Congregation: 300-399
Contact Name: David Bielenberg
Contact Phone: (202) 236-0007
Contact Email: search@browndowntown.org
Number of weekly services or liturgies: 1
Number of weekly rehearsals: 1
Number of music ensembles: 3
Average Ensemble Size: 36
Total Hours per Week: 40
Type of Instrument: 1931 Skinner Organ Company, Opus 839, IV/45
Music budget this fiscal year: \$100,000
Annual Minimum Salary: \$65,000
Annual Maximum Salary: \$70,000
This position provides: Health insurance, Sick leave, Pension plan
<https://browndowntown.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/BMPA-MofM-Job-Description-FINAL.pdf>

St. Paul's Episcopal Church – Music Director (placed 19 January 2023)

Address: 4535 Piney Church Rd, Waldorf, MD 20602 USA
Phone: (301) 645-5000
Size of Congregation: 200-299
Contact Name: Maria Kane
Contact Phone: (301) 645-5000
Contact Email: mkane@stpaulswaldorf.org
Number of weekly services or liturgies: 1
Number of weekly rehearsals: 1
Number of music ensembles: 1
Average Ensemble Size: 8
Total Hours per Week: 13
Type of Instrument: Three-manual Rodgers Trillium 927 organ; Kawai K-5 Upright Piano

Music budget this fiscal year: \$500

Annual Minimum Salary: \$23,000

Annual Maximum Salary: \$25,000

This position provides: Secretarial assistance, Sick leave, Maternity leave, Continuing education/Professional development funding

Other relevant details about the position: Please visit our website to learn more:

<https://stpaulswaldorf.org/musicdirector/>

Shrine of the Sacred Heart – Director of Music (placed 11 January 2023)

Address: 1701 Regent Rd., Baltimore, Maryland 21209-3631 United States

Phone: (410) 466-6884

Size of Congregation: 800-899

Contact Name: Laura Dugan

Contact Phone: (443) 779-9158

Contact Email: office@theshrine.org

Number of weekly services or liturgies: 3

Number of weekly rehearsals: 1

Number of music ensembles: 1

Average Ensemble Size: 11

Total Hours per Week: 20

Music budget this fiscal year: \$20,000

Annual Minimum Salary: \$36,000

Annual Maximum Salary: \$36,000

This position provides: Health insurance, Sick leave, Book/music allowance, Secretarial assistance

Other relevant details about the position: The Director of Music (DM) coordinates, selects, and oversees all liturgical music and the parish choir. They play the organ at all music masses and play the organ or the piano to rehearse and perform music with the choir. The DM plays and organizes 3 liturgies per weekend, one of which is the choir mass. In addition, the DM plays and prepares the liturgies for Holy Days, Feast Days, Funerals and Weddings.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in Music or equivalent with a strong knowledge of Catholic worship and liturgy. Skilled at developing and directing choirs for Mass, with a minimum of 3 years experience in a Catholic parish.
- Ability to play the piano and organ with ease at an advanced level.
(cont.)
- Excellent leadership, administrative, planning, and organizational skills.
- Technology and Computer skills for the creation of Orders of Worship for all Masses, and the reporting of all music offered at masses to the One License Copyright Service.
- Ability to work well as a team member of the parish staff.
- Maintain up-to-date personal certification for Archdiocesan Virtus program, in addition to passing Fingerprint and Criminal background check upon being hired.

Organ Donor

Free to a good home: 1980's vintage Allen Digital organ with external speakers, two manuals, full pedalboard and organ bench. Contact Lisa Weiss at interval8@aol.com or 443-742-8795. Located in Timonium. Lucky recipient will need to move it!



BALTIMORE CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

OFFICERS

Dean: Bert Landman (dean@baltimoreago.org)
Sub Dean: Marvin Mills (subdean@baltimoreago.org)
Secretary: Louis Gephardt-Gorsuch (secretary@baltimoreago.org)
Treasurer: Jeanne Klusewitz (treasurer@baltimoreago.org)
Registrar: Frank Rittermann (registrar@baltimoreago.org)

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Class of 2023: Paul Byssainthe, Jr., Daniel Fisher
Class of 2024: Midori Ataka, Tim Murphy
Class of 2025: Wendy Johnston, Diane Luchese

PLACEMENT – SUB LIST

Louis Gephardt-Gorsuch
Placement@BaltimoreAGO.org

For forms and further information see our website: www.BaltimoreAGO.org