

# Crescendo

A publication of the Dallas Chapter  
of the American Guild of Organists



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## Dean's Column

May 2017

### Time is drawing nigh

There are two mileposts on our chapter horizon to highlight:

**Our year-end chapter event is May 18** at First United Methodist Church, Richardson. We are delighted to welcome Dr. John Schwandt to the Robert T. Anderson Recital Series for a multi-faceted program of composed literature, transcriptions, a silent movie accompaniment (Laurel & Hardy's *Liberty*), and a signature improvisation. Preceding the recital will be a final opportunity for us to gather as a chapter for a meal, including installation of new and returning chapter officers by our district convener, Marialice Parish. Make your dinner reservation today to Charlene Dorsey: 817-277-2859 or [dorseycpd11@msn.com](mailto:dorseycpd11@msn.com).

**The Regional Convention is a little over a month away – June 12-15.** Excluding the Northeast Region/Montreal Convention (who are using a different registration software), our region has the highest registration of any Regional Convention to date – 188 registrants. This is a great encouragement to the Steering Committee!

**Unfortunately, registration by Dallas Chapter members remains low considering the size of our chapter and the fact we are the hosts of the convention.** Please register today at <http://agodallas2017.org/>. There are special rates for Dallas Chapter members, those over age 65, and students. These rates include all lunches, dinners on Monday & Tuesday, and Thursday's Closing Banquet with entertainment by musician/humorist Pat Crenshaw. If you cannot attend the full convention, daily registration is available. Plus, as a local, you can drive yourself to venues and sleep in your own bed each night!

**We need volunteers.** This is an opportunity for all of us to lend a hand (non-member friends and relatives are welcome to volunteer, too!) whether you plan to attend the convention or not. Convention Volunteer Coordinator Sheryl Sebo would be thrilled to hear from you: [ssebo@verizon.net](mailto:ssebo@verizon.net) or 972-849-1950.

Support and encouragement by the Dallas Chapter is absolutely *essential* to the success of this Convention. I know we can count on you.

### Centennial Committee to form

The Dallas Chapter, founded in 1918 as the Texas Chapter, will mark 100 years of service to organists and choral musicians in 2018. This anniversary presents a special opportunity to celebrate the work of the chapter, past and present, looking toward the future with broader initiatives of support and connection to organists and non-organists alike.

If you would like to be considered to serve on the Centennial Committee, contact chapter dean Michael Shake, [mshake@kingofglory.com](mailto:mshake@kingofglory.com). Please include how long you have been a member of the Dallas Chapter, any special skills that might be of service to the committee (communications, photography, event management, etc), and what initiatives, both inward and outward looking, you would like to see as part of the centennial year. *Thank you to those who have sent recommendations thus far!*

Michael Shake

## Chapter Events 2016-17

**18 May, Thursday**

**RTA Recital and Banquet - John Schwandt, organist University of Oklahoma**

**First UMC Richardson, 503 N Central Expy. Richardson, TX 75080**

For more information on John Schwandt, visit [johnschwandt.com](http://johnschwandt.com)

**6:00 pm - social**

**6:30 pm - dinner**

**7:30 pm - concert**

**Dinner menu:**

Tomato Caprese salad

Chicken "a la Bistro" with zucchini and squash "pasta" and lemon risotto

Italian dessert

Iced tea and water

**Cost \$15 per person**

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MAY 12, NOON**

**Make your reservations with Charlene Dorsey either by calling**

**817.277.2859 or emailing at [dorseycpd11@msn.com](mailto:dorseycpd11@msn.com) giving your name and**

**number of reservations.**

**FROM CHARLENE:** Thanks go out to all who helped with the refreshments for our convention meeting on the 27th. In addition to those on the convention steering committee. Phyllis Beck, Charles Brown, Barbara Clark, Graham Clarke, Nancy Good, Kathy Johnson, Nancy Laine, Bill Leazer, Don Rotermund, Joe Snyder, and Francoise Webb also contributed to our fantastic evening for the unveiling of our convention plans.

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## Volunteers' Training Meeting on Monday, June 5 at 7:00 pm

All who have committed to serve in any capacity as a volunteer during the Regional Convention, June 12-15 must attend the **Volunteers' training meeting Monday, June 5 at 7:00 PM at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church in the Choir Room.** Lovers Lane UMC is located at 9200 Inwood Road, Dallas (NE corner of intersection at Inwood and NW Highway). The Choir Room is on the lower level, under the sanctuary. The closest entrance to that area is on the south side, near Northwest Highway, by the tall spire. If you cannot attend, but plan to volunteer that week, please contact Regional Convention Volunteer Coordinator, Sheryl Sebo at: [ssebo@verizon.net](mailto:ssebo@verizon.net) or 972-849-1950. Thank you for your willingness to help make this an epic, "BIG TEXAS"-welcoming AGO Southwest Region convention!

**Register for the  
2017 Dallas Southwest  
Regional Convention**

**[HERE!](#)**

## John Schwandt to close 2016-17 RTA Series

The Robert T. Anderson Recital Series is pleased to close our current season by welcoming Dr. John Schwandt from the University of Oklahoma to the Klais organ at First United Methodist Church, Richardson, on Thursday, May 18, at 7:30 p.m. The recital is open to the public at no charge. His program will include Edvard Grieg's *Holberg Suite* and Bach's *Passacaglia* on the first half. The second half will feature the Laurel & Hardy silent comedy *Liberty*, with organ accompaniment, and conclude with a major improvisation. It should be a program that you and your friends (and choir members) would enjoy.

John D. Schwandt is Professor of Organ and Director of the American Organ Institute (AOI) at the University of Oklahoma School of Music. He is a nationally acclaimed performer and is in demand as a clinician, recitalist, leader of hymn festivals, silent film accompanist and as an organ consultant and tonalfinisher. Dr. Schwandt has been a featured performer for the American Guild of Organists (AGO), the American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS) and the Organ Historical Society (OHS). He has



been featured numerous times on American Public Media's Pipedreams broadcasts. Equally at home on a classical or theatrical pipe organ, he is known for his musical versatility and ability to excite and engage audiences of every kind.

Prior to Dr. Schwandt's 2006 OU appointment, he was Assistant Professor of Organ and Curator of Organs at Indiana University. In 2006, he founded the American Organ Institute (AOI) to preserve the unique American characteristics of the pipe organ. The program includes not only the established classical repertoire, but emphasizes skills such as improvisation, liturgical organ playing and broad musical flexibility, particularly as it is applied to the accompaniment of silent films and the performance of theatrical and popular music. The AOI is also the only program in America that possesses a fully-equipped pipe organ workshop capable of building, maintaining and restoring instruments. It functions in part as a laboratory for a new curriculum of organ technology courses. Thus, at the AOI it is possible to major not only in performance, but in Church Music, Organ Technology, and Theatre Organ. Students of Dr. Schwandt have recently won or placed in the Poister, Rodland, Schweitzer, Manz, Mader, NYACOP, and Longwood Competitions and the AGO's National Competition in Organ Improvisation (NCOI).

Dr. Schwandt's teachers have included George Damp, John Ferguson, and Larry Smith, and he received first prize in the 1998 NCOI in Denver.

## Upcoming Local Events

*Please see Flyers at the end of the Crescendo about Upcoming Events*

**7 May, Sunday at 5:00 pm**

**Evensong (Sung at Church of the Incarnation)**

**The Cathedral Church of St. Matthew, 5100 Ross Ave, Dallas TX 75206**

Sung by the St. Matthew's Cathedral Arts Choral Artists. Conductor: H. Michie Akin, Organist: Keith Franks. Responses: Stephen Caracciolo, Psalm 103: H. Walford Davies, Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis on Plainsong tones: Arthur Wills, How Beauteous are their feet: Charles Villiers Stanford.

**19 May, Friday at 9:00 pm**

**Missa Acappella - Highland Park Chorale**

**Highland Park Presbyterian Church, 3821 University Blvd, Dallas 75205**

An intimate worship experience for reflection featuring opportunities for prayer and communion.

[hppc.org/highlanderconcerts](http://hppc.org/highlanderconcerts) Free Admission

**20 May, Saturday**

**Sound Choices for the Church Organist - Dan Miller, organist**

**Flower Mound United Methodist Church, 3950 Bruton Orand Blvd, Flower Mound, TX 75022**

A workshop featuring internationally renowned organist Dan Miller, sponsored by Church Organ Solutions of Richardson. 10:00AM -12:00PM; lunch provided after the workshop. Space is limited, please RSVP to

[events@churchorgansolutions.com](mailto:events@churchorgansolutions.com) [www.churchorgansolutions.com](http://www.churchorgansolutions.com)

**20 May, Saturday at 2:00 pm**

**Poulenc and Dvorak - Jordan DeRouen, organist**

**Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church, 3901 North Star Rd, Richardson, Texas 75082**

Pro Musica presents Concerto for Organ, Strings and Timpani in G minor, FP 93 By Francis Poulenc, featuring CCPC Organist Jordan DeRouen. Concerto for Violin and Oboe in C minor, featuring Juan Carlos Flores, Violin Solo and Ashley Howe Flores, Oboe Solo. Piano Quintet in A, Op. 81, B. 155 by Antonín Dvořák with Songyoung Kim (violin) Seowon Lee (violin), Steven Juarez (viola), David Witherspoon (cello), Steven Harlos (piano). For more information, contact David Hays at 972.238.8103, ext. 327

**21 May, Sunday at 4:00 pm**

**Evensong and Prelude Recital - Dr. Damin Spritzer**

**The Cathedral Church of St. Matthew, 5100 Ross Ave, Dallas TX 75206**

Ave sung by the St. Matthew's Cathedral Arts Choral Artists. 3:30 p.m. Prelude Recital by Dr. Damin Spritzer, University of Oklahoma and Artist in Residence of St. Matthew's Cathedral Arts. Conductor: Monica Awbrey, Organist: Keith Franks. Introit: Sing Joyfully - William Byrd, Responses: Caracciolo, Mt. St. Alban Evening Canticles: David Hogan, The Lord is my Light: Peter Hallock.

**21 May, Sunday at 4:00 pm**

**Sound Choices for the Church Organist - Dan Miller, organist**

**Flower Mound United Methodist Church, 3950 Bruton Orand Blvd, Flower Mound, TX 75022**

Please join us at Flower Mound United Methodist Church as Church Organ Solutions presents internationally renowned organist, Dan Miller, performing for their organ dedication concert. Free Admission

## High School Scholarship for 2017-18

The AGO Dallas Chapter will again be sponsoring scholarships for high school organ students. An application must be submitted and auditions will be held at All Saints Chapel on the campus of The Episcopal School of Dallas. Applicants will be asked to prepare two contrasting pieces and two verses of a hymn of their choice.

Below is the AGO Dallas Chapter policy for the scholarship:

The Dallas Chapter has always supported the instruction and education of youth. For many years, this scholarship has assisted many students in their study of organ by subsidizing a portion of private lesson costs.

The scholarship is open to all students of high school age and younger. Recipients do not have to be members of the AGO. Each student's instructor should be a member of the AGO, although not necessarily a member of the Dallas Chapter.

The scholarship will be awarded to two students annually, and will not exceed \$900 per student per twelve-month period. Teachers are reimbursed directly by the chapter treasurer.

Applicants will be auditioned by a jury of chapter members. The criteria for selection include a successful audition; however, other factors such as a teacher's recommendation, personal interviews with the candidates by the scholarship director and financial need will be considered.

Each scholarship will be renewed annually in May, regardless of the date of the scholarship's origination. If a student wishes to be considered for renewal, he or she should enter such a petition in writing. The scholarship director and the dean, in consultation with the student's teacher, will determine if the scholarship will be renewed.

The AGO Dallas Chapter pledges to provide opportunities for each student's growth and will, on occasion, ask each student to prepare a brief mini-recital before a chapter event whereby the student may be encouraged and supported by other members.

Joe Snyder is the Scholarship Director. Please contact him with any questions and to receive an application form at [snyderksj@verizon.net](mailto:snyderksj@verizon.net) or 214.686.0285. Scholarships are awarded in memory of Robert R. Miller and Russell E. Hellekson, Jr.

## Please Plan to Attend the Southwest Regional AGO Convention in Dallas June 12-15, 2017!

To whet your appetite for the June 12-15 regional AGO convention, here is a list of recitalists and venues being used:

- Stefan Engels** (SMU) - Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration (Richards Fowkes organ)
- Joel Bacon** (Colorado State) - St. Mark's School Chapel (Letourneau organ)
- Monica Czausz** (2014 RCYO winner) - St. Monica Catholic Church (Nichols & Simpson organ)
- Maxine Thevenot** (St John's Cathedral, Albuquerque) - Christ the King Catholic Church (Juget-Sinclair organ)
- Elizabeth Farr** (U of Colorado) - harpsichord recital at University Park UMC
- Nathan Laube** (Eastman School of Music) - Meyerson Symphony Center (Fisk organ)
- Rebecca te Velde** (Oklahoma State U) - Shipp Chapel, Lover's Lane UMC (Casavant organ)
- Alcee Chriss III** (DMA student at McGill U) - Highland Park UMC (Dobson organ)

Also featured will be the organ/percussion duo **Organized Rhythm** at Christ UMC, Plano (Reuter organ), and the spectacular vocal ensemble **Chanticleer** at Guadalupe Cathedral. The winner of the **Regional Competition for Young Organists** will play his/her recital on the Alfred Kern organ at University Park UMC.

After the opening Engels recital, there will be a service with the **Denton Bach Players** in celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation at King of Glory Lutheran Church. A service of **Evensong** will showcase the renovated Noack organ and the choir of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation.

**Most meals are included in the convention fee.** I hope you will make plans now to register and attend our 2017 regional convention.

Grady Coyle - Director, Recitals & Concerts

## University Events

### SMU Organ News

#### SMU Organ Degree Recitals May 2017

**May 2, 7:15 pm**, Caruth Auditorium, Richard Gray  
Works by Alain, Bach, Reger, Messiaen

**May 8, 7:30 pm**, Caruth Auditorium, Dr. Jonathan Gregoire  
Works by Buxtehude, Bach, Karg-Elert, Ritter

**May 11, 7:30 pm**, Perkins Chapel, Wilhelm Sollie  
Works by Bach, Baker, Cocherneau, Mendelssohn, Karg-Elert

### SMU PRE-CONVENTION

#### ORGAN STUDIO RECITAL

**JUNE 11, 7:30 pm, Caruth Auditorium**

Works by, Buxtehude, Bach, Tournemire, Reger, Ritter, Messiaen

#### Featuring the following first prize winners:

Inah Park (2017 San Antonio Competition)

Yunjung Lee (2017 Arthur Poister Competition)

Jonathan Gregoire (2017 SMU Concerto Competition)

Organists Katie Minion (HPUMC), Richard Gray (HPPC), Wilhelm Sollie (Transfiguration), Graham Schultz (Incarnation), Jordan Smith, Scott Scheetz, Shane Murphy

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**FOR SALE:** Allen Organ MOS 1 cards. Contact Grady Coyle if you could use them!

## CMS Workshop Pre-Convention

The 2017 Sacred Music and Worship Summer Workshop celebrates the importance of worship in an environment where Christian community can be an antidote to division and fragmentation experienced elsewhere. To that end, "Challenges to Worship in a Post-Election Church" brings leaders of worship and music to reflect on calling and tasks for leadership in this critical time. The wisdom of gifted presenters will be augmented by sharing of attendees for best practices and opportunity to ask questions.

Some questions to be addressed: Has the election created a divide in your congregation? What stresses are created for pastoral and musical leaders? How do these challenges shape preaching and musical leadership? Does the table challenge or welcome in this current environment? What role does music play and how should it be chosen? How can worship prepare us to be salt and light in a world in need of the Gospel?

A special opportunity is offered for all choral singers and directors on Sunday evening, June 11, for a "Choral Sing through the Church Year" led by gifted conductors, to explore both familiar and new repertoire that will shape the liturgical experience. Registration is optional for Sunday only, or comes automatically with registration for Monday. Groups from one church receive a 15% discount.

Don't miss the chance to learn, to worship, to sing, to be transformed!

*(The registration flyer is at the end of the Crescendo)*

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## Pre-Convention Recital at CTK

In celebration of Henry McDowell's 25 years of service to Christ the King Catholic Church, to his profession and the installation of the new Juget-Sinclair organ, you are invited to QUATRE SIECLES DE GLOIRE FRANÇAISE, a Pre-Convention Concert on June 11, 2017 at 8 pm. It is being presented by the University of North Texas Organ Department and the Choir of Christ the King, Thomas Pavlechko, conductor. It will feature five prize-winning students of Dr. Jesse Eshbach: Hentus Van Rooyen, Sameul Gaskin, Yangsam Yu, Gregory Santa Croce and Kenneth Adams.

Free Admission

*(Please see the flyer at the end of the Crescendo)*

## Workshops for Everyone at the Dallas SW Regional Convention

While not exactly “womb to tomb,” AGO 2017 workshops are designed to reach a musician at all levels, from “Flirty and Under Thirty” to “Sitting on Top of the Hill—or Over It,” to Everyone In-between.

### The program committee was especially eager to reach out to this younger group with workshops on

- Essential keyboard skills
- Improving hymn playing with attention to introductions, text, and style
- Fundamental conducting techniques
- Leading a bell choir for the first time
- A panel on choosing and advancing your career

### Other practical workshops include

- Nurturing our choir singers, especially the aging voice and the young voice
- Introducing congregations to the wealth of African-American and Hispanic sacred music
- Four conducting workshops
- Playing continuo
- A panel on the organ, worship and culture
- Three workshops on specific styles:
  - Reger
  - Slurs and *Grand-Choeur* registrations in 19th- and 20th-century French literature
  - Playing Bach

### Those with historical interests will be able to attend a workshop on

- Luther’s musical world
- The rise of the mechanical action organ in the Southwest (an area often overlooked in the history of American organ building)
- The English choral tradition
- A creative tableau of the beginnings of the Dallas AGO Chapter almost 100 years ago

### For chapter officers and members there are workshops on

- Chapter growth and organization
- The exams
- Planning a POE

All can start each morning with a session on staying healthy, a workshop addressing the management of the physical stresses and strains of an organist’s life.

Lenora McCroskey - Director, Workshops



Register for the  
2017 Dallas Southwest  
Regional Convention

[HERE!](#)

# CHRISTUS

Come hear the World Premiere of CHRISTUS  
a new nine movement choir and organ work by S. Andrew Lloyd

Preview: <https://vimeo.com/202033772>

Performed by the Choral Artists of Fort Worth with Ryan Chatterton as conductor,  
and S. Andrew Lloyd at the organ

Featuring soloists from the Fort Worth Symphony, and UNT faculty:

Carol Harlos: Cello; Jeffrey Snider: Baritone; Jennifer Youngs: Soprano; Julia Bushkova: Violin; William Joyner: Tenor

### World Premiere

April 28, 2017 - 7:00pm

First Presbyterian Church, 1000 Penn St, Fort Worth TX

### Encore Performance

May 7, 2017 - 7:30pm

Christ the King Catholic Church, 8017 Preston Rd, Dallas TX

## Regional Convention Gifts

On behalf of the 2017 Convention Steering Committee, I would like to thank the many AGO members, organ builders, and churches that have made monetary gifts to help fund the convention. To date we have raised just over \$37,000, which is nearly half of our goal of \$75,000. If you have not yet made a gift to the 2017 Convention, please consider making a gift. With your help, we will gather the funds we need for an unforgettable convention. – Jeremy Wirths

### AGO Members:

- Edwin Ackermann
- John R. Arey
- David Brown
- Christine E. Bouton
- Barbara Clark
- Graham Clarke
- Lee Corbin
- Grady Coyle
- Judith E. Dardaganian
- Charlene Dorsey
- Bart Ghent
- Nancy E. Good
- Gary Gordon
- Kenneth and Ellen Hart
- Tina M. W. Hehn
- JuYeon Julia Lee
- Lim Yoon-Mi
- Jody Lindh
- Lenora McCroskey

- Burton and Virginia Patterson
- Becky Peal-Sconce
- Roy A. Redman
- Terence C. Roper
- Donald Rotermund
- René Schmidt
- Sheryl Sebo
- Jordan Smith
- Jeremy Wirths

### Organ Builders:

- Dobson
- Juget Sinclair
- Reuter

### Churches:

- Christ the King Parish (Dallas)
- Christ Methodist Church (Plano)
- St. Monica Parish (Dallas)

## Dallas 2017 Regional Convention Giving Opportunities

Hosting a successful convention requires the help and support of every member of an AGO chapter. As the Dallas Chapter prepares to host the 2017 regional convention, we ask you to consider ways that you might play a part.

**The Steering Committee has prepared an ambitious program for the convention: Nathan Laube, Chanticleer, Organized Rhythm, Stefan Engels, Maxine Thevenot, and more.** The Steering Committee faces the challenge of funding this bold program while maintaining an affordable registration price for participants and avoiding the depletion of reserve funds that guarantee the future of our Chapter.

**For that reason, the Committee asks you to consider making an individual gift to the convention.** The goal for individual gifts is \$75,000. We are proud to report that every member of the Steering Committee has already made a gift of at least \$300, and that the total individual gifts already received exceeds \$32,000.

**This fall, every member of the Chapter will be asked to help;** please consider saving the time resources of the Steering Committee by acting now. Gifts will be acknowledged in these categories:

### Levels of Support

<b>Diamond</b>	<b>\$5,000+</b>
<b>Platinum</b>	<b>\$2,500-\$4,999</b>
<b>Gold</b>	<b>\$1,000-\$2,499</b>
<b>Silver</b>	<b>\$500-\$999</b>
<b>Bronze</b>	<b>\$250-\$499</b>
<b>Copper</b>	<b>\$100-\$249</b>
<b>Brass</b>	<b>\$1-\$99</b>

**Some categories include special features that might appeal to you.** Every gift of Platinum or above will be acknowledged as the sponsor of a specific concert at the convention. Every AGO Member who makes a gift of Gold or above will be offered free basic convention registration (value of the registration will not be tax deductible). Every AGO member who makes a gift of Silver and above will be honored, along with the Steering Committee, at a celebratory event during the convention.

**All gifts are tax deductible. Financial support can be given in two ways:**

1. Make a check out to Dallas AGO 2017 and mail it to Dallas AGO 2017, 715 Parkmont, Dallas, TX 75214
2. Contact our treasurer David Brown at [jorde@swbell.net](mailto:jorde@swbell.net) for other payment opportunities.

**Thank you! - Jeremy Wirths, 2017 Dallas Regional Convention Fundraising Chair**

Right now the Dallas Chapter channels of *communication* and opportunities for *community* include:

[www.dallasago.com](http://www.dallasago.com) – CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE! KNOW WHAT’S GOING ON!

The Dallas AGO Events Calendar <http://dallasago.org/?pageid=157>

Facebook page: Dallas Chapter-American Guild of Organists – SHARE YOUR IDEAS ONLINE!

Various flyers and publicity notices we send out through your own contributions – SEND NOTICES, FLYERS and ARTICLES TO [dallas.crescendo@gmail.com](mailto:dallas.crescendo@gmail.com)!

**18 May, Thursday**  
**RTA Recital and Banquet**  
**John Schwandt, organist**  
**University of Oklahoma**  
First UMC Richardson  
503 N Central Expy. Richardson TX 75080  
6:00 pm - social / 6:30 pm - dinner / 7:30 pm - concert  
**Dinner Reservation DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MAY 12, NOON**

## Newsletter Submissions

Please email your submissions to [dallas.crescendo@gmail.com](mailto:dallas.crescendo@gmail.com) and be sure to include all pertinent information. Pictures and email links are highly desirable. It is *most* helpful if you will include the address, including ZIP code, of upcoming events as well as any pertinent contact information. Your editor will be most grateful since these must be researched if not included!

**Submission deadline is by the 20th of MAY to be in the SUMMER issue.**

If you know of someone who has changed email address recently, please have them *send the new email address to:*

[winband@aol.com](mailto:winband@aol.com)



## May 2017 Crescendo

