

CRESCENDO

DALLAS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

November 2017

From the Dean

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Back in August I enjoyed a few days in San Diego. One afternoon I did something I don't normally do – I went to a baseball game. I do like baseball, and have been to my fair share of games over the years in a number of cities. Unfortunately I have never taken to the Rangers, or their stadium, Globe Life Park. Sorry! On the other hand, San Diego has done it right. The Padres play right downtown at Petco Field. It was an easy walk from my hotel and the stadium had some great local food and craft beer options. A seat down the third base line was not bad either.

The highlight of the game was not the Padres win over the Philadelphia Phillies, but the organist. Now until the seventh-inning stretch singing of “Take Me Out to the Ballgame”, I had not paid much attention to the organ cues during the game. But just before we sang, a camera panned in on organist Bobby Cressey at the Yamaha console. Padres jersey, headset, and all. *Cool*, I thought. Then I realized he appeared to be playing outside. *Well, that's something*. I panned around the stadium to see if I could figure out where he was. *There!* Stationed high above first base was the console. Like any enterprising organist, I left my seat and headed up to the organ. Surprisingly, the organ console was fully visible and accessible, set on a dolly on an upper deck terrace. The attendance for the game was low, but there were a number of folks hanging around the organ, watching the game and the organist. Bobby was friendly to everyone who came up to him. He took selfies with guests and answered questions, all the while keeping an eye and an ear out on the action below.

Finally, at a lull, I went up to the console. *Hey, I'm an organist, too.* ‘You mean a real one?’ And, the conversation took off from there. In addition to playing 20-25 Padres day games – the only games they use the organ – Bobby's freelance work as a musician work takes him all over Southern California.

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AGO
Dallas Chapter

2017-18 Dallas Chapter AGO Events

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12
NEIGHBORHOOD RECITAL

Temple Emanu-el
8500 Hillcrest Ave, Dallas, 75225
3:00p Recital

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13
PROTESTANT REFORMATION AT 500

Episcopal School of Dallas Chapel
4100 Merrell Rd, Dallas, 75229
7:00p Presentation by Stefan Engels and
Benjamin Kolodziej
Program about Reformation and German
influences in worship and music

MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2018
SOCIAL EVENT

Location & Time TBD

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6
RTA RECITAL: JANETTE FISHELL

Caruth Auditorium, SMU Campus
Owens Arts Center, 6101 Bishop, Dallas 75205
(Co-sponsored by SMU)
7:30 p Recital

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7
MASTERCLASS BY JANETTE FISHELL

Caruth Auditorium, SMU Campus
9:00a -12 noon
(Masterclass open to the public; participants will
need to register in advance. Info to follow.)

SATURDAY, MARCH 17 (All-day event)
VISIT TO AMERICAN ORGAN INSTITUTE
UNIV. OF OKLAHOMA

Travel to AOI at University of Oklahoma to visit
the workshop and artisans

SUNDAY, APRIL 8
NEIGHBORHOOD RECITAL

Custer Road UMC
6601 Custer Rd, Plano, 75023
3:00p Recital

TUESDAY, MAY 15
RTA RECITAL: MARTIN JEAN

Highland Park Presbyterian Church
3821 University Blvd, Dallas, 75205
(Co-sponsored by HPPC)
6:00p Social time
6:30p Dinner
7:30p Recital

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16
MASTERCLASS BY MARTIN JEAN

Highland Park Presbyterian Church
3821 University Blvd, Dallas, 75205
10a-noon

Upcoming Dallas Area Music Events

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 7:30 PM

VIENNA BOYS CHOIR

Concert is part of the

David R. Davidson TowerArts Concert Series

Highland Park United Methodist Church, Sanctuary

3300 Mockingbird Lane, Dallas 75205

Tickets: \$20. Info: click [here](#), or call 214-523-2279.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 5:00 PM

ANNIVERSARY ORGAN RECITAL

Walnut Hill United Methodist Church,

10066 Marsh Lane, Dallas 75229

Christine Bouton celebrates 25 years in Music Ministry with works by Bach, Guilman, Lefebure-Wely, Bedard, Locklair, Gawthrop, and more. Also "Organ Plus" with special guest musicians. Free, refreshments following.

FREE. Info: click [here](#).

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 5:00 PM

CHAMBER ARTISTS RECITAL: *BLESSED ARE THOSE* (based on The Beatitudes)

(features solos, duets performed by professional soloists, and Sanctuary Choir)

Lovers Lane United Methodist Church, Shipp Chapel

FREE. Info: click here, or call 214-706-9589.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2018, 3:00 PM

DALLAS CHORAL FESTIVAL

Moody Performance Hall, 2520 Flora Street, Dallas 75201

Tickets: \$29/\$49 at ticketDFW.com | For more information, please click [here](#)

RECITAL SERIES at THE MEYERSON

Meyerson Symphony Center

2301 Flora Street

Dallas, TX 75201

Sunday, 2/11/18 at 2:30pm

Isabelle Demers – Organ

Sunday, 4/22/18 at 2:30pm

Ken Cowan – Organ

Cost for each is \$20 when you contact

Jena Tunnell at 214-871-4025 or

j.tunnell@dalsym.com

Anne Bowman shared word that Ruth Rohloff, long-time organist of Churchill Way Presbyterian Church, later moving with it to Bentwood Trail Presbyterian, died in June. Her obituary follows. Our sincere thoughts and prayers to Ruth's family.

ROHLOFF, Ruth Schuster

Ruth passed away in her home on June 16, 2017. Ruth is preceded in death by her loving husband of 57 years Vincent L. Rohloff, her parents, sister Gladys and brother Wesley. Ruth is survived by her daughter Ruth Marie Rohloff, sons Vincent L. Rohloff, Jr. (wife Patte), William A. Rohloff (wife Cathy), Gaylord W. Rohloff (wife Lorraine) and Robert G. (Bobby) Rohloff (wife Brienne - deceased). She is also survived by her Sister-in-Law Elaine Mommsen. Ruth will be remembered fondly by her 13 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and two nieces. A private committal service was held on Tuesday, June 27th followed by a Celebration of Life at Bentwood Trail Presbyterian Church.

Education / Certification

Certification details and deadlines are found in both January and July 2017 *The American Organist* magazines, as well as on www.agohq.org. It is a great experience and feeling of accomplishment to prepare for and pass any of the exams. We will have another exam info session in mid-January, but are ready to support your efforts. Please contact Sheryl Sebo for further information, and check out the AGO education/certification webpage and online store for helpful resources!

Sheryl Sebo: ssebo@verizon.net or ssebo@llumc.org



Alcee Chriss Wins Major Prize

Congratulations to our young chapter member, Alcee Chriss III, for winning the \$25,000 first prize at the Canadian International Organ Competition (CIOC) held in Montreal during fourth week of October, 2017. This international competition is a prestigious event held every three years with awards that surpass the prizes of any of the world's organ competitions.

In addition to first prize, Alcee also won a \$5,000 prize for best interpretation of a work by J. S. Bach. The first prize also includes a three year artist management contract with Karen McFarlane Artists. Also included is a CD recording with ATMA Classique.

Alcee can add this prize to a long list of prizes won over the past several years at major competitions. He is presently finishing studies for his doctoral degree at McGill University in Montreal.

2017-2018 CHAPTER OFFICERS

Dean: Michael Shake, mshake@kingofglory.com
Sub-Dean: Bradley Reznicek
Secretary: Larry McCain, SPC
Treasurer: David Brown
Membership Secretary: Nancy N. Laine, AAGO
Historian: Chris Brunt
Parliamentarian: Rev. Kathryn E. Johnson
Auditors: Phyllis M. Beck, SPC; David L. Rodgers

Executive Committee Members At Large

3 years:
 Jeffrey Brummel, Katie Minion, John Tarver
 2 years:
 Christine E. Bouton, CAGO; Dr. Yoon-Mi Lim; Graham Schultz, AAGO
 1 year:
 Barbara A. Clark, SPC; Carlene Rebecca (Becky) Peal-Sconce; Jordan Peek

Chaplain: Rev. JoNell Lindh
Honorary Dean: Canon Dr. Paul Lindsley Thomas, FAGO

COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

Communications: Jordan Peek
Crescendo Newsletter: Scott Ayers
Education, Certification & College Liaison:
 Dr. Sheryl L. Sebo
Education Projects: Lenora McCroskey, DMA
Finance and Investments: David Brown
Hospitality: Charlene Polivka-Dorsey, CAGO, SPC
Neighborhood Recitals: Chris Brunt
Placement: Sam Eatherton
Program: Bradley Reznicek
Recital Series: Graham Schultz, AAGO
Scholarships: Joe Snyder
Webmaster: Jordan Smith
Yearbook: Jody Lindh

DALLAS CHAPTER AGO

Scholarship Recipients

David Preston was born on February 22, 2000. He started piano lessons with Mrs. Doris Hurst in 2007 and stayed with her through December 2013. In August 2011, David began organ lessons with Dr. Pamela Butler, who is the organist at his church, Redeemer Lutheran, Fort Worth. She now teaches him both piano and church organ. As of the fall semester of 2013, David has been studying organ performance with Dr. H. Joseph Butler at Texas Christian University. David is in his senior year of high school and is home-schooled. He has taken and passed both his SPC and CAGO examinations and has plans to study organ in college, as a professional organist.



Elijah Samlowski was born in Ft. Worth, Texas, on May 26, 2001. He loves music and he plays the piano, organ, takes voice lessons, and sings in the Chamber Choir at TAFSA, a homeschool fine arts Academy in Ft. Worth. His interest in the organ began at age 8 when he was taking piano lessons from his teacher, Ms. Diane at the Episcopal Church in Cleburne. He was fascinated with the organ, but Ms. Diane thought it was just a phase and he would outgrow it. However, his passion to want to play the organ never went away. After being told for several years that he was too young to take organ lessons and it would not be possible to take lessons at a major University because he was so young, he decided to ask anyway. At 14 years old, he was accepted by Dr. H. Joseph Butler, Asst. Dean, College of Fine Arts and University Organist at TCU, as an organ student. He has been a student of Dr. Butler's now for two years.



Eli is an 'old soul' and loves the classics and hymns. One of his goals in life is to play the organ in some of the beautiful, old Cathedral's throughout Europe. Eli is interested in Corporate Law, but also intends to continue studying music. Music has been a part of his life as far back as he can remember, and he cannot imagine his life without music.

Area University Organ News & Information



FALL DATES 2017

Thursday, November 2

7:30p Emerging Artists Recital Series: Fall Concert

Thursday, November 16

7:30p Organ Studio Fall Recital II



Friday, November 17, 8:00p. UNT: Main Auditorium
Performance of Messe pour les Paroisses of Francois Couperin with alternatum plainsong.

Sunday, February 11, 2018, 8:00p

Christ the King Catholic Church, Dallas

Performance of Messe pour les Paroisses of Francois Couperin with alternatum plainsong.

From the Dean (continued from P.1.)

There were two things I learned from our visit. Yes, stadium organists do have a guild. Guild is probably too formal a term. But, they do know each other, and they do connect to trade stories and ideas. Proof of this came when Bobby mentioned he had been texting with the Washington Nationals organist during the course of the game that day.

The other thing was preparation. On the music desk was a big binder full of music grouped by genre that Bobby arranged specifically to be used at games. Open front and center was the music for Take Me Out to the Ballgame. I laughed at this – the ball park Doxology. ‘I don’t want to mess this up in front of all these people!’ *Trust me, I said. I know exactly what you mean.*

After the game, he gave me a copy of his debut CD that had come out a few weeks prior, Cali Native. Drawing upon many musical strands, it features Bobby on a Hammond organ with a monster brass section and percussion. It’s absolutely fun and I’ve loved listening to it these last weeks.

So, if you’re ever in San Diego, look Bobby up and go hear him play. He has a lot more in common with us real organists than you think.

See Bobby in action by clicking [here](#).

Michael

Employment Opportunities

Associate Director of Worship & Music/Organist

New World United Methodist Church, Arlington TX, a vibrant urban church has an opening for a gifted musician to serve as Associate Director of Worship & Music/Organist.

This position is $\frac{3}{4}$ time. Opportunities include: service playing for two worship services weekly, accompanying the Chancel Choir, assisting with a fully graded Children's Music program, Handbells, and a Youth Music program. Excellent keyboard skills at organ and piano required, as well as gifts in working with a team to continue a great worship and music program.

Position is open January 1, 2018. Please send resumé and cover letter to:

Steven Couch, New World UMC, Arlington, TX 76012. steven@nwumc.org

Director of Music

First Community Church, United Church of Christ, 9120 Ferguson Road, Dallas, TX

Job Type: Part time

Hours per week: 10-15

We are seeking an individual with strong musical leadership skills to accompany our worship service and direct our small choir of talented singers. Our modern worship space has excellent acoustics, and our beautiful Kney organ and Steinway grand piano sound incredible! We are in search of someone who is ready and willing to bring their creativity to worship and to collaborate in planning. Is this you? Click [here](#) for the full job description and application instructions.

Organization Website: www.fccdfw.org

Director of Music; Organist, or combination of both

First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville, 401 S Denton St, Gainesville, TX 76240

(940) 665-5153

First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, is looking for a Director of Music, Organist, or combination of both. This is a part time position, typically Wednesday night rehearsal and Sunday morning Worship Service. Salary is based on experience.

Detailed Job Description available on request. Send resume to fpcgaines@sbcglobal.net.

Important Submissions and Address Correction Information

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Submissions to for the Crescendo must be submitted by the online forms listed below:

- Employment Opportunities: click [here](#)
- Dallas Area Music Events: [here](#)

Events will follow this example:

EVENT DATE

EVENT NAME

Event Location (please include street address and zip code)

Event Description (BRIEF! Not to exceed 40 words)

Event web address (link to online flyer for information or printing)

Questions? Email newsletter@dallasago.org. Submission deadline is 20th of month prior to publication.



If you or someone you know has recently changed email addresses,
please email the member's name and updated contact information to:

[**communications@dallasago.org**](mailto:communications@dallasago.org)