



BOSTON PIPINGS

news and notes for members of Boston Chapter AGO

October 2021 Pippings - The Newsletter of the Boston Chapter AGO

[Click here to go to the Calendar on our website.](#)

Dean's Message

Greetings!

“Even if you’re on the right track, you will get run over if you just sit there.” — Will Rogers

Greetings, colleagues!



What a pleasure it was to, at last, gather in person again for an opening BAGO service at St. Cecilia Parish on September 24! Though the numbers were on the smaller side, the hymn singing was hearty and joyful. Many thanks go to our friends at St. Cecilia for hosting us, and also to Sub-Dean Mitchell Crawford, Registrar Jeffrey Mills, and all those who planned and participated in this event.

It was equally pleasing to, only 10 days later, hold our first Executive Committee meeting on October 4; a Zoom call with all of our committee members present. I want to take this moment to thank all of the members of the committee— some new faces and also some familiar, each capable and committed, willing to bring new ideas to the table, and also willing to work as we usher in what is to be our “new normal” for at least the near future. I believe that the guild is in very good hands indeed, and that we are on the right track and moving forward!

*Jeremy Bruns
Dean*

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Fall Special Events

In Person and Live-Streamed Concerts

www.youtube.com/c/methuenmemorialmusicall

Adults \$12 Children \$5 Cash or Credit at door

<http://mmmh.brownpapertickets.com> in advance

October 1: Fall Scholarship Concert – **Frederick Hohman**
(in Memory of Edward J. Sampson, Jr.)

October 4: Piano at Methuen – classical pianist **Renana Gutman**

October 15: Piano at Methuen – jazz pianist **John Chmaj**

World Premier of “Aurora” based on the Hall’s marble sculpture

November 10: Memorial Concert – **Fred MacArthur**, piano and organ
Neil Ferreira, tenor and **Richard Watson**, trumpet

 METHUENMEMORIALMUSICALL 192 Broadway (Rt. 28) Methuen www.mmmh.org



Boston Chapter AGO Presents
David Enlow, Organ

Exquisite Counterpoint 1750 - 1895

Music of Bach, Mozart, Schumann, & Elgar

Monday, October 18, 2021 7:00 PM

The Church of the Advent,
30 Brimmer Street, Boston, MA
Admission is Free
A light reception will follow

BAGO Chapter Event - David Enlow in Concert

Monday, October 18
7:00PM

The Church of the Advent
30 Brimmer Street, Boston MA

Join us for this month's program event - an in-person, long-awaited concert by David Enlow.

A light reception will follow the concert.

*Sponsored Content

Robert M. Thompson
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for Organ



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See Robert's website organmixtures.com for some amazing information.

SPAC

Special Project Advisory Committee

SPAC Application Dates Set

The Special Projects Advisory Committee has set the application deadlines for the coming program year. Applications must be submitted by **October 15, 2021** or **March 15, 2022**. The Committee considers projects for potential funding in the areas of education, concerts, new music, and organ building or restoration.

For more information or to apply, [click here](#)



Congratulations to Jonathan Wessler on attainment of AAGO Certification, AAGO Prize, and S. Lewis Elmer Award

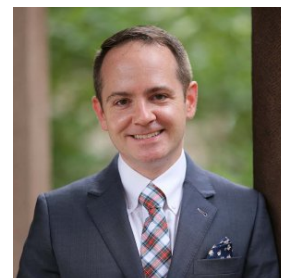
We congratulate Jonathan Wessler, Chapter Member and Kantor at the First Lutheran Church of Boston for attainment of Associate Certification of the AGO (AAGO). In addition, Jonathan was awarded both the AGO AAGO Prize (for the highest overall score on the AAGO Exam, both sections) and the S. Lewis Elmer Award given each year to the person who attains the highest score in either

Associateship or Fellowship examination. In addition to a handsome certificate affirming the honor, a cash award is made.

Congratulations Jonathan!

Congratulations to Colin Lynch as winner of The Masterworks Music and Art Foundation Award Competition.

The Masterworks Music and Art Foundation has honored Colin Lynch as its Premier Awardee for Organ. The award is presented for musicianship and advocacy for organ performance. The award is designed to aid an emerging musician specializing in organ with his/her career aspirations and development. To learn more about the award, read Colin's interview, and hear his competition submission, [click here](#).





OHS Kaleidoscope of Colors

Kaleidoscope of Colors; A Festival of Pipes presented by the Organ Historical Society has been broadcast on the five Sundays in August. They lined up 15 pipe organs across the country in 14 different states

covering three centuries of organ building. Our Chapter's SPAC Fund helped to sponsor this convention.

All five shows into a "playlist" which can be found here:

<https://organhistoricalsociety.org/kaleidoscope-of-colors/>

Please "**read the instructions**" in order to access the videos. Alternately, they can be found on the OHS YouTube channel. These recordings are available free of charge until Thanksgiving.

Election year 2022

Per our Operating Procedures, the Chapter will vote in 2022 for a new Executive Committee (EC) and 3 new Members-at-Large. The New EC members serve for 2 years, and the Members-at-Large serve 4 years.

Will you consider serving our Chapter in an Elected Office? The Offices and duties are listed in our Operating Procedures ([click here](#)) starting on page 5.

A Nominating Committee has been named. Led by **Andrew Clarkson** and **Terry Halco**, this committee will reach out to Chapter Members and ask for consideration in standing for election.

If you are interesting in leading our Chapter, please contact one of our Nominating Committee chairs [Andrew Clarkson](#) or [Terry Halco](#).



2021-2022 Executive Committee Meeting Dates

The dates for the Executive Committee Meetings have been set. The meetings will be at 2:30 on Mondays via ZOOM (unless otherwise specified) on:

Nov 15 (SPAC review)
Jan 31
April 25 (SPAC review)

All Chapter Members are welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending, please contact Dean [Jeremey Bruns](#)

Moving On

We say goodbye to **Robert August**, who is moving to Fort Worth, TX. Best wishes on your new endeavors.



We also welcome **Andrew Scanlon**, who is appointed associate organist-choirmaster for the Church of the Advent, Boston. Andrew leaves his roles as organ professor at East Carolina University and organist-choirmaster at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Greenville, NC where he has served since 2009. Congratulations Andrew!



Have you taken a new position? Let us know! To submit your information, [click here](#)



New SPAC Board Member

Please welcome **Jack Russell** as the newest SPAC Board member. He will serve a term of 5 years, and will help evaluate applications for funding. Jack is the Director of Music at Church of Christ of Hamilton and Wenham.

Congratulations Jack!

2021 BAGO Chapter Opening Service

For the first time in well over a year, Chapter members met for an official event in person at Saint Cecilia Parish in Boston for a Festival Service of Installation for Chapter Officers. This was a welcome occasion to celebrate all the work we do in the Chapter, and in our various ministries of music-making.



The service featured organ and choral works by Chapter members and other local composers, including Carson Cooman, Richard Webster, Patricia Van Ness, Louise Munding, James Woodman, and Thomas Mellan. The choral ensemble *et al.*, conducted by Kevin Neel, co-artistic director, beautifully sang two *a cappella* works and led the congregation in hymns. Organists Carson Cooman, Louise Munding, and Thomas Mellan elicited a rich palette of colors and timbres from the Smith & Gilbert (1999) organ.

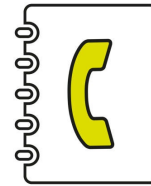
Such an impressive display of talent in the live acoustic of Saint Cecilia, together with the opportunity to meet colleagues in person (with face coverings and appropriate distancing!) made this a truly memorable beginning to the Chapter's program year. We look forward to many more excellent events to come!

To view the order of service, [click here](#)

—Jeffrey Mills, Registrar

Fall 2021 Chapter Membership Directory Published

The 2021 Fall Directory is now on our website under the Members Area. You will need the updated password to access it. If you have been late in paying your AGO dues, your name may not appear in the Directory.



Dates have been updated!

BAGO Events for the 2021 - 2022 Program Year

Even amidst uncertainty around the nature of the coronavirus pandemic, BAGO is delighted to offer a number of exciting events to its members and the broader Boston community during the program year ahead. We ask for your patience, as some details and formats could change in response to altered contexts. In this Year of the Young

Organist, we look forward to providing opportunities for youth and young adults to engage with the many talented artists featured in this year's programs. Watch Pippings for more information and updates!

Monday, October 18, 7PM — Recital by David Enlow at The Church of the Advent
A light reception will follow. Please plan to join us in person for this long-awaited concert by Mr. Enlow.

Saturday, November 13, 10AM (location TBD) — Repertoire Swap
Join fellow BAGO members for a repertoire swap! Players will be invited to sign up in advance to share a favorite "prelude" or "postlude" with those gathered.

Friday, December 31, 3PM; 6:30 and 8PM — First Night at Old South Church
With the Mother Church Extension closed for renovations, BAGO members and friends are invited to attend this year's First Night events at Old South Church:
3PM — "The King of Instruments," a family-friendly demonstration-concert featuring the "Copley Philharmonic Organ"
6:30 and 8PM: Pipes and Pops, featuring music for Brass and Organ

Sunday, January 9, 5PM — Holiday Potluck
BAGO Past-Dean Louise Munding has invited us to her home for a potluck holiday party. Watch for details in Pippings.

Saturday, February 12, 10AM — Masterclass with Dr. David Hurd
Few living have contributed more to American sacred and organ music than Dr. David Hurd, formerly of General Theological Seminary and now organist of The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin in Times Square, New York City. His Masterclass for BAGO will be one not to miss!

March — Bach Birthday Bash at First Lutheran Church of Boston
BAGO is thrilled to continue its co-sponsorship of First Lutheran's annual Bach Birthday Bash. The German Lunch is back! Activities include:

- *Jonathan Wessler playing all of the Orgel-Büchlein*
- *A set "Bach In the 19th Century" featuring two authentic late-19th-century pianos and Rheinberger's arrangement of the Goldberg Variations for 2 pianos, 4 hands*
- *Vespers with the cantata Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit (Actus tragicus), BWV 106.*

Saturday, April 30, beginning at 9:30AM — A Boston Walking Tour
Beginning at 9:30 a.m., we'll survey and hear demonstrations of three lesser-known local treasures:

- *Saint Mary's Charlestown (1894 Cole & Woodberry, restored by Andover)*
- *Saint Joseph's "West End" (1883 Hook & Hastings)*
- *Park Street Church (1960 Aeolian-Skinner, revised Spencer Organ Co. 2012-present)*

Saturday, May 21, beginning at 10AM — *Scott Dettra Plays Franck at Methuen*
 BAGO celebrates César Franck's bicentennial with a full day of programming

- *the complete organ works of Franck, in two recitals by Scott Dettra*
- *lecture by Dr. Christopher Anderson of Southern Methodist University, on the reception of Franck's organ music in 19th and 20th-century German organ circles.*

This event will take place in the sumptuous Methuen Memorial Music Hall, which this year celebrates its 75th year as a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the hall and the promotion of the Great Organ.

Mitchell Crawford
Program Chair



Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome **Jennifer Velazquez, MM ESM** as a new member to our Chapter, transferring in from the Memphis Chapter, AGO.

We also welcome Young Organist **Andrew Byers** to our Chapter.

We ask new members to write a bit about themselves so we get to know them.

Jennifer Velazquez writes:

Jennifer and her husband moved to Boston last month from Memphis, TN, to be closer to their daughter, son-in-law, and 2-year-old grandson. For the past 23 years, Jennifer served as fulltime Organist and Associate Director of Worship and Music Ministries at Independent Presbyterian Church. As part of the church's vibrant music program, she performed major works such as *Messiah*, *Elijah*, *The Creation*, the Brahms *Requiem*, Mozart's *Coronation Mass* and Rutter's *Gloria*. She has also been active as a solo performer in the US, England, and the Ukraine and has performed with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra and the Westminster Brass. Jennifer has a Master of Music degree in Organ Performance from Eastman School of Music, where she studied with Russell Saunders and Michael Farris. She received her Bachelor of Music degree from Houghton College, having studied with Susan Klotzbach and also with Graham Elliott at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Jennifer is excited to be in Boston and looks forward to becoming part of the organ community here.

Abigail (Abby) Schoope writes:

Abigail (Abby) Schoppe is currently a member-at-large on the executive committee of the Merrimack Valley AGO chapter, but is glad to also be resuming her membership in the Boston chapter as a dual-chapter member. Abby holds a BFA in Piano Performance from Carnegie Mellon University but has also been playing the organ since high school. Over the past 25 years, she has served in a variety of denominations; she is now in her 11th year as the Director of Music at Faith Lutheran Church in Andover, MA, where she plays organ and piano and leads an adult choir, a children's choir, and three graded handchime/handbell choirs. Abby also maintains a large piano studio, serving students of all ages and abilities.

With Appreciation

The Boston Chapter would like to acknowledge and thank the following Chapter members who generously



contributed additional monies to fund chapter programs and operations. These donations are above and beyond dues payment, and are directed toward General Operations (O), Educational Programs (E), the Organ Library (L), and the Young Organist Initiative (YOI). This year, these funds have contributed to our monthly Programs, outreach to our Young Organists, and the continued operations of the Organ Library.

We are deeply grateful to the following people for donations made in September:

Catherine Grein (O)
Joshua Lawton (E)
Amy Lepak (O,E,L)
Linda Lyster (O,E,L)
Permelia Sears (E)

Late in paying Dues?

AGO Headquarters allows a 3 month grace period to pay dues. After that time, your membership is removed from active status. If your membership has lapsed, you may also have been removed from our substitute list or our instructor list.

If you wish to be added back in to the substitute list, please [click here](#).
If you wish to be added to the instructor list, please [click here](#)



Job Placement News

In the "Members Area" of the BAGO Chapter website, we maintain a list of current job openings from churches and institutions that have chosen to list with us. These job openings are for Chapter Members only. If we have no current openings, that will be noted on the website.

Please check frequently if you are seeking employment, as new listings can come in at any time. Listings are posted for 6 months, or until the position is filled.

'So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, adieu'

Claire DeCusati is stepping down as editor of Pipings and as Facebook administrator, effective with this edition.

Thank you for the support and help I have received over the last many years as editor. I have enjoyed passing along Chapter News to members. I will stay on as Election Coordinator and Webmaster.



*With best wishes,
Claire DeCusati*

Welcome to our new editor of Pipings

We welcome **John Roper** as our new Editor and Facebook Administrator. He is a student, computer developer, and pipe organ historian. Currently a sophomore organ scholar at



Assumption University in Worcester, he is interested in the instrument from both musical and technical sides. John has done pipe organ related computer work for the OHS, AGO, and a few organ builders. Additionally, John is a pipe organ researcher and student member of the American Institute of Organ Builders (having worked with Orloff Organ Company and Smith and Gilbert Organ Builders). John hopes that his work will bring greater attention to the pipe organ and is excited to take on the role of Pipings Editor and Social Media coordinator. John is also a YOI graduate and a Young Organist member.

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