



LA PIPELINE

The monthly newsletter of the Los Angeles Chapter
American Guild of Organists

January 2024

OUR NEXT EVENT SATURDAY, JANUARY 20 ORGAN & CHORAL FESTIVAL IN HONOR OF DR. FRED SWANN

Lunch 12:30 PM

Prelude 1:30 PM

Choral Service 2 PM



Christ Cathedral

13280 Chapman Ave., Garden Grove

Presented by the Mark Thallander Foundation and
Co-sponsored by the Los Angeles and Orange County
Chapters of the American Guild of Organists

Sing, pray, and worship at this ecumenical service in honor of the
repose of the soul Dr. Fred Swann, Organist-Emeritus of Christ
(Crystal) Cathedral. This service will feature Festival Organist
Bradley Hunter Welch, internationally-acclaimed organist and of-
ficial organist for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.

BOX LUNCH \$20

payable at the door

Cultural Center on the Christ Campus

Fresh Seasonal Fruit

Chocolate Chip Cookie

Grilled Vegetable Pasta Salad With Balsamic Vinaigrette

Bottled Water

Choice of Sandwich Served on a Large Ciabatta

Roast Beef (with Lettuce, Tomato, and Cheddar), Grilled Chicken & Pesto,
Classic Caprese (vegetarian)

IN THIS ISSUE

Our Next Event	1
From the Dean	2
News and Events.....	3
Our December Event	4
Classifieds	6
Calendar.....	7

Please RSVP for lunch by

Monday, January 15

Include your sandwich selection:

roast beef, chicken, or caprese/vegetarian

RGSchertle@gmail.com or (323) 828-3633

Since lunches are being pre-ordered, please let us know if you wish to
cancel your RSVP so we can accommodate others.

FROM THE DEAN

KEVIN CARTWRIGHT

I am happy to be able to take this opportunity to wish each of you a Happy New Year and extend my best wishes for a prosperous and creative New Year. I realize I am not alone in stating the year 2023 was a year of change – in many cases drastic change – for many of us. It is easy to assume the word

A New Year and a New Perspective of Change *A Farewell Message from the Dean*

“change,” especially the phrase “drastic change,” might have a negative connotation, but to the contrary these words can ring as positive with the right perspective. I’d like to invite you to reflect on 2023 and remember the changes which have occurred in your life, whether positive or negative.

What do we do with these changes? What do we do with changes in our churches, performance groups, and our artistic community? Do we recoil and resist? Do we proceed cautiously and conservatively? Do we embrace change and progress forward? Of course, our response will justifiably vary based on the nature and consequences of the change. But our response particularly depends on our state of mind when we observe or participate in change. There has been a lot of discussion about change within the AGO leadership structure, change in our policies following the now-infamous FTC settlement, and other changes which naturally flow with time. I observe that in many cases our initial reaction to change is often negative, resistive, and met with suspicion. But it doesn’t need to be. If we view our world with negativity and resistance, then it is natural our initial reaction to anything new will be negative and resistant. If we view our world from a position of hope and peace, with balanced criticism and trust for forward progress, the changes around us simply will not cause so much stress.

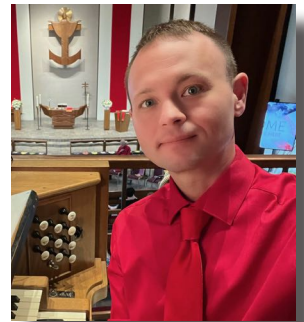
I frequently observe conversations throughout the AGO and other common interest groups which commiserate about “how things used to be,” then criticize how things are today. Isn’t it funny how we have learned to uplift the good and filter the negative from our past, yet it seems so difficult to do so in our present? In my December 2023 message, I encouraged everyone to be a light unto the darkness around us as we so symbolize with the candles we light on our menorahs and in our churches during the shortening of days, just as we symbolize with the celebrations of Hannukah: festival of lights, and Advent: the promised coming of a new Light unto the world. This New Year I would like to encourage each of you to apply

this principle to the changes we see around us: will you celebrate the lengthening of our days, or will you lament our continued plunge into the cold of winter? Can you imagine the beauty and joy of Easter and the accompanying springtime as you plan your music during this dark, cold season of the year?

Can you lose yourself while planning for the festive seasons of Advent and Christmas, Hannukah, and the general holiday season during the oppressive heat of summertime? Are you experiencing changes in your own parishes and music programs, and are they positive or negative? Are these changes possibly negative for you due to your perspective?

I can’t answer any of the preceding questions for you; it is up to you to apply your own perspective to both past and future changes. The new year is only a symbolic moment where we acknowledge the past year and its changes, hope for a good year to come, and when we wish each other well to mark the occasion. But don’t let your hopes and dreams for the new year stop shortly after January 1. My wish for each of you is: may you keep your light aglow year-round; may you see the good in everyone and every place; may you take any backward steps back in stride with the hope of the coming steps forward; and may you never give up hope for the world to come.

Now that you’ve read this far, I am sure you are wondering what the term “farewell” in the title of this message is about. In 2023 I also embarked on a significant journey of change, a journey which will have a long-lasting impact on my life, worldview, and professional path. Change began for me in late winter of 2023, and what an avalanche of change it was. Between career changes, relationship changes, a widespread re-alignment of friendships and social circles, and a large amount of self-realization, the collective changes in my life are calling me away from Los Angeles. I hoped to remain in the Los Angeles area until my retirement, but God apparently has a different plan which He set into motion this past spring. When doors closed in some areas, others were opened shortly thereafter. One thing about which I am glad is my trust in God to lead me in the direction He wanted me to follow, never doubting where it may lead even when I could not see my next calling. In the fullness of time my new call was revealed, and after a period of careful discernment I am making the bittersweet announcement of my



Kevin Cartwright

Continued...

permanent departure from the Los Angeles area in January of 2024, bound for the Northeastern United States in order to continue doing what I do best: tuning and maintaining pipe organs, and nothing else.

So, to follow my own lesson from this month's Dean's Message, I am choosing to focus on the positive elements of this change, as large as the challenges may be. After all, I am from the East Coast and I will be a one-seat train ride from family.

The liturgical music scene in the region is that with which I am best accustomed from childhood and early adulthood. Of course, the weather is not ideal, the people aren't Los Angeles

people, and there is no chapter of the AGO anywhere quite like the Los Angeles Chapter. I will dearly miss seeing all of you on a regular basis, and I am eternally grateful to our chapter for putting its trust in me over the past eight seasons. As bittersweet as departing may be, I am happy with my new calling, and I am positive it will bring fulfillment and wonderful new experiences. I will be back to visit Los Angeles quite regularly, however, and I look forward to seeing everyone at various LA AGO events this season and next.

Blessings, Peace, and Prosperity in the New Year.

NEWS AND EVENTS

LINDA WEST BROWN NAMED HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBER



Congratulations to Dr. Linda West Brown who was named an honorary lifetime member of the Los Angeles chapter at our December meeting. Linda completed an exceptional term as Education, Certification, and OrgelKids coordinator for our chapter.

We extend appreciation and congratulations!

NEWS FROM JAMES WALKER IN PORTLAND OREGON

Greetings to my Los Angeles colleagues from Portland Oregon! Having been elected to the executive committee (they moved quickly!) of the Portland AGO chapter, I'm getting well connected here. The First Sunday of Advent was a particularly joyful experience, as I was invited to play for the service celebrating Fred Beal's 20th anniversary as organist at the Episcopal Parish of St. John the Baptist. All the music for the Choral Eucharist on December 3, 2023 was selected by Fred, who was given the day to worship "from the pew," in the midst of the congregation. I was delighted and honored to be the guest organist for the day; the choral and organ music included works by Bach, Stanford, Gigout and Harris. Douglas and I are well-settled into our "next chapter" life in the Pacific Northwest. I do miss my long-time LA AGO colleagues and hope to visit sometime soon. All best wishes for a joy-filled 2024.



Mark your calendars for the AGO 2024 national convention to be held in San Francisco June 30 through July 4. Register now through January 31 to receive the early bird rate of \$595 - a \$100 savings! Take advantage of a reduced hotel rate and a 5% Alaska airline discount.



Extend your stay! The AGO group hotel rate of \$169 per night is available both before and after the convention dates, from June 23 through July 10. Before and after the convention, take the opportunity to enjoy San Francisco sights, neighborhoods, and restaurants, as well as sporting events, museums, shopping, and concerts. Asking your employer for funds to attend the convention? Download and adapt our [model financial support request letter](#) to use when requesting financial support to attend the 2024 AGO National Convention.

Click [HERE](#) to register.

OUR DECEMBER EVENT

Monday, December 4, 2023 - Holiday Party

Click [HERE](#) to view the program.

The Los Angeles Chapter celebrated the holidays at St. Paul's Commons (previously the Cathedral Center of St. Paul) in Echo Park on December 4. The program included carolers, an eclectic array of seasonal literature using organ, harpsichord, sackbut ensemble, hurdy-gurdys, and voice.

Participants included Alexandra Ophsal (cornetto), Brad Close, Nick Daley, and Noah Gladstone (sackbuts), Curtis Berak and Taryn Spink (hurdy-gurdy), Edward Murray and Zach Neufeld (organ and harpsichord), Evan Griffith (piano and organ), Marina Harris (soprano), and "A Little Dickens Carolers" directed by Leanna Brand.

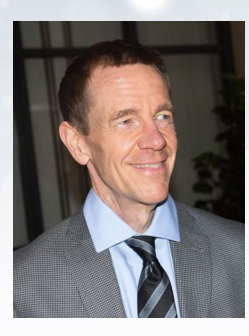
Composers included Frescobaldi, Praetorius, Speer, Handel, Drischner, Mozart, Daquin, Bach, Adam, Gruber, and Griffith. An original composition for baritone and soprano was premiered by Evan Griffith, newly appointed organist-music director of St. Athanasius Chapel at St. Paul's Commons.

The program ended with all invited to join in singing Silent Night.

The program objective was to give the audience a diverse array of music that was both uplifting and entertaining. The use of uncommon instruments (sackbut, cornetto, hurdy-gurdy) provided colorful renditions of familiar literature. Marina Harris' beautiful soprano voice provided contrast to the instruments with three familiar songs. The facilities at St. Paul Commons provided all the elements needed for congenial and intimate surroundings not available in most liturgical settings.

The LA AGO thanks all who contributed to this wonderful event, including the 2023-2024 Program Committee: Scott Anderson (chair), Stanley Harris, Edmond Johnson, Sean O'Neal, Manuel Rosales, and Ty Woodward.

-- Event report submitted by Manuel Rosales



Continued...



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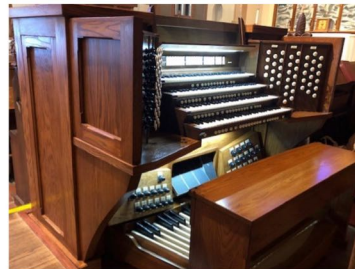
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Want to access the directory and jobs listing? You need to be an active LA Chapter member. [Click below to log in or request your personal account!](#)

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LOGIN HELP

JOIN THE AGO!

Not a member? We invite you to join the AGO with a Los Angeles Chapter affiliation to receive access to our on-line directory, jobs listing, a subscription to The American Organist, and much more. Membership in the American Guild of Organists is open to all - professional organists and choir directors, students, and organ enthusiasts alike - regardless of musical ability or denominational affiliation. See our website for more information. <https://www.laago.org/membership>

Not ready for membership? You can join our non-member mailing list here: <https://www.laago.org/non-member-mailing-list>

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- Download the directory (members only)
- View current and past newsletters
- Access the on-line calendar (always up to date!)
- Listen to LA AGO podcasts
- Browse fascinating historical photos
- ...and much more!

CALENDAR

Calendar items may be submitted on the LA AGO website at <https://www.laago.org/calendar-submit>. The Submission deadline to include in the newsletter is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Please review listing guidelines before submitting. Entries may be edited for size and content. Visit the on line calendar at <https://www.laago.org/calendar> for the most recent updates.

Sun Jan 14, 2024

4:15pm - 5:15pm Solemn Evensong

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd
Los Angeles CA 90010

Description: Choir of St. James', James Buonemani, director. Live-stream and OnDemand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sat Jan 20, 2024

1:30pm - 3:30 pm Organ & Choral Festival [LA AGO]

Where: Christ Cathedral 13280 W Chapman Ave, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Description: Lunch: 12:30, Prelude: 1:30, Service: 2:00. Please see the January newsletter for complete details.

Sun Jan 21, 2024

6pm - 7pm International Laureates Organ Series presents Ryan Chan, Organist

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90010

Description: Live-stream and On Demand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sun Feb 4, 2024

7:30pm - 8:30pm Festival Choral Evening Prayer

Where: Church of the Good Shepherd 504 N Roxbury Dr, Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Description: Observance of the 15th Anniversary of Noack Opus 151. Choral music of Paulus, Howells, and other ecumenical sources. Organ music from the 17th-21st centuries. Parking free in Santa Monica Blvd. structures. <https://www.gsbh.org/directions>. Contact Terry Hicks, Music Director: thicks@gsbh.org, office #310-285-5425 x 1005. Free.

Sun Feb 11, 2024

4:15pm - 5:15pm Solemn Evensong

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd Los Angeles CA 90010

Description: Choir of St. James', James Buonemani, director. Live-stream and OnDemand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Mon Feb 19, 2024

9am - 3pm Presidents' Day Organ Festival [LA AGO]

Description: Torrance and Palos Verdes area organs. Details to be announced in LA AGO newsletter and on website.

Sun Feb 25, 2024

4pm - 5:30pm Olivier Latry, Organist

Where: Claremont United Church of Christ 233 W Harrison Ave, Claremont, CA 91711

Description: Olivier Latry, Organiste Titulaire de Notre-Dame de Paris, in concert on the Glatter-Goetz/Rosales organ. Compositions by Bach, Dupré, Vierne, and more. Plus an improvisation. Tickets available at claremontucc.org/ concerts. \$35 general/\$25 senior/ \$15 student suggested donation.

Sun Mar 10, 2024

4:15pm - 5:15pm Solemn Evensong

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd Los Angeles CA 90010

Description: Choir of St. James', James Buonemani, director. Live-stream and OnDemand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sun Mar 17, 2024

6pm - 7pm International Laureates Organ Series presents Nicole Keller, Organist

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90010

Description: Live-stream and On Demand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sun Mar 24, 2024

4:15pm - 5:15pm Solemn Evensong

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd Los Angeles CA 90010

Description: Palm Sunday Solemn Evensong sung by visiting choir, ICantori of Walla Walla University, Dr. Kraig Scott, director. Live-stream and On Demand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free

Sun Apr 7, 2024

6pm - 7pm International Laureates Organ Series presents Adam Brakel, Organist

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90010

Description: Live-stream and On Demand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sun Apr 14, 2024

3pm - 4pm A Celebration of Frederick Swann [LA AGO]

Where: First Congregational Church of Los Angeles 540 S Commonwealth Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90020

Description: Details to be announced in LA AGO newsletter and on our website.

4pm - 5:30pm Path of Miracles by Joby Talbot

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90010

Description: Choir of St. James' and guests, Maura Tuffy, Guest Conductor, perform this captivating music capturing the pilgrims' sights and stories of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela. Live-stream and On Demand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sun May 12, 2024

4:15pm - 5:15pm Solemn Evensong

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd Los Angeles CA 90010

Description: Choir of St. James', James Buonemani, director. Live-stream and OnDemand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sun May 26, 2024

6pm - 7pm International Laureates Organ Series presents Bruce Neswick, Organist [LA AGO]

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90010

Description: Live-stream and On Demand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free. Co-sponsored by St. James Church and the Los Angeles chapter of the AGO.

Sun Sep 1, 2024

5pm - 6pm Choral Evensong

Where: All Saints' Episcopal Church (Beverly Hills, California) 504 N Camden Dr, Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Description: A service of Choral Evensong sung by the All Saints' Choir. June Nixon- Oculi Omnium, Humphrey Clucas - Preces & Responses, Joanna ForbesL'Estrange - King's College Service, C.V. Stanford - Coronation Gloria. Free.