



# LA PIPELINE

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

May 2023

## OUR NEXT EVENTS

### IMPROVISATION WORKSHOP

WITH

**ETHAN HAMAN**

**SATURDAY, MAY 6, 9:30 - 2:00**

Ethan's title for this day is *Grammatical Structure for our Noodling: Refining improvised musical energy through counterpoint and forms*. Whether it is extending a communion piece on Sunday morning, creating a postlude, or dazzling an audience with an improvised concert encore, Ethan will guide us with his tried-and-true improvisation exercises and methods, giving us expanded ideas and skills to be used in practical ways. This workshop is designed for all levels of playing experience.

#### WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 9:30 – 10:00  | Meet and greet coffee time (sanctuary transept)      |
| 10:00 – 11:30 | Lecture/demonstration (sanctuary)                    |
| 11:30 – 12:30 | Lunch (Carlson Center)                               |
| 12:30 – 2:00  | Improvisation workshop with participants (sanctuary) |

If you would like to play for the afternoon session, you may prepare something in advance of no more than 5 minutes (e.g., a liturgical prelude on a hymn, an interlude between verses of a hymn, transition from an offertory to the doxology, a postlude, or another substantial form like a symphonic movement) or try out any of the exercises presented in the morning session. You can do both if desired. Lunch cost is \$10.00 (payable at the event). **Please RSVP with name and phone number to Linda Brown by May 3 to make a lunch reservation and/or register to be a participant: 562-631-8160 or [lindawestbrown@gmail.com](mailto:lindawestbrown@gmail.com).**

### GLENDALE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

401 E Broadway, Glendale, CA 91206

~ Two Extraordinary Events | One Exciting Venue ~

### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

AND

### IMPROVISED RECITAL

BY

**ETHAN HAMAN**

**MONDAY, MAY 8**

Social Hour 6:15 | Dinner 6:45 | Recital 8:00

See next page for recital details.

#### DINNER

\$15 payable at the door

**Please RSVP for dinner by Friday, May 5**  
[RGSchertle@gmail.com](mailto:RGSchertle@gmail.com) / (323) 828-3633

#### Menu

- Chicken Marsala - Chicken Medallions Covered in a Marsala Wine, Roasted Mushrooms, Garlic and Parsley Reduction
- Vegetarian Mushroom Rigatoni Pasta with Fried Sage
- Rigatoni Cacio y Pepe – Rigatoni with Parmesan and Black Pepper Roasted Broccoli with Garlic, Chili Flake
- Lemon Garlic Bread with Pecorino & Chili Flakes
- Vegetarian Italian Chopped Salad Red Wine and Herb Vinaigrette
- Crudité & Dip Assortment Platter
- Apple Cobbler and Peach Crumble
- Graham Cracker Crust Cheesecake with Berry Coulis
- Coffee and Tea, Soft Drinks, Water

\* Alcoholic beverages will not be served at this event. \*

## FROM THE SUB-DEAN



**Scott Anderson**

Come to a rare concert experience on Monday, May 8th at 8:00 p.m. at Glendale First United Methodist Church when organist Ethan Haman will perform an entirely improvised recital. Thirty minutes in advance of the recital, Mr. Haman will be handed materials for improvisation. Elements will include a hymn tune to improvise on before the audience joins in singing, a German Baroque chorale on which to base a prelude and fugue, a Gregorian chant hymn for a French Classical hymn suite, a hymn from the English tradition to turn into a spritely trumpet voluntary, and three melodies to complete a five-movement organ symphony. Mr. Haman feels the recital will give the audience the opportunity to hear many different historical styles in improvisation, which he will have spoken about in his workshop on Saturday, May 6. Don't miss an extraordinary young artist in this memorable event.

### A Completely Improvised Recital by Ethan Haman



**Ethan Haman**

Click [HERE](#) to read about Ethan Haman

## ELECTIONS

Election of officers for the 2023-2024 program year are being held between April 24 and May 5. As this is an odd-numbered year, only the new class of Members-at-Large are up for election. There are three classes of Members-at-Large, each serving a 3-year term. LA Chapter members may review candidate profiles in the [April 2023 newsletter](#).

Don't forget to vote! If you are eligible to vote in the current elections, you should have received an email with an online voting link. If you have not received your email, or wish to arrange for an alternate voting method, please reach out to our dean, Kevin Cartwright, at:

[kevin.r.cartwright@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.r.cartwright@gmail.com)

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Los Angeles Chapter members - take advantage of your online account on our website, [www.laago.org](http://www.laago.org), to gain access to the jobs listings and online directory.

Latest jobs listing updated April 17

Los Angeles Chapter members - sign up for your account!

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!

Login/Sign up

LOGIN HELP

### Please RSVP for our May event meals

#### Improvisation Workshop Lunch

Please RSVP for lunch by Wednesday, May 3  
[lindawestbrown@gmail.com](mailto:lindawestbrown@gmail.com) / 562-631-8160

#### Installation and Recital Dinner

Please RSVP for dinner by Friday, May 5  
[RGSchertle@gmail.com](mailto:RGSchertle@gmail.com) / (323) 828-3633

## FEATURED ORGAN

### GLENDALE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Schantz Organ Company, Project #488

by Peter Fennema, based on interviews with Dr. Ladd Thomas and online research.

The new cathedral-like sanctuary for the First Methodist Church of Glendale was completed in 1961. Designed by the architectural firm Flewelling and Moody, this Mid-Century Modern edifice features gothic form and dimensions, 40-foot-high stained-glass windows, a folded roof, and a 112-foot prism-shaped “Trilon” tower in front. An organ suitable for the space had been contracted with the Schantz Organ Company in 1958 but plans were placed on hold due to cost overruns of the ambitious building project. As a temporary solution, an electronic organ was installed, later replaced with a four-rank Schantz unit pipe organ (placed in the future Swell Division space), aggressively voiced to be as effective as possible in the large room. As the result of a fund-raising campaign and generous financing terms by Schantz, the new organ of 57 ranks (Schantz project #488) was ultimately installed in time for the 1962 AGO National Convention. Click [HERE](#) to view the original 1962 specification.

In 1972 the organ was redesigned and enlarged to 81 ranks by Schantz. Enhancements included the addition of a *Positiv* Division (replacing the *Brustwerk*) and a new mixture and reeds on the Great Division. Click [HERE](#) to view the resulting 1972 specification.

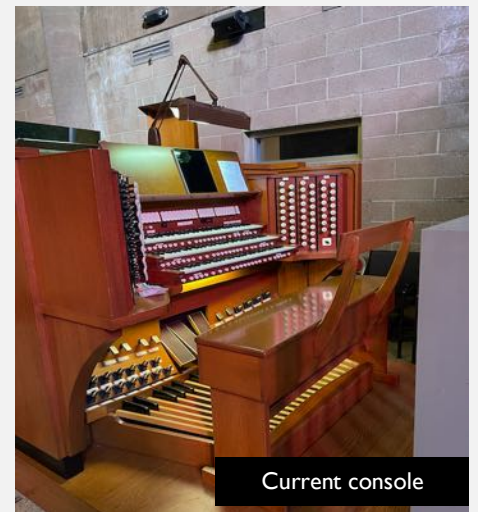
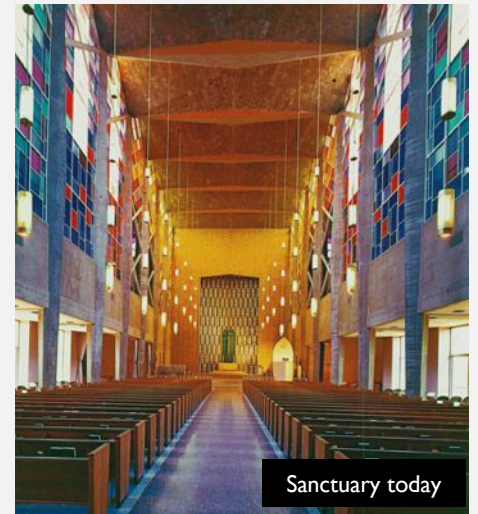
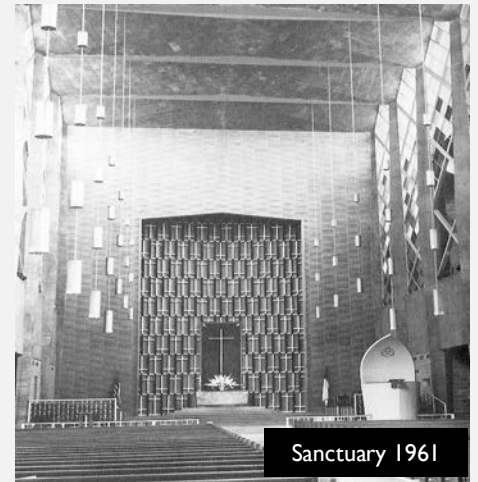
Jack Bethards, President and Tonal Director of the San Francisco based organ builder Schoenstein & Co., was later contracted to complete a full assessment of the organ’s condition and to project future maintenance needs. This resulted in a recommendation to replace the console at some point (in addition to other maintenance projects) and the plan received support of the church’s board of trustees.

2004 saw the delivery of a new console by Schantz. This included updating all wiring in the organ and preparation for tonal expansion at some point in the future. The new console featured an electrically adjustable pedalboard. This unusual mechanism accommodates players of varying heights, which when combined with an electrically adjustable bench, allows the organist to achieve an ideal position relative to both the manuals and pedals. Jack Bethards (of Schoenstein & Co.) had developed his own version and generously shared his design with Schantz to be implemented in the new console.

In 2012 Schantz completed another project to tonally enhance the instrument to 84 ranks. Additions included a horizontally placed pedal Trombone 16’, a Bass Clarinet in the *Positiv*, and replacement of the Swell reeds (retaining the same names). In honor of Dr. Ladd Thomas’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as organist at the church (2010), the “Ladd Thomas Trumpet” was added as the only high-pressure reed on the instrument on 25 inches of wind. Click [HERE](#) to view the resulting 2012 specification, which represents the organ today.

The Glendale FUMC organ has been well-maintained over the years and tonally enhanced to meet the demands of the large architectural space. This is credited to ample support from the congregation and careful planning over time. Although there may be opportunities to improve the acoustic environment (somewhat hampered by substantial amounts of porous concrete block) the organ fills the room with significant reverberation. Its successful tonal design plays music of all periods of organ literature effectively and provides excellent liturgical and choral support. It is regularly used for teaching, practice, services, recitals, and concerts.

You’ll want to take advantage of the opportunity to hear this wonderful instrument at our May events at Glendale FUMC.



# DUES UPDATES

## FROM AGO NATIONAL



### NEW AGO DUES STRUCTURE: WHAT IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP WORTH?



I love to shop; however, I am a true bargain hunter. I am always searching for the cheapest gas, comparing food prices at supermarkets, and looking for the best online deals. When I'm shopping in the designer area of a favorite department store, the first thing I do is look for the sale rack. In fact, *sale* is one of my favorite words—and I know how to say it in several different languages. My father's family worked in the garment industry in New York City, so *retail* was a dirty word. To quote Woody Allen, "Where did we come from? Where are we going? Is there possibility of a group discount?" By this time, you may be asking yourself, What does this have to do with my AGO membership and the forthcoming dues increase? I would say: a great deal.

I've tried many times to break down the cost of member benefits into a pie chart. In some cases this is easy to do. For example, we often get requests from someone who wishes to purchase a single copy of *THE AMERICAN ORGANIST*. The cost to purchase one issue (factoring in shipping charges) is \$12, so if you multiply this by twelve months, it equals **\$144**. Since March 2020, we have produced 38 webinars and workshops on personal and professional development, with topics including new methods of organ teaching, certification, gender equity, the legalities of streaming music, and working as a substitute organist, as well as a series on 20th-century organists and technology. We've also produced over 20 webinars and workshops geared toward young organists, as well as multiple chapter officer presentations and two virtual leadership conferences. Within the next few months, we will have new membership software and a new website that will allow us to charge nonmembers a fee to register for virtual programs. Many other professional associations have implemented charging a nonmember fee that can vary from \$30 to \$50 per program. If we calculate the cost to produce 38 webinars and workshops at \$35 each, it comes to **\$1,330**.

Throughout COVID, when many of you felt isolated, the AGO committed to investing in technology to strengthen member engagement and connectivity. We produced two annual online music festivals that featured performances by well-known artists, interviews with composers, workshops on a variety of topics, and opportunities for members to see one another at Zoom after-parties. I can't begin to calculate the amount of volunteer time and talent it cost to produce these magnificent weeklong events. The AGO's Career Center is one of the largest job boards in our industry and has helped many of you find both full- and part-time positions—and at no cost. If you upgrade your profile on LinkedIn so that it can more easily be found, it costs an additional **\$39.95** per month!

Lastly—and this was the most difficult—I attempted to calculate the ROI (return on investment) for members who have the opportunity to attend chapter programs and network. I came to realize that you can't assign a dollar amount to the deep relationships that many of you have formed throughout the years, because these benefits are priceless.

Your AGO membership is a true bargain, and I encourage you to take advantage of it as much as possible.

ELIZABETH GEORGE  
Chief Membership Officer

New Dues Structure, Effective July 1, 2023

| Membership Category      | Description                   | TAO Format     | National/Chapter Split | Total Dues |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|------------|
| Regular                  | Ages 30-64, full voting       | Print + online | \$75/45                | \$120*     |
|                          |                               | Online only    | \$67/45                | \$112*     |
| Special                  | Age 65 and older, full voting | Print + online | \$60/35                | \$95*      |
|                          |                               | Online only    | \$52/35                | \$87*      |
| Young Organist           | Under age 30, full voting     | Print + online | \$40/20                | \$60*      |
|                          |                               | Online only    | \$32/20                | \$52*      |
| Regular Dual             | 2nd chapter or more           | n/a            | \$0/45                 | \$45       |
| Special Dual             | 2nd chapter or more           | n/a            | \$0/35                 | \$35       |
| Young Organist Dual      | 2nd chapter or more           | n/a            | \$0/20                 | \$20       |
| National Subscriber      | Nonvoting                     | Print + online | n/a                    | \$85       |
|                          |                               | Online only    | n/a                    | \$77       |
| International Subscriber | Nonvoting                     | Print + online | n/a                    | \$105      |
|                          |                               | Online only    | n/a                    | \$77       |
| Lifetime Membership      |                               |                |                        | \$3,500    |

\* Independent members without chapter affiliation pay the total dues amount to AGO National Headquarters.

# NEWS & EVENTS

*LA Bronze* **2023 CONCERT SERIES**

SATURDAY MAY 20 4:00  
EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
6020 RADFORD AVE  
NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CA

SUNDAY MAY 21 4:00  
EL SEGUNDO METHODIST  
540 MAIN STREET  
EL SEGUNDO, CA

SUNDAY MAY 28 4:00  
RED HILL LUTHERAN  
13200 RED HILL AVE  
TUSTIN, CA



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WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 AT 7:30 P.M.

## Dr. Emma Whitten in Concert with the Hazel Wright Organ

Dr. Emma Whitten is an accomplished organist and church musician based in Southern California. Emma has performed on historic organs in Germany, Spain and the United Kingdom, as well as throughout the United States. Emma serves as Associate Organist at Christ Cathedral.

Christ Cathedral, 13280 Chapman Ave., Garden Grove, CA

[ChristCathedralMusic.org](http://ChristCathedralMusic.org)

## AGO WEST REGIONAL CONVENTION JULY 10 – 13, 2023

Mark your calendars for the AGO West Region Convention to be held July 10 – 13 in Portland. Registration is now open. Visit the convention website to explore the organs and events planned.

[www.agowest2023.com](http://www.agowest2023.com)



## CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads may be included in our newsletter for a fee. Please contact the editor at [laago@laago.org](mailto:laago@laago.org) for information.

# Rosales

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**Sean Coburn O'Neal, owner**

## GET IN TOUCH

- Submit newsletter and calendar items using the online forms at <https://www.laago.org/newsletter>. The submission deadline is the 15th of each month.
- Contact the LA chapter at [laago@laago.org](mailto:laago@laago.org)
- For more information about upcoming events, who we are, photos, history, and other great resources, please visit our website at [laago.org](http://laago.org).

## Visit our website!

[WWW.LAAGO.ORG](http://WWW.LAAGO.ORG)

- Find a substitute...or get on the list
- Join the teachers list...or find a teacher
- Find a job (members only)...or post a job
- Download the directory (members only)
- View past newsletters
- Access the online calendar (always up to date!)
- Listen to LAAGO 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>. Submission deadline to include in the newsletter is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the month of publication. Please visit the online calendar at <https://www.laago.org/calendar> for the most recent updates.

## WED MAY 3, 2023

**7:30pm - 9pm Emma Whitten, Organist**

**Where:** Christ Cathedral 13280 Chapman Ave Garden Grove CA 92840

**Description:** Dr. Emma Whitten is an accomplished organist and church musician based in Southern California. Emma has performed on historic organs in Germany, Spain and the United Kingdom, as well as throughout the United States. Emma serves as Associate Organist at Christ Cathedral. \$20. More information and tickets: <https://www.christcathedralmusic.org/yearofhazel>.

## SAT MAY 6, 2023

**9:30am - 2pm Ethan Haman Improvisation Workshop [LA AGO]**

**Where:** First United Methodist Church of Glendale, 401 E Broadway, Glendale, CA 91206.

**Description:** Lecture/demonstration and attendee participation on improvisation techniques. Free.

## SUN MAY 7, 2023

**4pm - 5pm Thomas Mellan, Organist**

**Where:** Saint Edmund's Episcopal Church 1175 S San Gabriel Blvd San Marino CA 91107

**Description:** Program includes transcriptions of Liszt, Reger, and Scriabin. FWO.

## MON MAY 8, 2023

**8pm - 9pm Ethan Haman, Organist and Installation of Officers [LA AGO]**

**Where:** Glendale First United Methodist Church 401 E Broadway, Glendale, CA 91206.

## FRI MAY 12, 2023

**7:30pm - 10pm Rudolf Muller, Organist**

**Where:** Stan's Music Parlor Lafayette Square mid-city LA. Private residence. Please reserve seats and receive address via Eventbrite.

**Description:** Rudolf Muller, German concert organist, plays Hauptwerk virtual organs. Please see <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rudolf-muller-german-concert-organist-plays-hauptwerk-organs-music-at-8-tickets-616708590997> for biography and program. Cost: Donation to musician.

## SUN MAY 14, 2023

**4:15pm - 5:15pm Solemn Evensong**

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

**Description:** The Choir of Saint James, under the direction of James Buonemani, performs this service in the style of the great English Cathedrals. Visit GreatMusicalLA.org for more information and live-stream. Free.

## SAT MAY 20, 2023

**4pm - 5:30pm L. A. Bronze in Concert**

**Where:** Emmanuel Lutheran Church 6020 Radford Ave Los Angeles CA 91606

**Description:** LA's premier handbell ensemble, LA Bronze, presents works by Bach, Bizet, Fauré, and Manz and original compositions for the instrument. Free will offering.

## SUN MAY 21, 2023

**4pm - 5pm Chapter Guild Service [Long Beach AGO]**

**Where:** Covenant Presbyterian Church 607 E Third St Long Beach CA 90802

**Description:** Featuring Howard Goodall's new work, "Unconditional Love - a Cantata of Gratitude and Remembrance" for soprano solo, SATB octet, piano, organ and brass ensemble.

**4pm - 5:30pm L.A. Bronze in Concert**

**Where:** El Segundo Methodist Church (Fellowship Hall) 540 Main Street El Segundo, CA

**Description:** LA's premier handbell ensemble, LA Bronze, presents works by Bach, Bizet, Fauré, and Manz and original compositions for the instrument. Free will offering.

## SUN MAY 28, 2023

**4pm - 5:30pm L.A. Bronze in Concert**

**Where:** Red Hill Lutheran Church 13200 Red Hill Ave Tustin CA 92780

**Description:** LA's premier handbell ensemble, LA Bronze, presents works by Bach, Bizet, Fauré, and Manz and original compositions for the instrument. Free will offering.