

#### Dean's Message - Nelson Dodge



When the LA AGO suddenly suspended in-person chapter meetings last year I never imagined the "shutdown" would last through an entire season. It feels like a lost year. I know many of you who have church and teaching jobs have worked harder than ever as churches and schools pivoted to "virtual" ways of operating. The creativity and talent I've observed is impressive.

LA AGO's "virtual" operations have also involved more work and expense that I believe has helped to keep us connected while we've not been able to connect in person. I'm most appreciative of our guest artists' additional efforts to accommodate the video recoding process, our video producer Phil Jenkins, and Sub-dean Kevin Cartwright's additional efforts to coordinate it all. This was a lot of work, but through it all we've learned some new skills that I expect will continue to benefit the chapter as we return to more familiar operations. At this point, we anticipate that in-person meetings and dinners will resume in the Fall barring any further catastrophes, but I'm feeling positive about the possibilities.

Over the past year many of you have expressed your appreciation for our efforts to keep the Chapter connected through this time of great disconnection. All of us have been challenged creatively and timewise to do this, but what impresses me most is that so many of you took time to say "thank you." Although your e-mails and cards were personal and directed only to me, I want to acknowledge them here publicly and share your appreciation with the entire leadership of the Chapter for their extra effort—it was truly a team accomplishment!

Membership and contributions to the chapter have held up admirably throughout this year, for which I am also most grateful. Under the circumstances it might have been convenient for many to not renew their membership because they didn't see the value, or not make a donation this year for whatever reason, but that was not the case! Thanks to all of you, the Chapter membership and finances are healthy as we turn the corner into a new year that promises the kind of AGO "experience" we expect and enjoy.

Your continuing membership and support demonstrates that we are a strong chapter that I'm most proud to serve as Dean. I look forward to SEEING you in the Fall when we resume meeting!

The majority of LA members' renewal is July 1. Consider this your nudge to renew timely.

A reminder: 2021-22 is designated the "Year of the Young Organist" (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022). During these twelve months, any individual under the age of 30 can become a new member or renew their membership for FREE\*.

Go to <a href="https://www.laago.org/membership">https://www.laago.org/membership</a>, and click on JOIN NOW\*.

# **Sub-Dean's Message - Kevin Cartwright**

As our Dean mentioned in his letter, we are looking forward to returning to our traditional LAAGO events as we begin our 2021-2022 Season. We often release our program schedule at this point in our year, however planning for the 2021-2022 Season has been challenging. Artists and venues have understandably taken a cautious approach to confirming our proposed program plans, and for this reason we are still finalizing a few details before we release the official program schedule. I can, however, share some highlights of the forthcoming season.



Throughout our 2021-2022 season, we are eager to host Ken Cowan at a co-sponsored event with St. James in the City, a masterclass and recital by Tyrone Whiting of St. Martin in the Fields in Philadelphia, a masterclass with Christopher Houlihan, a return to our popular President's Day Organ Festival, and a performance by Chorale bel Canto directed by our very own Dr. Linda Brown. With these exciting highlights along with our usual slate of seasonal events, we are eager to see each of you in person when we may safely resume our in-person events.

We are also discussing our popular tradition of Guild dinners and how they may continue in compliance with health and safety regulations. While we may need to make some temporary food handling changes, the prospect of resuming our 2021-2022 season with Guild dinners is looking promising and we are working on a plan to resume our dinners in a safe manner as soon as possible.

I would like to wish each of you an enjoyable and productive summer, and I look forward to our return in the Fall of 2021.

#### **Summer Organ Concert Series!**

The program announcement from Yoojung Chung at Westwood UMC

The Westwood Sanctuary Music program is excited for the return of our Summer Organ Concert Series! We were disappointed to postpone the 2020 series, but we know the time away from our beautiful organ and space will make the 2021 series all that more special.

Three concerts will be presented on Sundays in July and August at 3:00pm with a limited number of in-person audience members and via livestream. Peter Bates, both the resident organist and the conductor at Covenant Presbyterian Church will kick-off the series on July 11th. The second concert includes Westwood UMC's organist Yoojung Chung on July 25 with Timothy Durkovic, internationally renowned pianist and Steinway Artist, who has performed on iconic stages including Disney Hall and the Kennedy Center. The third and final concert on August 8th will feature James Casey, organist at Saint Paul The Apostle Church and music teacher at St. James' Episcopal School.

Please mark your calendar for all three dates at 3PM and we will share a link as soon as it is ready.

Westwood United Methodist Church 10497 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90024 July 11th, July 25th, and August 8th at 3PM



# AGO ORGANFEST 2021

beauty endures

**JUNE 27-JULY 2, 8PM EASTERN** 

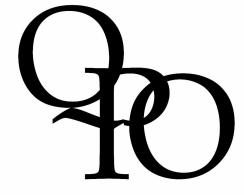
Presented by the American Guild of Organists

| agoorganfest2021.org

Major support for AGO OrganFest 2021 is provided by:



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Major support for Monday's AGO OrganFest 2021 presentation is provided by Indiana University Jacobs School of Music.



# JACOBS SCHOOI OF MUSIC

#### INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Bloomington

Major support for Friday's AGO OrganFest 2021 presentation is provided by Quimby Pipe Organs.

#### AGO/Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists Chapter Competitions

The Los Angeles AGO Chapter hosted the Quimby RCYO Chapter Competition on April 10th, utilizing an asynchronous format with competitors submitting audio via a proctor.

Grant Smith, pursuing a double major in music and civil engineering at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, is this year's winner in the LAAGO chapter competition. Grant went on to represent the LAAGO in the west regional competition on May 8th where he placed second.

We express our gratitude and most sincere thanks to Dr. Timothy Howard, Dr. James Hurd, and Mr. Philip Hoch for adjudicating this year's LAAGO competition and to all who participated in the chapter competition.

#### Ben Mason Coordinator







Michele Eggleston



**June is Member Care Month!** 

People will forget what you have said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

Maya Angelou

In April 2020, the AGO launched Member Care Month. The goal was to strengthen member engagement and connectivity by calling every single member to let them know how much we care about them. This initiative was particularly important during COVID-19, as so many of our members were experiencing a sense of isolation and loneliness. It was a huge success, and in fact, several chapters have continued to do this monthly. Member Care Month will continue to be an annual AGO initiative. This year, it will be conducted throughout the month of June.

Elizabeth George, CMM
Director of Member Engagement & Chapter Development
The American Guild of Organists
elizabeth.george@agohq.org



Our friend **Dr. Frances "Frankiie" Nobert** has suffered a broken leg. We send her our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Well Wishes may be sent to: fnobert99organ@aol.com

Congratulations go out to **Dr. Jeffrey Parola** who has been appointed Director of Music at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Community, located in the Westwood neighborhood of Los Angeles

# It is with great sorrow that we acknoledge the passing of two of our long time chapter members

# Leland S. Burns, PhD 1933-2021

It was with great sadness that I learned that my friend and longtime LAAGO member, Dr. Leland S. Burns, has recently passed away in his Santa Monica Canyon home after a long illness.

For many years Dr. Burns was Professor of Urban Planning at UCLA. In his later years teaching he divided his time between UCLA and the University of Cambridge, England, where he lectured in the Department of Land Economy. He was the author of a number of highly-praised books in his field—some co-authored with others.

At least one of Lee's books was outside of his profession: "Busy Bodies: Why Our Time-obsessed Society Keeps Us Running in Place" (W.W. Norton, 1993) which is at once timely and most entertaining, with delightful illustrations by his friend Shinji Isozaki. The writing typifies both Lee's unique combination of discernment and his scintillating sense of humor. I remember a hilarious short piece he wrote some time ago for The American Organist, a spoof entitled "The Unison Off."

Lee was also an organist, who held positions at St. Vibiana's Cathedral, St. Paul the Apostle (Westwood), St. Mary's Episcopal (Palms), and other churches. I first knew him when he asked me to give him organ lessons in the mid-1950s, when I was at St. John's Episcopal Church (now Cathedral) on West Adams. Most of the lessons were at St. John's, but occasionally (at his request) at St. Vibiana's or at UCLA's Royce Hall. He was a talented, and diligent student, always with a sense of curiosity.

Lee's house in Santa Monica Canyon was designed especially for him in the Expressionist Style by the famous architect Charles Moore in 1974. In the very high-ceiling living room was installed a baroque-style pipe organ built in 1967 by Ahrend & Brunzema in Germany, with two manuals and eleven stops. Lee was friends with a number of noted American, English, and European organists and quite frequently they, as well as local organists, would give recitals for guests on the organ.

We shall most surely miss Lee Burns. Requiescat in pace.

James H. Vail

#### John ("Jack") LeVan April 14, 1942 – May 16, 2021

It is with great sadness that we share the news of Jack LeVan's passing, at the age of 79, after a long battle with multiple illnesses. His nephew, Scott, was at Jack's side, with recordings of his beloved choir filling the room.

Jack was a huge supporter of organists and was for many years a member of the Pasadena Chapter—later, the Los Angeles Chapter—of the A.G.O. He loved the organ and would attend every organ recital he could. Several of us boast that Jack never missed one of our concerts!

He was a dedicated member of Coventry Choir at All Saints Church, Pasadena, for sixty years. That's correct...60 years! His faithful attendance—year in and year out—was always stellar and often perfect, until health issues in the past few years diminished his capacity.

I first met Jack in 1983, when I joined the All Saints staff as Associate Organist-Choirmaster. I vividly remember his warm welcome, and Jack's generosity of spirit was extended to all. When I was appointed Director of Music in 1991, he was always supportive and encouraging of my leadership, especially in moments of challenge and transition. He loved the liturgy and music of the Episcopal Church and reveled in the rigorous discipline of choral music.

An avid photographer, Jack was seldom found without a camera hanging from his neck. He loved history and was the official Historian of the All Saints Music Ministry. He would joyfully tell stories (often hilarious!) dating back to the 1960s, recalling rectors, organist-choirmasters, staff, choir members, and parishioners—a walking encylopedia of ASC history. He attended the dedication of the Schlicker Organ in 1962, E. Power Biggs at the console, a defining moment in Jack's love for the organ.

Jack retired in 2003, after 39 years serving as a court administrator in Los Angeles. He became Judicial Services Bureau Chief for the Los Angeles Municipal Court and later assumed that role for the Los Angeles Superior Court. He was highly respected by colleagues and judges, known for his meticulous tracking systems as well as his great storytelling and affable personality.

We will greatly miss our gregarious, fun-loving, generous, faithful and loving friend. Lux aeterna.

James Walker

## 2021 Members-at-Large Nominations

# There are five Member-at-Large nominees Three Will Be Selected



**Christoph Bull** is the university organist and organ professor at UCLA as well as organist-in-residence at First Congregational Church of Los Angeles.

He has concertized and recorded internationally at venues including Salzburg Cathedral, Taipei National Concert Hall, Shanghai Conservatory of Music, the Shumei Temple in Misono (Japan), Teatro de Las Ruinas in El Salvador, the Catholic Cathedrals in Moscow (Russia) and Saint-Denis (France), Frederiksborg Castle in Denmark, Segerstrom Concert Hall in Costa Mesa, Cathedral of Our Lady and Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, as well as rock clubs such as The Viper Room, The Roxy and The Whisky.

He's performed at national and regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists and the Organ Historical Society, and his recordings have been broadcast on KCRW, Classical KUSC and on Pipedreams.

Movie and TV credits include Transformers, Ghostbusters, Minority Report, The Crazy Ones and How to build... Everything.

Christoph is also a pianist, composer, singer-songwriter and producer. His recording projects include the educational series Singlish and the first full-length album featuring the Glatter-Götz/Rosales pipe organ at Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, First & Grand. He's also been a speaker for TEDxUCLA and the L.A. Philharmonic's Upbeat Live.

His organ teachers in repertoire, liturgical playing and improvisation were, in chronological order, Hermann Schaeffer, Renate Zimmermann, Christoph Schoener, Ludwig Doerr, Samuel Swartz, Cherry Rhodes, Ladd Thomas and Paul Jordan. He also studied in master courses with Marie-Claire Alain, Guy Bovet, Rudi Lutz and Craig Cramer.

**Sarah Davachi,** as a composer and performer of electroacoustic music, Sarah's (b. 1987, Canada) work is concerned with the close intricacies of intimate aural space, utilizing extended durations and simple harmonic structures that emphasize subtle variations in texture, overtone complexity, psychoacoustic phenomena, and temperament and intonation. The instrumentation she employs is varied, including electric organ, pipe and reed organ, tape-replay samplers, piano, analog synthesizers, voice, early Western strings and keyboards, and orchestral strings, brass, and woodwinds.

In addition to her acclaimed recorded output, Davachi has toured extensively across the globe and has shared the stage and collaborated with artists such as William Basinski, the Bozzini



Quartet, the London Contemporary Orchestra, Oren Ambarchi, Suzanne Ciani, the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Alessandro Cortini, Robert Aiki Aubrey Lowe, Ellen Arkbro, and Loren Connors. Davachi co-operates the record label Late Music, founded in 2020 with the partner labels division of Warp Records. Between 2007 and 2017, Davachi had the unique opportunity to work for the National Music Centre in Canada as an interpreter and content developer of their collection of acoustic and electronic keyboard instruments. Her research and writing focus on critical organology and timbre and has been published and presented in North America and Europe. Davachi holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy from the University of Calgary, and a master's degree in electronic music and recording media from Mills College in Oakland, California. She is currently a doctoral candidate in musicology at UCLA and is based in Los Angeles, California, USA.



**Stephen Karr** is a compelling interpreter of opera and orchestral works, appearing as a guest conductor in recent seasons with Anchorage Opera, Long Beach Opera and Sacramento Opera and Philharmonic. He is currently Artistic Administrator at Long Beach Opera, where he was Associate Conductor 2019's premiere of The Central Park Five, which won the 2020 Pulitzer Prize in Music. He is also a co-editor of the first modern performing edition of Joseph Bologne's L'Amant Anonyme, which was premiered by LA Opera under James Conlon and will be heard in upcoming productions at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Wolf Trap Opera, Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and Minnesota Opera.

As an organist, he has held positions at St. Clement's-by-the-Sea, Newport Harbor Lutheran Church, St. Thomas the Apostle in Hollywood, St. Athanasius and St. Wilfrid's in Huntington Beach, as well as interim directorships at the Church of Our Saviour in San Gabriel and St. Mark's in Glendale. He has recently been announced as the next organist at Westwood Presbyterian Church.

In 2011, he co-founded Pacific Opera Project, for which he was music director until 2016, leading productions of The Turn of the Screw, Ariadne auf Naxos and The Rake's Progress, among many others. The LA Times praised him as keeping the performers on "well-articulated rhythmic track." He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in organ from Mercer University and Westminster Choir College, as well as master's and doctoral degrees in orchestral conducting from UCLA.



**Jason Klein-Mendoza** is a Los Angeles Based organist, conductor and teacher. He currently serves as Organist at St. James Episcopal Church in South Pasadena, CA and has served parishes in Chicago, New Jersey and California. Most recently, he served as Associate Director of Music at All Saints' Parish in Beverly Hills, CA. He was the featured organist on the All Saints' Choir's most recent recording, "For All The Saints': Anthems, Hymns and Motets," which was released on the Gothic label.

He has performed throughout the United States and Canada, notably at Orchestra Hall in Chicago and a Segerstrom Hall in Costa Mesa, CA. Additionally, he has played at Canterbury, Salisbury, St. Paul's and Wells Cathedrals in the UK. From a family of educators, he is committed to the development of young musicians and has served as a faculty member for two Pipe Organ Encounters of the American Guild of Organists.

He studied Organ, Church Music and Conducting at Concordia University in River Forest, Northwestern University, and the Thornton School of Music of the University of Southern California. He has studied organ with David Christiansen, Margaret McElwain Kemper, David Craighead and Ladd Thomas and his earliest organ studies were with Fred Becker of Crystal Lake, IL. In addition to the standard organ repertoire, he has a keen interest in forgotten gems for the organ and is an avid supporter of new music for the organ.

**Sean Coburn O'Neal** was born and raised in Long Beach, CA. He began musical studies with the piano at age 10, and then with the organ at age 16 – since 1993, his teacher/mentor has been James Walker. Sean has received various musical honors and awards from various musical organizations, most notably having been awarded the first-place performance prize in two regional American Guild of Organists competitions: Arizona, 1995 and Hawaii, 1997.

In addition to playing the organ, piano and choral conducting, Sean has been a pipe organ builder for nearly 20 years in the Southern California area, and is the owner of O'Neal Pipe Organ Service of Long Beach, CA. Sean formerly held the position of Director of Music & Organist/Choirmaster at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Covina, CA for 17 years, and is currently the Director of Music & Organist/Choirmaster for St. Cross Episcopal Church in Hermosa Beach, CA.



Three candidates will be elected as the Members-at-Large class of 2024 Voting will be conducted online in June watch for your e-mail invitation.

### AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

#### LOS ANGELES CHAPTER

Ten Episodes of the LA AGO Podcast are now online!



In each episode of The LA AGO Podcast, host Thompson Howell speaks with a different member of the Los Angeles Chapter, and occasional special guests, about their own love affair with the organ and how that passion informs their particular involvement with the organ world today. It's not just about what you've done; it's about why you do what you do. Whether you're a church musician, a concert organist, a teacher, an organ builder or technician, a composer who writes for the organ or simply a fan of the organ and its music, you'll enjoy hearing the stories of people who are passionate about the organ at every level.

# **Listen Now**

#### **Mader Composition Competition 2021**

#### by Craig Phillips



The Ruth and Clarence Mader Memorial Scholarship Fund has announced a Composition Competition for an Organ work to mark the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Fund. The goal of the competition is to honor the Mader name through a work that will become a lasting staple of the organ repertoire.

Contestants are invited to submit a work of 8-12 minutes in duration, and based on the name RC MADER. Composers will be required to use the pitches: D C E A D E-flat and D-flat, notes derived from note names and solfege to represent the name MADER, including the initials first names of both Ruth and Clarence.

Ruth and Clarence Mader will always be an inspration to those privileged to have known them. The Fund is a response by students, colleagues, family and friends to widespread expressions of appreciation for the high ideals and artistic accomplishments of Ruth and Clarence Mader.

The Composition Competition was launched in January 2021, with a deadline for submissions on December 17, 2021. The winner will receive a prize of \$10,000, publication and a premiere performance of the work. Details of the premiere will be announced at a later time. The competition is open to residents of the United States (U.S. citizens, resident aliens, and international students residing in the U.S.) with no age limit. Compositions will be submitted electronically, and remain anonymous. Recordings, either live or via MIDI must also be submitted.

The Ruth and Clarence Mader Memorial Scholarship Fund is excited to sponsor this competition, as both the organ, and composition for the organ were such an important part of the Mader legacy. Our hope is that the winning composition will be an important and lasting tribute to their lives and work.

For more details and information on submissions, please visit our webpage at:

www.maderscholarshipfund.org/2021-composition

# American Guild of Organists National News

#### Don't Let Your AGO Membership Lapse due to COVID-19!

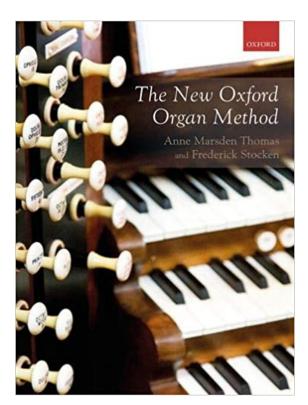
Dues assistance is available from the AGO national office for members who have been financially impacted by COVID-19. Please contact Elizabeth George directly at <a href="mailto:elizabeth.george@agohq.org">elizabeth.george@agohq.org</a>

# Los Angeles Chapter News Job Listings

If you have a job opening or know of one, please encourage the hiring organization to send the information to David Reeder. Go to: <a href="https://www.laago.org/jobs">www.laago.org/jobs</a>

# How you can you help to attract new members and focus on getting them engaged so that they choose to renew their membership in 2022?

- Organ teachers—this is obvious: talk to all of your students...get them signed up.
- Church organists—what aspiring young musicians in your church might be interested?
- Everyone—what young people do you know among your friends and family that would enjoy interacting with our friendly and diverse membership?



#### Upcoming Webinar Monday, June 21, 2021 | 4 p.m. EDT The New Oxford Organ Method

Sponsored by Oxford University Press. Join Anne Marsden Thomas and Frederick Stocken as they present an overview of The New Oxford Organ Method that focuses on using a single piece of repertoire with preparatory exercises covering practice methods, registration, fingering and pedaling, and historically informed interpretation. This method is for keyboard players of any age who are establishing first steps at the organ with or without a teacher. It will also serve more experienced organists who want to improve their technique.

Click here to register.

## AGO CALENDAR



Los Angeles, Long Beach, and Orange Count Chapters of the American Guild of Organists As of: JUNE 5, 2021

#### **SUN OCT 10, 2021**

4:30pm - 5:30pm Solemn Evensong

Where: St. James Church - live-stream and on demand at

GreatMusicLA.org

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

#### 6pm - 7pm Todd Wilson, Organist

Where: St. James Church - live-stream and on demand at

GreatMusicLA.org

Description: Free. Live-stream and on demand at

GreatMusicLA.org.

#### SUN NOV 21, 2021

4:30pm - 5:30pm Solemn Evensong

Where: St. James Church - live-stream and on demand at

GreatMusicLA.org

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

#### 6pm - 7pm Ken Cowan, Organist

Where: St. James Church - live-stream and on demand at

GreatMusicLA.org

Description: Free. Live-stream and on demand at

GreatMusicLA.org.

#### SUN DEC 12, 2021

**4:30pm - 5:30pm Advent Procession of Lesson & Carols Where:** St. James Church - live-stream and on demand at

GreatMusicLA.org

Description: Free. Live-stream and on demand at

GreatMusicLA.org.

# Southern California Directory **2021 - 2022**



For the Chapters of
Central Coast Kern County Long Beach
Los Angeles Orange County Palomar
San Diego Santa Barbara Ventura County

The preparations for the 2021 - 2022 Southern California Directory are underway!

Make sure that your information in ONCARD is up to date. The data listed in the 2021 - 2022 Directory will be taken from ONCARD on July 1.

You may contact us directly at: <a href="mailto:mistmedia@sbcglobal.net">mistmedia@sbcglobal.net</a>

#### **Sponsored Content**

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For the July Newsletter please submit announcements and ad information by July 1

Send to: mistmedia@sbcglobal.net

# LA Pipeline Newsletter Paid Advertising Order Form

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Notes / Instructions			

The newsletter editor may reject ads that are deemed to be inappropriate or generally not of interest to members. Advertising *categories* that are not accepted include: political, diet/health, and cannabis.

Paid ads may promote commercial products or services that are generally of interest to the members, including professional services (legal, financial, real estate, insurance, etc.). These ads are to be designed as "display" ads (not advertorials) and are priced as fractional pages with frequency discounts. Advertisers may submit electronic artwork or request the assistance of the newsletter editor to prepare artwork. AGO membership is not a requirement for commercial advertisers.

#### Display ad rates

Ad size	One-time	4x	10x (full season)
Eighth page	\$30	\$25 (\$100)	\$20 (\$200)
Quarter page	\$55	\$45 (\$180)	\$30 (\$300)
Half page	\$80	\$70 (\$280)	\$55 (\$550)

Full payment for total number of insertions due with initial artwork. Additional/different artwork may be submitted for subsequent insertions as desired and indicated above. Payment by check payable to LA AGO and mailed to LA AGO Treasurer, 1614 Don Carlos Ave., Glendale CA 91208, or via PayPal sent to <a href="mailto:treasurer@laago.org">treasurer@laago.org</a>. Please memo payments as "Pipeline Ads."

#### Display ad dimensions

Ad size	Height	Width	Submit electronic artwork in any of
Eighth page	2.5"	3.5"	these file formats: Photoshop, JPEG,
Quarter page	4.75"	3.5"	TIFF or PDF (print resolution 300 dpi).
Half page vertical	9.5"	3.5"	
Half page horizonal	4.75"	7.5"	

E-mail artwork files to: mistmedia@sbcglobal.net

# With a Special Thanks to the Newsletter Team

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