



THE CIPHER

May 2018

**The Executive Committee of
Grand Rapids AGO
2017-2018**

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Dear Colleagues,

We've all heard the saying "it takes a village." This saying certainly rang true for the Rotman Competition. Thanks to Joan, Bruce, the judges, and the many volunteers who helped make the evening a success. I am thankful that we missed the storm with all of the "winter mix" by just a day. I am confident that our May meeting will be safely past the point where we need to worry about having a snow brush handy. Speaking of May meetings, ours is not to be missed! I had the opportunity to review the hymns that Bob Batastini has prepared for our "Hymn Festival for Musicians." As would be expected, Bob has done a fantastic job compiling a repertoire of hymns that will challenge us musically and spiritually. Remember - the main ingredient for a hymn festival (next to the hymns) is solid group of people who love to sing. Bob has coordinated with the National Pastoral Musicians Chapter, the Muskegon-Lakeshore Chapter of AGO, the Holland Chapter of AGO, and even members of the Hymn Society of America. If all of our memberships turn out, it will be a splendid evening of music and collegiality. One final word on attendance for this event: they planned the event around us. Of all the potential evenings to hold this festival, our usual meeting night won out. Let's have a good turn out from our membership to show our other colleagues how much we value hymnody and their willingness to gather with us.

Lastly, Jeremy David Tarrant's recital here at the Basilica had to be postponed. It has been rescheduled for Monday, May 14, at 7pm. Hope you can come to the Basilica and hear this fabulous musician from Detroit. He's playing Bach, Schumann, Franck, Litaize, and Widor. The concert is free.

Peter Kurdziel, Dean



May 21st– FOR MUSICIANS ONLY*

A different kind of hymn sing!

Over the years, a handful of extremely creative composers have pushed the boundaries and composed amazing hymn tunes, many of which are sadly *beyond* the capability of most congregations. These tunes explore the outer limits of congregational song. But, gather a group of pastoral musicians, with some of the best organists/pianists in town, and you have a wonderful evening of extraordinary music making. It will be great musical fun!

This will be a social event too. Our chapter is inviting the members of the three AGO chapters in our area, members of the Hymn Society, and the team at the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship to join us. In other words, just about all the church musicians in our area. There won't be a whole lot of talk, just the experience of wonderfully enjoyable singing. Other than \$15 for the supper, there is no charge for this event. Watch for further details to come.

This may just turn out to be the most musical fun you've had all year!

St. Francis de Sales, 13th Street & Maple, Holland. Punch bowl at 6:30, buffet dinner at 7:00, singing begins at 8:00. **You must RSVP by May 14th to programs@npmgr.com if you are planning to join your colleagues for supper.** The caterer needs to know. Otherwise, just get there by 7:45.

**Well, actually ALL are welcome, but if you don't read music, you probably won't be able to do much singing. Then again, by the third or fourth stanza, perhaps even non-readers will jump in!*

There is no other cost for the event, and pre-registration is only necessary for the supper.

The organists will be Peter Kurdziel, Rhonda Edgington, Phil Konczyk, Charles Nolen.

This is going to be fun!

Monday, May 21, 2018

6:30 p.m. Punch Bowl

7:00 p.m. Dinner

8:00 p.m. Program

St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church

171 West 13th Street

Holland, MI 49423



Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition

The GRAGO Meeting in April was our annual Annamae Rotman Young Artists Competition. Each of the four participants played several pieces for the panel of judges consisting of Dr. Gregory Crowell, Dr. Barbara Dulmage and Dr. Carrie Groenewold.

The evening began with a delicious dinner in the church dining room and was followed by the Young Artists Competition. The first participant was Nicholas Rozendall, a freshman in high school, and a student of Zachary DeBruine. Contestant two was Hope College freshman, Brooke Van Wyk, a student of Huw Lewis. Third on the program was Kaili Prins, a home-schooled student studying organ with Dr. Howard Slenk. The Final participant was Jonathan Bading, a Hope College senior who very recently had played his senior recital and also studies with Huw Lewis.

The competition was founded and underwritten by Dr. Richard Rotman in honor of his mother, Annamae Rotman. It was hosted by Park Congregational Church. The results of the playing were: the high school prize being given to Nicholas Rozendaal. second place to Kaili Prins, and first place to Jonathan Bading.



Photo at left

BACK ROW:

Dr. Greg Crowell,
Dr. Barbara Dulmage,
Dr. Carrie Groenewold

FRONT ROW:

Dr. Richard Rotman,
Kaili Prins,
Jonathan Bading,
Brooke Van Wyk,
Nicholas Rozendaal,
Annamae Rotman

Music at Mid-Day
Park Congregational Church
10 East Park Place N.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Concerts are free to the public, and lunch is \$6.

Concerts begin at 12:15pm, and last roughly 30 minutes. There is no cost for the concerts.

Lunch is available both before and after the concert (11:15 am – 1:15 pm), and costs \$6.00. Each week delicious soup, salad bar, fresh bread, beverage, and fresh cookies are served.

May 1 Dr. Larry Visser, LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church

May 8 Bruce Robey and Friends; Jazz Standards

From our friends at the Muskegon-Lakeshore
Chapter AGO

May 4, 2018 (date could change) — 6:30 PM

Celebrating Healey Willan: Organ & Choral Works

Potluck Supper

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Feeding the Soul of the City 2017-2018

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

1006—3rd Street

Muskegon, MI

Tuesdays - 12:15 PM-12:45 PM

May 22, 2018 — “Il Duo Lyrico” (classical)

June 5, 2018 — Ruth and Max Bloomquist (folk and bluegrass)

Music Under the Dome presents

JEREMY DAVID TARRANT

Organ

**Monday
May 14, 2018
7 pm**

**Basilica of
Saint Adalbert
Grand Rapids, Michigan**
Works of Bach, Schumann,
Litaize, and Widor



Toledo Symphony Special Event

RESPIGHI'S CHURCH WINDOWS

May 3, 2018 | Rosary Cathedral | 7:00 PM



TOLEDO
SYMPHONY

Giordano Bellincampi, conductor

James Kibbie, organist

Experience the glorious splendor of Rosary Cathedral's Spanish-inspired architecture, its brilliant mosaic art, and the Skinner organ—one of Toledo's crown musical jewels—with Respighi's evocative *Church Windows*.

**\$20 tickets for groups of
10 or more people**

Contact Mary Isabell, Group Sales Associate, to learn more:

419-418-0032 | misabell@toledosymphony.com

ORGANIST POSITION DESCRIPTION

First Presbyterian Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan

TITLE: Organist

PURPOSE: To provide accompaniment to choirs of the church, support congregational singing and provide appropriate organ and/or keyboard music for the worship services of the church. [The church has a Casavant Frères Pipe Organ, Opus 3067 (1970) Three manuals. 5 divisions. 50 stops. 47 registers. 63 ranks. 3394 pipes. Manual compass is 61 notes. Pedal compass is 32 notes.]

ACCOUNTABILITY: The Organist is accountable to the Head of Staff and Personnel Committee through the Director of Music.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Plan, prepare and play music for each service of worship; i.e. hymns, prelude, responses, postlude, choir accompaniment, etc.
2. Attend weekly choir rehearsals for purpose of accompaniment September - May
3. Accompany soloists and instrumentalists as needed.
4. Provide appropriate music for weddings, funerals and other special worship services.
5. Provide music consultation for weddings and other special worship services.
6. Secure a qualified substitute organist for services when vacation or known absences are planned.
7. Keep a log of organ maintenance problems. Work with the Director of Music regarding organ maintenance issues.
8. Substitute for the Director of Music when he/she is not present, subject to approval of Pastor, as Head of Staff.
9. Be a team-player as a cooperative and supportive person on a staff team through regular and effective communication, and enthusiastic and supportive attitude, and willingness to adapt and be flexible in support of the needs of other staff.

RELATIONSHIPS: Work closely with the Director of Music, as well as clergy, in the planning of worship events. The organist also collaborates with the Wedding Coordinators and other office staff as appropriate.

EVALUATION: A performance review will be conducted at least annually by the Head of Staff and the Personnel Committee in consultation with the Director of Music. The Personnel Committee will review annually the adequacy of compensation and make recommendations to the Session.

STATUS / TIME REQUIREMENTS: This is a part-time, exempt, at-will position and therefore is not covered by the overtime provisions of state and federal law and is therefore not eligible for overtime pay. Typical expectation of time to satisfactorily complete responsibility for this position would require approximately a 15 hour work week.

Interested applicants should send their resume and direct any questions to the Director of Music, Cindy Hunter, at cindy.hunter@kalamazoofirstpres.org



AGO Dues Rates 2018–19

Dues rates generally remain the same in 2018–19 as they were for 2017–18. The only exception is that rates have been *reduced* for international subscribers who purchase an online subscription to TAO. Those rates now match the rates for domestic subscribers.

A discount of \$8 is available to all members who elect to receive electronic delivery of TAO rather than a printed copy. Local chapters will receive the same local dues portion as they do for members who choose printed magazine delivery.

TAO is available in electronic form to all members through the AGO website. Those who read the magazine online can take advantage of recorded sound samples of the instruments featured on the cover (when available), hyperlinks from display ads to websites, as well as online keyword and article searches. There are environmental advantages, as well, to online publishing.

Membership is open to all interested individuals. Prospective members may join online by visiting Agohq.org or by requesting a new member application from their local chapter. A completed application form must accompany dues for each new member.

National Headquarters
American Guild of Organists
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260
New York, NY 10115

phone: 212-870-2310 fax: 212-870-2163
Members@agohq.org

Membership Category	Description	TAO Format	National/ Chapter Split	Total Dues
Regular	Ages 30–64, full voting	Print and online Online only	\$64/41 \$56/41	\$105* \$97*
Special	65 and older, full voting	Print and online Online only	\$47/33 \$39/33	\$80* \$72*
Young Organist	Under age 30, full voting	Print and online Online only	\$32/18 \$24/18	\$50* \$42*
Regular Dual	2nd chapter or more	n/a	\$0/41	\$41
Special Dual	2nd chapter or more	n/a	\$0/33	\$33
Young Organist Dual	2nd chapter or more	n/a	\$0/18	\$18
National Subscriber	Nonvoting	Print and online	n/a	\$70 1 yr. \$130 2 yr. \$180 3 yr.
		Online only	n/a	\$62 1 yr. \$114 2 yr. \$162 3 yr.
		Print and online	n/a	\$90 1 yr. \$170 2 yr. \$240 3 yr.
International Subscriber	Nonvoting	Print and online	n/a	\$90 1 yr. \$170 2 yr. \$240 3 yr.
		Online only	n/a	\$62 1 yr. \$114 2 yr. \$162 3 yr.

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

Subscriptions are available to institutions at the AGO subscriber rate.