



THE CIPHER

April 2019

**The Executive Committee of
Grand Rapids AGO
2018-2019**

Officers

[Peter Kurdziel](#), *Dean*

[Emily Brink](#), *Secretary*

[Errol Shewman](#), *Treasurer*

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[Barbara Dulmage](#), 2018

[Rebecca Snippe](#), 2018

[Joel Gary](#), 2019

[Jonathan Tuuk](#), 2019

Members Ex-Officio

[Joel Gary](#), *Education Coordinator*

[Dennis Buteyn](#),
Webmaster, Cipher Editor

Dear Colleagues,

April is an exciting month in the life of our chapter. Not only will we no longer have to worry about our meetings getting snowed out, we will have two competitions and a very special guest to cap off our year!

Monday, April 8th, is our doubleheader competition day. I want to thank Bruce and Joan in advance for their leadership and those of you among our ranks who have volunteered as page turners and room monitors. As talented as Bruce and Joan are, they can't be in two (or three) places at once. We are still in need of ushers for each of the competitions. This is an easy task. You simply need to arrive a little earlier than usual so you can hand out programs. For those of you who have attended competitions in the past, you already know that it's crucial for everyone in the audience to have a program to insure full and active participation in the hymns.

This year we have the unique opportunity to celebrate Easter Monday, April 22nd, with the closing of our chapter year. We will be gathering at Westminster Presbyterian for dinner and a program featuring Grand Rapids Symphony Music Director Marcelo Lehninger. Marcelo will speak about the impact of the organ on symphonic literature. The program will be moderated by Mary Tuuk, President and CEO of the Grand Rapids Symphony. Excerpts will be played by chapter member Jonathan Tuuk.

Last but not least, there is still time to register for the convention if you haven't already. It's a painless process that all begins at <https://grago2019.org/>.

Peter Kurdziel, Dean



Monthly programs for 2018 – 2019

Here is the lineup of AGO meetings for this season, 2018-2019. Our meetings take place at various venues throughout the area and are typically the third Monday evening of the month although there are certainly exceptions. We generally begin with a punch bowl and social time at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m.

The cost for dinner is \$15 and to encourage attendance by younger members the board has underwritten the cost of meals for all AGO members and guests under the age of 30. The cost of these meals will come from a dedicated fund that has been recently established for this purpose.

The program portion of the meeting follows at 8:00 p.m. and all programs are open to the public. On occasion free-will offerings will be accepted at the conclusion of some evening programs.

Dinner reservations are requested by the Wednesday prior to the meeting and members will be called by the Executive Council. You may also make your reservation by emailing agodinner@grago.org or calling our Treasurer, Errol Shewman at 307-7241.

Monday April 8, 2019

1:00 p.m. Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists

6:00 p.m. Punch Bowl

6:30 p.m. Dinner

7:30 p.m. Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition

Calvin Christian Reformed Church

700 Ethel Street S.E.

Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Young Organist Competitions

The [AGO/Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists](#) is a national competition for organist born after July 2, 1997. The AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists are made possible by a generous grant from Michael Quimby, President, Quimby Pipe Organs, Inc.

The [Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition](#) was founded and underwritten by Dr. Richard Rotman in honor of his mother, Annamae Rotman. A competitor must be under 24 years of age as of August 1 of the competition year and be a resident of Kent County, MI or any county adjacent to Kent County and/or a resident student attending a junior high school, senior high school, college, or university in Kent County or any county adjacent to Kent County.

Monday, April 22, 2019

6:30 p.m. Punch Bowl

7:00 p.m. Dinner

8:00 p.m. Program

Westminster Presbyterian Church

47 Jefferson Ave. S.E.

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

**The Organ Used With Orchestra**

Brazilian-born **Marcelo Lehninger** is in his third year as Music Director of the Grand Rapids Symphony. He previously served as Music Director of the New West Symphony in Los Angeles, for which the League of American Orchestras awarded him the Helen H. Thompson Award for Emerging Music Directors. Marcelo was appointed Assistant Conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra by James Levine, and, after a very successful two year tenure that included stepping in for Maestro Levine on short notice in Boston and on tour at Carnegie Hall, was later promoted to Associate Conductor.

Feeding the Soul of the City

2018-2019

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

1006 Third Street

Muskegon, MI 49440

All performances are held Tuesdays from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

April 23, 2019

Reeths-Puffer Madrigal Singers
(student vocal ensemble)

May 28, 2019

GVSU Steel Drum Band

June 11, 2019

Max and Ruth Bloomquist
folk and bluegrass music

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