



**The Executive Committee of
Grand Rapids AGO
2019-2020**

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THE CIPHER

November 2019

From Our Dean

Hello Everyone,

As we begin the month of November most of us will be starting a full swing of upcoming preparations of holiday services and programs. This month we are asking you to come and bask in a recital of a young organist of our Great Lakes Region. Noah Klein, the 2019 Quimby Regional Competition Winner will be giving a recital at Westminster Presbyterian Church on November 18. You can read about Noah and the evening's details in the program section of the Cipher newsletter. Please make your reservations in for dinner to agodinner@grago.org by the Wednesday prior (November 13). This is one of the benefits we are enjoying from GRAGO2019 Convention this past summer.

As the board has worked diligently in preparing the program for the year, we are taking December & January off and will have a program in February 2020 with Organ & Sax concert at First United Methodist Church, Grand Rapids. Also during these winter months, we will not be resting, but working hard to gather program ideas for 2020-2021 Season. If you have any suggestions, ideas, please pass them along to any board member and we will gather them and decide on hopefully an exciting and fruitful program year.

Another plea to all teachers, students, AGOYO Members: if you would like to participate in the Young Organist Recital March 16, 2020, at Calvin University Chapel, please contact me: kevin.soodsma@gmail.com and I will be in contact with you about the details.

Kevin Soodsma, Dean

**PLEASE PRINT THE POSTER ON THE
LAST PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER
AND DISPLAY**



Monthly programs for 2019 – 2020

Here is the lineup of AGO meetings for this season, 2019-2020. 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, November 18, 2019

6:30 p.m. Punch Bowl

7:00 p.m. Dinner

8:00 p.m. Recital

Westminster Presbyterian Church

47 Jefferson Avenue S.E.

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Organ recital featuring

Quimby Young Organist Competition winner Noah Klein



From Northfield, Minnesota, Noah Klein began studying the piano at age 6 and the organ at age 11. He began accompanying church services at age 15. Following high school graduation, Noah attended school and lived with a host family for one year in South Korea as part of the Rotary Youth Exchange program. He currently is a Premier Young Artist Scholar at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music where he studies organ performance with Dr. Janette Fishell. Noah serves as the music intern at Tabernacle Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis. Noah was the winner of the Quimby Young Organist Competition on June 29th of this year at the Great Lakes Regional AGO Convention held in Grand Rapids at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Monday, February 17, 2020

No Dinner at this program

7:00 p.m. Program

First United Methodist Church

227 Fulton East

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Celebration of the Arts

Organ and Saxophone concert

Eric Strand, organist

Following the concert will be art show and reception



Monday, March 16, 2020

6:30 p.m. Punch Bowl

7:00 p.m. Dinner

8:00 p.m. Program

AGOYO Recital

Calvin University Chapel

1845 Knollcrest Circle S.E.

Grand Rapids, MI 49545



Our March meeting will present several young organists in a recital. Participants to be announced.

Sunday, April 19, 2020

3:00 p.m. Organ Recital

Trinity Lutheran Church

2700 Fulton Street East

Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Renee Louprette Organ Recital

Hailed by The New York Times as “splendid,” and “one of New York’s finest organists,” Renée Anne Louprette has established an international career



as organ recitalist, conductor, and teacher. She is associated with a number of distinguished music programs in the New York City area, having served as Associate Director of Music at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, Associate Director of Music and the Arts at Trinity Wall Street, Organist and Associate Director at the Unitarian Church of All Souls, and Director of Music at the Church of Notre Dame.

Upon receipt of a Master of Music degree in conducting from [Bard College](#) in May 2019, Ms. Louprette was appointed Assistant Professor of Music and College Organist at Bard. She continues as coordinator of the organ studio at [Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University](#), where she has been University Organist since 2013. She is a former member of the organ faculty at the Manhattan School of Music, The Hartt School of the University of Hartford, and the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University.

Renée Anne Louprette has performed throughout the United Kingdom and Ireland, including at Westminster Abbey and the Temple Church in London, St. Giles Cathedral Edinburgh and Dunblane Cathedral (Scotland), Galway Cathedral and Dún Laoghaire (Ireland). In 2018, she made her solo debuts at the Royal Festival Hall in London and the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris.

Additional European festival appearances include Magadino, Switzerland; In Tempore Organi, Italy; Ghent and Hasselt, Belgium; Copenhagen and Aarhus, Denmark; Bordeaux Cathedral and Toulouse Les Orgues, France. She appeared as organ soloist with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra in Brisbane, Australia, in a performance of Saint-Saëns' Organ Symphony broadcast live on ABC Radio. She regularly performs at regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists and has been featured at two national conventions: the 2010 Convention in Washington, D.C., and the 2014 Convention in Boston where she presented the world premiere of Pamela Decker's Faneuil Hall. In July 2019, she presented a solo recital for the National Convention of the Organ Historical Society in Dallas, Texas.

Her recording of the "Great Eighteen Chorales" of J. S. Bach on the Metzler Organ in the chapel of Trinity College, Cambridge, England, was named a classical music Critics' Choice 2014 by The New York Times. In February 2018, she released a recording of 20th-century French organ repertoire – "Une voix française – A French Voice" – on the Acis Productions label to critical acclaim. Her upcoming recordings include Bach's *Clavier-Übung III* on the Acis label, recorded on the Craighead-Saunders organ of Christ Church, Rochester, New York, and a collaborative recording of original compositions and arrangements of traditional Irish repertoire with Ivan Goff, recorded at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola in New York City.

Renée Anne Louprette holds a Master's degree in conducting from Bard College Conservatory where she studied conducting with James Bagwell and composition with Joan Tower, and a Bachelor of Music degree summa cum laude in piano performance and a Graduate Professional Diploma in organ performance from The Hartt School, University of Hartford. She was awarded a Premier Prix – mention très bien from the Conservatoire National de Région de Toulouse, France and a Diplôme Supérieur in organ performance from the Centre d'Études Supérieures de Musique et de Danse de Toulouse, studying with Michel Bouvard and Jan Willem Jansen and improvisation with Philippe Lefebvre. She completed additional studies in organ with Dame Gillian Weir, James David Christie, and Guy Bovet.

Renée Anne Louprette is represented in North America exclusively by [Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC](#).

Monday, April 27, 2020

6:00 p.m. Punch Bowl

6:30 p.m. Dinner

7:30 p.m. Competition

First (Park) Congregational Church

10 East Park Place N.E.

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition

The Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition was founded in 2013 by Dr. Richard Rotman in honor of his mother and is an annual competition. We thank him for his generous support of young organists.

- Eligibility – 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 (Ottawa, Muskegon, Newaygo, Montcalm, Ionia, Barry, or Allegan Counties)
- Previous first place winners of this competition are eligible to compete in this competition again in two years.
- Venue – Grand Rapids area pipe organ of high quality and versatility, varied from year to year
- Repertoire – Two or more pieces of contrasting styles and representing different time periods and a hymn

[SEE MORE INFORMATION AND APPLICATION ON THE GRAGO WEBSITE](#)

Monday, May 18, 2020

6:30 p.m. Punch Bowl

7:00 p.m. Dinner

8:00 p.m. Program

Second Congregational Church

525 Cheshire Street N.E.

Grand Rapids, MI 49505

An Evening with Composer John S. Dixon

Born in London, England, John S. Dixon (b. 1957) was classically trained in piano and organ. During his school years he was active in music in the Anglican church and was a founding member of The Southend Boys Choir, one of Britain's foremost youth choirs. He earned degrees from The Queen's College, Oxford University, and Harvard Business School. His composing has flourished since moving to America in 1988, largely through his involvement in the music ministry at Providence Presbyterian Church in Virginia Beach, where he is currently organist and composer-in-residence. He has written hundreds of pieces for church and secular use.






GREAT AMERICAN VOICES

The King's Singers
in concert at Park Church
Wednesday, November 6 at 7:30pm

Tickets
25.00 general admission, 5.00 students
<https://thekingssingers.eventbrite.com>
Group discounts available

Park Church - 10 E Park Pl NE, Grand Rapids MI 49503 - 616-459-3203
office@parkchurchgr.org - www.parkchurchgr.org

Embellish/Campana Handbell Choirs

Stephanie Wiltse, Director



November 10, 2019
3:00 PM

Celebration of Music Concert Series
Trinity Lutheran Church
2700 Fulton Street East
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Would you like to give a recital?

St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Battle Creek offers the service of Choral Evensong on the first Sunday of each month (October - June). Prior to this service, the historic 1929 E.M. Skinner pipe organ is featured in a 25 minute pre-service recital. More information about the instrument can be found at <https://www.stthomasbc.org/music>.

Any area organists interested in performing one of these programs should contact Dr. Stephen White at music@StThomasBC.org. Other than being sensitive to the liturgical season, repertoire selection is open to the performer.

MUSIC AT MID-DAY

A Free Concert Series in the City

Concerts (12:15pm - 12:45pm) are free to all.

An optional \$6 lunch (11:15am - 1:15pm) is available before or after the performance. Soup, salad bar, bread, beverage, and cookies are served.

Announcing Fall 2019

November 5 - Dr. Chris Dekker, organ

November 12 - Michael Bloss, organ

November 19 - Steve VanRavenswaay, cello

November 26 - Rhonda Edgington, organ

December 3 - Penny Kindraka, handbells

December 10 - Caledonia Choralaires

First (Park) Congregational Church
10 East Park Place N.E.
Grand Rapids

From our friends on the Lakeshore

Muskegon-Lakeshore AGO Chapter

2019-2020 Programs

Complete details will be printed in
your directory.

November 10, 2019 (Sunday) 3 p.m. "Young Artist: Matthew Wachtman" Central United Methodist Church—Muskegon

December—No Scheduled Meeting

January 10, 2020 (Friday) 6:30 p.m. "Twelfth Night Party" Home of Shane Arkels—Muskegon

February 29, 2020 (Saturday) 9-11a.m. "Choral Workshop" — Dr. Michael Match Mona Shores MS Choir Room—Muskegon

March 15, 2020 (Sunday) 3 p.m. "In Memoriam: A Members' Recital" First Congregational Church UCC—Muskegon

April 19, 2020 (Sunday) 4 p.m. "Young Artist: Emily Amos" First Presbyterian Church—Grand Haven

May 8, 2020 (Friday) Time TBA "60th Anniversary Banquet and Celebration" Prince of Peace Catholic Church—Muskegon

Feeding the Soul of the City

2019-2020

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

November 26, 2019 "Lee Murdock, The Christmas Ship" (folk music)

December 8, 2019 5 p.m. "Festival of Lessons & Carols" Grand Rapids Choir of Men and Boys

December 17, 2019 "Christmas at the Organ" Peter Kurdziel

February 25, 2020 "Grand Valley Faculty Brass Quintet"

March 24, 2020 "Grand Rapids Guitar Quartet"

April 14, 2020 "Gregory Maytan, violin" May 26, 2020 "Quintessence, Woodwind Quintet"

June 9, 2020 "Denise Newell, mezzo soprano and Caron Farmer, piano"

Program for November 18 Recital

Noah Klein, Organist

PROGRAM

Canonic Variations on "Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her" BWV 769	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Miroir	Ad Wammes (b. 1953)
<i>From "5 Dances"</i> II. At the Ballet III. Those Americans	Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)
<i>From "Gospel Preludes"</i> Book 2, No. 3: Amazing Grace	William Bolcom (b. 1938)
Méditation (op. posth., 1964)	Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)
<i>From "3 Pièces pour grand orgue"</i> III. Pièce héroïque	César Franck (1822-1890)

Noah is a junior at Jacobs School of Music, studying organ performance with Dr. Janette Fishell as a Premier Young Artist Scholar. Noah grew up in Northfield, Minnesota, and began piano lessons when he was 6. He started studying organ in middle school and began his first church job when he was 15. Since then, he has played at many churches around his town and throughout Minnesota. After graduating high school, Noah spent a year in South Korea as part of the Rotary Youth Exchange program, where he stayed with a host family and attended a Korean school. Noah is currently the Music Intern at Tabernacle Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis. In June of this year Noah was the winner of the Great Lakes region Quimby Competition for Young Organists held at the convention in Grand Rapids. In the future, he hopes to develop a career both as a performer and a church musician. Other interests of his are weightlifting and learning new yo-yo tricks.

THE GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER OF
THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
presents

NOAH KLEIN, ORGANIST
in recital



Monday, November 18, 2019
8:00 p.m.

Westminster Presbyterian Church
47 Jefferson Avenue S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan