



**The Executive Committee of
Grand Rapids AGO
2021-2022**

Officers

[Julia Brown](#), Co-Dean

[Carol McNally](#), Co-Dean

[Chris Witte](#), Treasurer

[John Tiemstra](#), Secretary

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[Larry Biser](#)

[Miah Han](#)

Members Ex-Officio

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

[Kevin Soodsma](#)
Membership & Directory

[Peter Kurdziel](#)
Competitions

[Rebecca Snippe](#)
Competitions

[The Rev. Dr. John D. Witvliet](#)
Chaplain

THE CIPHER

March 2022

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We hope you are all well. It's hard to believe another Lenten season is starting in a few days. As I look at some of the choral, organ and congregational music that was planned for worship at Mayflower in 2020 that we are finally able to play and sing, I am reminded of the long journey we have all been on since our lives were turned upside down in March 2020. Music continues to comfort, challenge and inspire.

Our Chapter has been able to offer some in-person programs, and your board continues to look for ways for us to connect in meaningful and safe ways. This month we offer two events.

The 7th Annual Annamae Rotman Organ Competition takes place on Monday, March 14, at 7pm at Mayflower Congregational Church (2345 Robinson Rd SE). You won't want to miss this event. It's not as dramatic as "America's Got Talent" but it promises to be an inspiring evening. Come and hear these young organists and judge for yourself! Bring a friend and support our young generation of organists. We need volunteers – especially room monitors (come and sit for two hours in the beautiful sanctuary at Mayflower while listening to organ music) Saturday, March 12 between 10am and 6:30pm and Monday, March 14 between 10 and 3. Contact Peter Kurdziel if you can help.

The following Monday, March 21, Second Congregational Church (525 Cheshire Drive N.E) hosts composer and organist John Dixon, from Norfolk, Virginia. Out of an abundance of caution, your board has decided not to include our traditional meal, so the program begins at 7pm. John will play a program of his own compositions. Come discover new repertoire, see old friends, and connect with each other. If you'd like to know what to expect that evening, John has plenty of "sound bites" that can be found if you type "John S Dixon" into YouTube.

The Nominating Committee is busy at work and has a slate of officers to present to our membership. If you have other names to put forward, or if you would like to serve on the board, we would love to hear from you! Voting will happen in May. (See note below from Nominating Chair)

Our chapter continues to grow! Here is a list of new members since summer 2021. We welcome you and look forward to greeting you in person soon!

Maddie Burton
Andrew Chesebro
Mercy Chesebro
Elise Greidanus
Autumn L'Organiste
Stephen Rumler
Seth TenElshof
Audrey Thomas
Jane VanHouten
Jacob Walicord
Fletcher Wernhom
Dr. John Witvliet, Chaplain
Katrina Woldt
Nathanial Zwart
Benjamin Zuzelski

We are working on an updated directory and will be reaching out soon to make sure we have the most up-to-date and accurate information before printing. If you have let your membership lag, now would be a good time to pay your dues, come to meetings and help our chapter thrive.

Carol and Julia



Election of Officers

Chapter members will have the opportunity in May to vote for the following slate of incumbent officers for the 2022-23 program year:

Julia Brown, Co-Dean
Carol McNally, Co-Dean
Chris Witte, Treasurer
John Tiemstra, Secretary

If you wish to submit additional names of candidates, you may send suggestions to bdulmage@souluminations.org by the end of March.

Barbara Dulmage, chair, Nominating Committee

Upcoming Chapter Events

Monday, March 14, 7:00 p.m. - 2022 Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition

Mayflower Congregational Church

2345 Robinson Road S.E.

Grand Rapids, MI 49506

The Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition was founded and underwritten by Dr. Richard Rotman in honor of his mother, Annamae Rotman. The competition is for young organists under 24, residing in or a student in Kent and adjacent counties. Come support and cheer on the contestants at Mayflower Church on March 14



Monday, March 21, 7:00 p.m. – John Dixon, composer

7:00 p.m. program

Second Congregational Church, U.C.C.

525 Cheshire Drive N.E.

Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Born in England, composer/organist John S. Dixon has lived in Virginia for thirty years. Since 1990 he has written more than 800 pieces, mostly for organ, but also for choirs and instrumental ensembles. He is the organist at Providence Presbyterian Church in Virginia Beach, and serves as the executive director of the Academy of Music, a community music school based in Norfolk. Currently he holds the office of Treasurer/Councilor for Finance and Development of the American Guild of Organists. John will play a program of his own compositions, including arrangements of familiar melodies, and explain why and how the pieces were composed. After the concert he will have complimentary pieces available for organists to take home.



Sunday, May 15, 3: 00 p.m., LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church

Monday, May 16, 6:00 p.m. dinner, 7:00 p.m. concert, LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church

LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church

107 LaGrave Avenue S.E.

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

César Franck Bicentennial:

Scott Dettra performs the complete organ works of César Franck in two recitals at LaGrave CRC.

Hailed as a “brilliant organist” (*Dallas Morning News*), an “outstanding musician” (*The Diapason*), and described as a “prodigy” by *The New York Times* at age 13,

Scott Dettra is acclaimed as one of America’s leading concert organists. Mr. Dettra’s playing is praised for its clarity, rhythmic intensity, and musical elegance, and has been described by *The American Organist* as “music making of absolute authority and sophisticated expression.” He combines an active performance schedule with his post as Director of Music at the Church of the Incarnation in Dallas, where he leads a vibrant music ministry in one the country’s largest Episcopal parishes. In addition to his work at Incarnation, he is a member of the organ faculty at Southern Methodist University, and is organist of The Crossing, the Grammy-winning professional chamber choir based in Philadelphia. Prior to his appointment in Dallas, he was Organist of Washington National Cathedral.



From our Friends at Holland AGO

Monday, March 21, 7:30 p.m.

Second Reformed Church

225 E. Central Avenue

Zeeland, MI 49464

The Music of Larry Visser

AGO members will play music by Larry Visser and Dr. Visser will discuss the pieces and his influences. All are welcome to attend.



FREE LIVE MUSIC
MARCH 7, 2022 | 7pm

Baroque

in the Atrium



*Grace Kim, violin
 Luke Conklin, oboe
 Andrew Laven, cello
 Julia Brown, harpsichord*



*A Musical Feast
 featuring works of
 Couperin, Bach,
 Zelenka, and Geminiani*



*Mondays
 at Mayflower*

2345 Robinson Road | Grand Rapids, MI 49506
 616-459-6255 | MayflowerChurch.org

Mondays at Mayflower, in collaboration with Early Music Michigan, presents Baroque in the Atrium: A Musical Feast on Monday, March 7 at 7pm. The “Reunited Tastes” of Italy, France, Germany and Scotland reflect the open spirit of composers, the exchange of ideas, and the influences between different national musical styles in the Baroque. Oboist Luke Conklin, violinist Grace Kim, cellist Andrew Laven and harpsichordist Julia Brown play music of Couperin, Bach, Zelenka and Geminiani. Come join us on this journey as we explore elegant dances, intricate counterpoint, and beautiful melodies representing “reunited tastes” in Baroque chamber music. Free and open to the public. Ample parking. For more information, visit mayflowerchurch.org. Masks are strongly encouraged.

Mayflower Congregational Church

2545 Robinson Road SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Park Congregational Church
10 East Park Place N.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

MUSIC AT MID-DAY
A Free Concert Series in the City
Concerts (12:15pm - 12:45pm) are free to all.



Spring 2022

March 8 Brian Morris, Guitar and Vocals

March 15 Dr. Larry Visser, Organ

March 22 Daniel Mattson, Trombone

March 29 Rhonda Edgington, Organ

April 5 Roger MacNaughton, piano and Jon Montgomery, Saxophone

An optional \$7.00 lunch (11:15am - 1:15pm) is available
before or after the performance.

Soups, sandwiches, beverages, and cookies are served.



Sacred
Music

at the

Cathedral

Sunday, 13 March, 7pm

Stabat Mater

by Giovanni Pergolesi

Thomas Fielding, Director of Music

Karen Kness
soprano

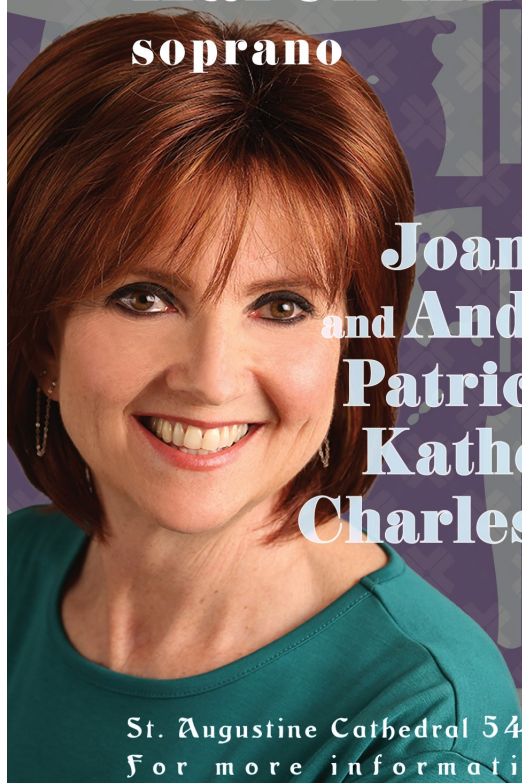
Antona Yost
mezzo-soprano

Joanna Steinhauser
and **Andrew Koehler**, violin

Patricia Goodman, viola

Katherine Shook, cello

Charles Grantier, contrabass



St. Augustine Cathedral 542 W Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007
For more information, please call (269) 345-5147



OREGON BACH FESTIVAL ORGAN INSTITUTE



June 20 - June 25, 2022

Led by Grammy Award-winning organist

Paul Jacobs

Daily master classes with special guests

Seminars on music theory, history, and organ design

All day tour of Portland area organs

Recital performance in the Festival

Free tuition, room and board for Institute participants

Participant auditions due by March 15, 2022

Auditors can enroll through June 1

For more information visit

oregonbachfestival.com/organ-institute

Applications are now open for the Organ Institute at the Oregon Bach Festival. Now in its ninth season, **the Organ Institute 2022 will run from June 20-June 25 in Eugene, Oregon**

Deadline for auditions is Tuesday, March 15, 2022. Auditors can enroll until June 1.

The OBF Organ Institute, **directed by organist Paul Jacobs**, offers organists the opportunity to immerse themselves in the masterworks of organ repertoire, and to explore technique and interpretation through specialized seminars, master classes, and performance.

Contributions from generous funders provide these talented musicians **tuition-free access** to the six-day course of masterclasses and performances, with **no cost for lodging**.

More information, including audition requirements, can be found on our [website](http://oregonbachfestival.com/organ-institute). Contact us with any questions at obforgan@uoregon.edu.