



**The Executive Committee of
Grand Rapids AGO
2022-2023**

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THE CIPHER

April 2023

Dear friends and colleagues,

March was a month filled with events. In addition to the busy Lenten season, our chapter hosted the Rotman Competition for Young Organists and, in collaboration with Calvin University, brought Nicole Keller for a very informative workshop on preparing for performance. She also performed a stunning concert at St. Mark's Episcopal Church the previous day.

We want to thank Peter and Becky, co-chairs of our competitions, for their excellent and detailed work bringing back our competition. Thank you adjudicators Jonathan Tuuk, Darlene Kuperus and Matthew Jakubisin, and thank you all for attending. As I look back at my early years, I am keenly aware of the impact of more experienced organists encouraging, nurturing and simply being present. Grand Rapids Chapter does a great job of encouraging our young organists. May we continue and grow in this path!

We are looking forward to Nathan Laube's return to Grand Rapids, in concert at the Basilica on Sunday, April 30 at 3pm. You won't want to miss one of today's greatest concert organists. He combines flawless technique with a deep understanding of the music and some of the most expressive playing I've ever heard.

Our nominating committee is busy at work, and we have a great group of board members, but do not yet have a complete slate of officers to put forth. We'll get the information out as soon as possible. Meanwhile, please let us know if you have a desire to serve in a leadership role.

We wish you all a blessed Holy Week. As many of us reach our limits of energy by the end of this week, remember that the work we do matters and touches lives.

Julia and Carol





2023 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. Eligibility – A competitor must be 24 years of age or under 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)

On Monday evening, March 13th, an appreciative audience attended the 7th Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition at the Basilica of St. Adalbert. First place with a cash prize of \$1500 was Helen Drost, a student of GRAGO member Jonathan Bading. The second place winner and \$1000 was Andrew Chesebro, whose teacher is member Dr. Joan Ringerwole. The prizes were presented by competition sponsor Dr. Richard Rotman. The judges were Dr. Darlene Kuperus, Jonathan Tuuk and Matthew Jakubisin.

Pictured above left to right: Dr. Darlene Kuperus, Dr. Richard Rotman, Helen Drost, Andrew Chesebro, Matthew Jakubisin, Jonathan Tuuk.

2022-2023 Programs

April 30, 2023, 3:00 p.m.

Nathan Laube in Concert

Basilica of St. Adalbert

654 Davis Avenue NW

Grand Rapids, MI 49504



Nathan Laube is a leading performer and pedagogue who is beloved around the world. His extensive recital career includes major venues spanning four continents. In April 2019, Mr. Laube launched the documentary-style radio program, "All the Stops," on the WFMT Radio Network Chicago, consisting of four two-hour programs which feature many of the world's most famous organs in Europe and the United States and explore their unique histories and repertoire. For more information, visit www.wfmt.com/programs/all-the-stops/. In October 2020, Mr. Laube joined the organ faculty at the Staatliche Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Stuttgart, Germany, succeeding his mentor, Ludger Lohmann, at his alma mater. There he takes part in one of most dynamic and international centers for organ study, situated in the heart of Europe. Prior to his move to Europe, he served on the organ faculty of the Eastman School of Music from 2013 to 2020.

May 15, 2023, 7 p.m.

Carillon Recital with Helen Hofmeister, Carillonneur

Beckering Family Carillon Tower

Fulton Street Campus of GVSU

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

The carillon recital will include selections of regional music, including music from England, Canada, and Appalachia. There will also be arrangements from the church, which will mainly be music based on chant. Helen Hofmeister has performed carillon recitals in 17 states as well as Belgium and the Netherlands.



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 2023

April 4 - NO CONCERT

April 11 - Phyllis Ann Miner and Robert Edwards, piano duo

April 18 - Grand Rapids Christian High School Chamber Chorale

April 25 - Bruce Robey and Friends

May 2 - Mary Rademacher Reed, Vocals

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

Soups, sandwiches, beverages, and cookies are served.