



# The Principal

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CHAPTER  
OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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December, 2021

## The Dean's Corner

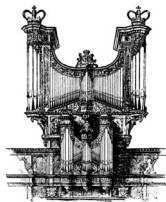
*Dr. Hyunju Hwang, Chapter Dean*

Happy Holidays! I want to wish everyone the best as we enter December, one of the most demanding and busiest months of the year for church musicians. Briefly, our November event, the "Alexander Technique Workshop" by Sarah Silva Peace, went wonderfully well. For the first half of the workshop, we explored some of principles of the Alexander Technique to help alleviate back pain and neck pain as well as manage stress. For the second half, we moved to the Sanctuary organ and had an opportunity for Ms. Peace to coach us on the our posture to best support as we play. In the end, the workshop was very practical and helpful, even though 1.5 hours wasn't enough time. If you are interested in a private lesson by Ms. Peace, you can visit her website at:

<https://www.atsarahsilva.com>

Thank you Patricia Hannifan for hosting us at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Long Beach.

Again, because December is such a busy month for many of us, we will not be having a meeting this month. Our next meeting will be in January 25, 2022. The location is still to be determined. Giuseppe D'Eliseo, our sub-Dean, will present *Organ Music in Italian Baroque*. Finally, I will add that I am already planning to add some new pieces for Advent and Christmas that I learned from our 'Repertoire Building Series' in October. May your preparations for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany be filled with blessings of joy, success and happiness!



## POE 2022 Update

Registration for participants opened on December 1, 2021 at

<https://www.agohq.org/education/poe/poe/>

Please save the dates, Sunday, June 26 to Friday July 1, 2022 to assist. Your monetary contributions (through ONCARD or checks sent to Dolly Ickler, POE Treasurer) are greatly appreciated.

## Concert at Covenant Presbyterian

Chapter Member and former District Convener Peter Bates will be presenting a Christmas program this year.

### Carols of the Season: Sing Along With Peter!

Favorite carols sung and played on the mighty Aeolian-Skinner organ. Join in singing some of your favorite Christmas Carols. Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 2:00 pm. In the Covenant Sanctuary. 607 E. 3rd St. Long Beach, CA. Admission is free; masks are required.

## Concert by the Long Beach Youth Chorus

It's time to sing again!

The last time the LBYC gave a full performance was December, 2019. We've weathered a lot, and our enrollment was battered by the pandemic. But we are ready to safely sing for you again, and we're thrilled to be able to do it again, and to share what you are going to hear!

The LBYC Winter Concert, "Cultures & Commissions," will be presented Saturday, December 18, at 7:00 PM, at Grace First Presbyterian Church, 3955 N. Studebaker Rd., and Sunday, December 19, at 5:00 PM, at St. Matthew Catholic Church, 7th & Temple Ave.

## Organist Position Available

Here, as promised, are the details of the announcement I broadcast on November 16th.

Collaborative Pianist/Organist, Leisure World Community Church Seal Beach, CA

Leisure World Community Church, adjacent to the interchange of the 405, 605, and 22 freeways, is seeking a Collaborative Pianist/Organist for Sunday mornings. When the choir resumes, it will rehearse at 8:30 am Sunday mornings; service time is 9:50 weekly. Weekly pay is \$250. The position, as it currently stands, includes paid time off and a modest stipend for a substitute. Weekly music requirements generally include a post-sermon reflection, two hymn collaborations, rehearsals and collaboration with staff singers, which typically includes an offertory solo, chamber-size or choral anthem, and rehearsal prior to each week's service. There will be a Christmas Eve service at 5pm with rehearsal tentatively scheduled at 3pm.

If this seems like a good fit for your skillset, schedule, and personal as well as family priorities, please contact Music Director Renee Cortez at (714) 883-6149 or [renee.cortez@icloud.com](mailto:renee.cortez@icloud.com)

## Remaining Long Beach Chapter Programs

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 – 6:30 pm

*Organ Music in Italian Baroque*

*Lecturer: Giuseppe D'Eliseo*

Venue – TBA

Sunday, February 13, 2022 – 4:00 pm

*Bruce Neswick, Organ Concert*

Monday, February 14, 2020 – 6:30 pm

*Bruce Neswick, Workshop and Masterclass*

*"Filling the Dead Spaces and Creative Hymn Leadership"*

Covenant Presbyterian Church

607 E 3rd St, Long Beach, CA 90802

Sunday, March 20, 2022 – 4:00 pm

*Celebration of César Franck's 200th Anniversary*

*Members' Recital*

Covenant Presbyterian Church

607 E 3rd St, Long Beach, CA 90802

Sunday, May 1, 2022 – 4:00 pm

*Guild Service & Installation of Officers*

*Host: Sean O'Neal*

St. Cross Episcopal Church

1818 Monterey Blvd, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

## First Fridays at First presents Mark Herman

By the time you read this, the concert will likely already be available for online viewing, and will remain available for viewing all month.

The ATOS's 2012 Organist of the Year, Mark Herman, has been featured on several episodes of American Public Media's Pipedreams program, and has performed for countless conventions of the American Theatre Organ Society, American Guild of Organists, and Organ Historical Society. On the international stage, he has toured in Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. Additionally, his arrangements, compositions, and performances have been heard both on television and in motion pictures. In 2019, he was honored to be featured alongside the Los Angeles Philharmonic for a rare organ solo cameo.

The program will feature popular holiday selections and improvisations.

It may be viewed all month, starting Friday, December 3, at 12:15 PM, at

<https://www.youtube.com/c/ClassicalCrossroads>

**Organ Study Scholarship Program**  
**Guidelines**  
**Long Beach Chapter American Guild of Organists**

The Long Beach Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is offering an organ study scholarship competition to promote the development of new and continuing organ students.

The following guidelines apply to this competition:

1. Applicants must be 30 years old or younger.
2. Scholarships will be in the amount of \$250 and will be paid directly to the approved teacher. Those selected to receive a scholarship will be given a list of approved organ teacher from which to choose.
3. Three judges will decide the winners and also provide feedback to applicants.
4. The enclosed application form sets forth the performance requirements.
5. Previous scholarship winners who have claimed their awards are not eligible.

Approved List of Hymns (Hymn Tune)

- 1) Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty (Nicea)
- 2) Holy God, We Praise Thy Name (Grosser Gott, Wir Loben Dich)
- 3) Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (Lauda Anima)
- 4) God is here! (Abbot's Leigh)
- 5) I Know That My Redeemer Lives! (Duke Street)
- 6) Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (Hymn to Joy)
- 7) A Mighty Fortress is Our God (Ein' Feste Burg)
- 8) Be Thou My Vision (Slane)
- 9) Come Thou Almighty King (Italian Hymn)
- 10) Crown Him with Many Crowns (Diademata)

**Organ Study Scholarship Program**  
**Application**  
**Long Beach Chapter of the American Guild of Organists**

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Years: of piano study \_\_\_\_\_ or organ study \_\_\_\_\_ with current teacher \_\_\_\_\_

I will be auditioning on: Piano \_\_\_\_\_ Organ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Current Piano/Organ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Current Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Requirements for both piano and organ students:

- 1) Demonstrate competence in hymn playing by selecting a hymn (from the approved list – see attached) suitable for congregational singing and by playing the hymn with an introduction and two stanzas in an appropriate style.
- 2) Perform a piece suitable for a prelude or postlude.
- 3) Perform a piece of a different style suitable for offertory.

Submit a video recording of you performing each of the above pieces, i.e., a hymn, a prelude or postlude, and an offertory. Each piece must be performed as a single recording, i.e., without edits or stopping. The pieces can be played on the piano or the organ. Total performance time should not exceed 25 minutes.

Email application and video to:  
Kyle Black, Scholarship Chair  
kywblack@gmail.com

Scholarship applications must be received by March 1, 2022.

## Do You Have Something to Say?

Do you have a concert to promote? Do you know of some online resource you'd like to share? Do you play a particularly interesting organ? Do you have any impressions you'd like to share about a recent musical event? Are you new to the Chapter?

Don't be shy; we'd love to hear from you! Please note that while we don't always succeed, we always try to get the issue out the door, and into Chapter Members' hands, by the beginning of the month. And if you have something to promote, then the earlier you start, the better.

## From the Press Room

*James Lampert, Production and Distribution*

*(Any opinions expressed here are solely those of the author.)*

### What I did on my Fall Vacation

Thanks to a certain rotten stinking virus we have all grown to know and despise, I had not had a real vacation in two years. My last vacation had been a visit to Northern California in the Fall of 2019, and *that* was actually a postponed Spring vacation (because a customer had decided to make a transition that required my presence all Spring). The closest I'd come to a vacation since then was a couple of weeks off-duty at home (something I'm sure most Chapter members can relate to).

That finally changed last month. It wasn't much of a vacation: only ten days instead of my usual seventeen, split between San Francisco and Sacramento, but it was a much-needed change of scenery.

Saturday the 13th, I spent all day and all evening on the Coast Starlight. The combination of budget cuts and COVID has not done pleasant things to train travel, but it still beats being stuck behind the wheel, or crammed into a cramped airline seat.

Sunday the 13th began with a church service at St. Mark's Lutheran (the organ there is a Taylor & Boody tracker, Opus 37, from 2002), followed by a turkey sandwich for lunch, and then a matinee concert at Davies Hall, with Michael Tilson Thomas conducting a program of Mozart, Schumann, and his own *Notturmo*. (We must all thank Frank Gehry for giving Disney Hall a truly cavernous street-level outer lobby: it has greatly facilitated vax-card checks; at Davies Hall, they have to do it on the sidewalk!)

After spending Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday museum-hopping, the next musical highlight was Wednesday evening, with 42nd Street Moon presenting

its production of Sondheim's *A Little Night Music*. Then, on Thursday evening, it was back to Davies Hall, for another concert, this time with Ludovic Morlot conducting Ravel's *Mother Goose* suite, and the world premiere of a new trombone concerto by San Francisco Symphony Principal Trombonist Timothy Higgins, and then Tilson Thomas took over for Copland's *Appalachian Spring*.

No concerts or live theatre in Sacramento; just lots of museum-hopping, including the new MOSAC science museum, and the new National Model Railroad Association gallery in the California State Railroad Museum. And, of course, a service at St. Paul's Episcopal (a Johnson & Son tracker that's well over a century old).

And of course, if you read my email announcements about the Leisure World job posting and Althea's concert, you already know that I was never out-of-touch with the Chapter. Before the Pandemic, getting a computer carrel in a San Francisco branch library used to involve a significant wait. Now, I can just walk in. I still have to enter my SF library card number, but there's no longer a wait.

I have a lot to look forward to in January: in addition to Giuseppe's program on the 25th, I'm also looking forward to Chelsea Chen at Disney Hall on the 23rd, followed by Itzhak Perlman there on the 26th.

James H. H. Lampert  
Your Humble Typesetter



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