



The Principal

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

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The Dean's Corner

Greetings to All!

The Presidents' Day Organ Festival 2024 was a resounding success, held at four churches in Palos Verdes and Torrance. Our very own members, Kent Eggert and Peter Bates, opened the event beautifully!



Our next event will be the Workshop with Hanan Yacub and Fran Johnston: "Can't We All Just Get Along?" It's scheduled for Saturday, March 9, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church, 24027 Pennsylvania Ave., Lomita. Please mark your calendars; you won't want to miss it!

Looking ahead, please mark your calendars for the AGO 2024 National Convention in San Francisco, taking place from June 30 through July 4. The AGO group hotel rate of \$169 per night is available both before and after the convention dates, from June 23 through July 10. Our esteemed member, Fran Johnston, will present a workshop on Monday, July 1, at 10:00 a.m., entitled "An Organist Prepares," which is designed for keyboardists not comfortable with improvisation. For more information about the convention, visit www.sfago2024.org.

Lastly, as we plan our program season for 2024-25, we welcome your input on particular programs you would like to see more of, whether it be concerts, educational events, or social gatherings. If you are interested in leadership or support roles within the chapter, please don't hesitate to contact me or Kyle Black, Chair of the Program Committee. Your opinions are invaluable in promoting our chapter!

Wishing you blessings as you prepare for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter!

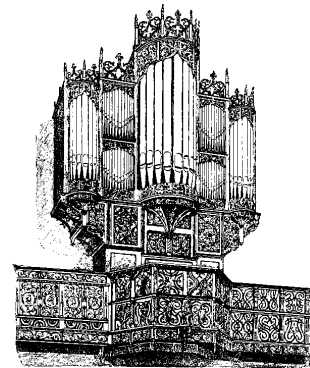
Dr. Hyunju Hwang,
Dean, Long Beach Chapter AGO

Can't We All Just Get Along?

Moving from heartburn to harmony with pastors, choir members/directors, contemporary worship leaders and the rest of life's blood-pressure raisers!

Sometimes our jobs are a dream, or at least are going along smoothly and with purpose. But often we run into conflicts—different personalities and different goals, different understandings of the jobs we do. In this one-hour workshop, we will discuss ways to get past our differences to see the people behind them. While this may not solve all our differences, it can give us guidance.

Hanan Yacub, choir director, and Fran Johnston, organist, have worked together and apart for about 50 years in a variety of church settings. A significant time was spent together at Trinity United Presbyterian Church in Santa Ana, where both worked with numerous pastors and worship leaders. Currently, both are working part-time at All Saints Anglican Cathedral here in Long Beach.



LBAGO Program 2023-2024

Saturday, March 9, 2024 – 10:00am

Workshop With Hanan Yacub And Fran Johnston: "Can't We All Just Get Along?"

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
24027 Pennsylvania Ave., Lomita

Sunday, May 19, 2024 – 4:00pm

*Guild Service And Installation Of Officers:
Evensong*

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church
6201 E Willow St, Long Beach

Also in March:

The Newfangled Four at St. Gregory's

Music at 4 presents The Newfangled Four, one of the top barbershop quartets in the world. "Combining old-fashioned slapstick humor with their quirky offbeat comedy, The Newfangled Four merges their talents as top-notch harmony singers and world class entertainers.

March 24th at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 6201 E. Willow St., Long Beach, CA 90815. A free-will offering will be taken.



The American Guild of Organists San Francisco National Convention



Diversity • Technology • Environment • Artistry • Inspiration • Community

25 Concerts - 63 Workshops - Vendor Exhibit Hub

Presidents' Day Organ Festival 2024

The Presidents' Day Organ Festival 2024 commenced with a resounding success on February 19th, drawing a full house at the First Lutheran Church in Torrance. Nelson Dodge, the coordinator, alongside LA chapter's interim Dean Sean O'Neal, extended a warm welcome to all attendees. The event kicked off with captivating performances on the Reuter/Allen Hybrid organ by esteemed members Peter Bates and Kent Eggert.

Transitioning to St. Mark's Presbyterian Church in Lomita, where Margaret Armstrong had dedicated many years of service, the audience was treated to enchanting performances by Alison Luedecke and Yoojung Chung on the Schantz Organ.

The journey continued to Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Rancho Palos Verdes, where our esteemed member Seong-Ok Yuh serves as an organist. Following a delightful lunch served in the Parish Hall, the sanctuary resonated with the harmonies crafted by Dr. Tyler Zimmerman and Hektor Pitstick on the Abbott & Sieker organ.

Culminating at St. John Fisher Catholic Church in Rancho Palos Verdes, the finale featured Ty Woodward and Lukas Hasler on the Schantz Organ. The event concluded with a vibrant reception, offering merchandise from 10,000 Villages, a music sale benefiting LA AGO, a table laden with complimentary CDs, and delectable refreshments. Despite the rainy weather, the festival boasted impressive attendance, and all attendees reveled in the exquisite organ music, ensuring a memorable and enjoyable experience for everyone involved.



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Sean Coburn O'Neal, owner

The 2024 Presidents' Day Organ Festival



Kent Eggert performs at First Lutheran.



Peter Bates performs at First Lutheran, Torrance.



Mount Olive Lutheran, Rancho Palos Verdes.



Peter and Kent, at First Lutheran.



Sean O'Neal at St. John Fisher

Long Beach Chapter of the American Guild of Organists



ORGAN STUDY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ. The Long Beach Chapter of the AGO serves cities in and around the Long Beach area. We are dedicated to celebrating the "King of Instruments."

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) is the national professional association serving the organ and choral music fields. The Guild serves approximately 275 chapters and 12,000 members throughout the United States and abroad.

The Long Beach Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (LBAGO) supports and encourages those interested in a course of study on the organ and considers applications of those thirty years old or younger for our \$500 scholarship program annually. Completed forms should be submitted to our current Scholarship Chair, Mr. Kyle W. Black (kywblack@gmail.com). Scholarship funds will be paid directly to an approved teacher. Teachers should be current members of the LBAGO or another local chapter. If there is no current organ teacher, LBAGO will supply a list of potential teachers to choose from for instruction.

Application: Complete an application form and submit a short video recording without edits of the following on either the piano or organ:

- A short piece of piano or organ music by a recognized classical composer. For piano examples include Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Scarlatti, etc. For organ this could be music by (or attributed to) J.S. Bach, or any simple piece written for the organ.
- Two major and two minor scales. Both hands in parallel motion (no pedals necessary), two octaves each.
- A simple hymn, either with manuals and pedals or manuals only. Suggested tunes include (but are not limited to) *Nicaea*, *Hymn to Joy*, *Slane*, *Diademata*, *Duke Street*, etc.

Recordings may be submitted via email, USB memory stick, or uploaded via Dropbox, YouTube, Vimeo, etc. Reapplication for scholarships will be considered at LBAGO discretion. Scholarship money will be paid directly to the approved instructor.

An application form with video recordings (or access instructions to the recordings) must be sent to our scholarship program chair by April 1. Decisions about the application will be sent to applicants via email no later than May 1.

Long Beach Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO)
Organ Study Scholarship Program Application

Applicant Name _____

Street Address: _____

Phone and Email: _____

Date of Birth (Including Year): _____

Currently enrolled in full-time education? _____ If so, where? _____

Are you currently a member of the AGO? If so, which chapter(s)? _____

Current organ teacher (if any) _____

What you seek when it comes to organ lessons and how might this scholarship help:

Signature of Parent/Guardian if applicant is under 18 years of age: _____

This application form with video recordings (or details of how to access these recordings), must be sent to our scholarship program chair, Mr. Kyle Black (kywblack@gmail.com) by April 1. Decisions about the application will be sent to applicants via email no later than May 1.

Statement of support from a teacher, choir director, band director or pastor:

Name_____

Phone and Email_____

Date_____

Vacation Notice

Your humble typesetter and acting editor will be on vacation from April 27th through May 11, so please make sure I have all the information on the Guild Service (as well as everything else needed for the May issue) by no later than April 20th. And incidentally, unless a really big April event turns up between now and Palm Sunday, we will be having an April/May issue.

Submission Guidelines

Ladies and Gentlemen, this is *your* newsletter. I just put it together, and add my own comments at the end.

Remember, this is not an M\$-Word-based operation, and hasn't been since I took it over. So if you submit articles, announcements, job postings, and so forth in DOC or DOCX format, you're just making more work for me (and possibly causing a delay, if I don't have access to either my office or my Chromebook). I don't expect anybody here to be able to send me materials in the ideal format for my (WP5.1) WordPerfect/Xerox Ventura Publisher workflow, but sending it as either plain text, RTF, or the body of a plain text email would save me a great deal of time.

Likewise, if you have a full-page insert, such as a flyer, a PDF would be a good choice.

Pictures can be in JPEG, PNG, TIFF, or *any other format* that GIMP (GNU Image Manipulation Program) can read; ideal width for a column-wide image is 487 or 650 pixels; ideal width for a page-wide image is 1050 or 1400 pixels. And please, if you send me something that's more than a megabyte or two, warn me before I start downloading something huge through a limited-bandwidth connection.

And finally, remember that a column-inch is one column wide, by one inch high. This entire article, including the header, is about 5 column-inches.

From the Press Room

James Lampert, Production and Distribution

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

Last night, I attended Wayne Marshall's Sunday evening recital at Disney Hall (where I ran into a couple of Chapter Members during Intermission), and by the time you read this, Leila Josefowicz's Wednesday evening recital there may also have already happened. My apologies for not getting this issue out until less than two weeks before the March Workshop, but I was still getting last-minute corrections during the long trolley ride from Disney Hall back to my car.

Speaking of Disney Hall, I will note that violinist Ray Chen will be performing there on March 27th, the Philharmonic will be performing the Saint-Saëns Third in mid-April, and Anna Lapwood will be closing out the Organ Recital season on April 21st.

The Oscar-nominated documentary, *The Last Repair Shop*, was recently broadcast on ABC, as a presentation of *On the Red Carpet*. It tells the story of some of the gifted artisans at the Los Angeles Unified School District's Musical Instrument Repair Department. It would have most likely completely escaped my notice, except for the fact that my dad, in his old age, has become a bit of a "news-junkie," and the fact that he spent the lion's share of his career in the LAUSD Plumbing Department, and did plumbing work for Musical Instrument Repair on at least one occasion.

If you missed the broadcast, and I've piqued your curiosity, you can still catch it online: it's available at both YouTube and Vimeo. Just do a Google search on "The Last Repair Shop."

James H. H. Lampert
Your Humble Typesetter



