



# The Principal

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

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## The Dean's Corner



Congratulations to all our performers in the marvelous members' recital celebrating César Franck's 200th Anniversary! What a truly outstanding program and wonderful way to celebrate the expressive beauty of Franck. In case you missed it, you can still watch the recital on our YouTube Channel:

<https://tinyurl.com/lbago-youtube>

Turning to the POE (June 28 to July 1, 2022), we currently have six applicants and one prospective applicant. I want to give special thanks to Dolly Ickler, who agreed to take on the position of Funding Coordinator. Our POE Committee Members are working so hard for the next generation of organists. Please consider contributing to the success of our POE by donation and/or volunteering. (See the next page for more information.)

Next, please note that our next event will be the Guild Service and Installation of Officers on Sunday, May 1, 2022, at 4:00 pm. This is an in-person event. I want to give special thanks to Sean O'Neal, who will host us at the St. Cross Episcopal Church where he works as the Director of Music. It will be the last event of the 2021-22 season, and I hope to see you all there.

Finally, it is my sincere wish that your Holy Week and Easter work inspire members of your congregations.

Dr. Hyunju Hwang  
Dean, Long Beach Chapter AGO



## The Franck Recital

Our March event went very well, and was well-received, already up to 108 views in just under a week. Camerawork and editing were quite good, worthy of my friend in the video business.

The program itself was very well-structured, starting with one of Franck's best known and most frequently performed works, and ending with a "big finish."

Piece Heroique and Prelude, Fugue, and Variations were of course very familiar to me, and Sean and Alicia's performances were both up to the same standards as any of the recordings I have of those pieces.

The Cantabile and the Symphonic Variations were both entirely new pieces to me, so I have nothing to compare them to, but Robert, Althea, and Peter also performed beautifully. I will note (for the benefit of others who are unfamiliar with the work, and who missed the intertitle card) that this is originally for piano and orchestra.

I've had reports of difficulty reaching the video; it's still there, and it's not going anywhere; if you somehow got a garbled direct link, you can always reach it from our YouTube TinyURL link, <https://tinyurl.com/lbago-youtube> (if all else fails). The TinyURL link will also give you access to the other Chapter videos.

## Yes, We Have Nosferatu!

Our immediate Past Dean, Robert York, will be accompanying a screening of the 1922 silent film, Nosferatu, on April 9th, at 7pm. Tickets are \$20. This will be Robert's debut at the historic Old Town Music Hall, located at 140 Richmond Street, El Segundo, CA 90245, not far from the Los Angeles International Airport. The theatre has been going for 50 years and houses a huge 4-manual "Mighty Wurlitzer."

Robert will be accompanying Nosferatu on their 4m/27r Wurlitzer. I saw the film some years ago myself, accompanied by Robert on the St. Luke's Austin.

This is F. W. Murnau's unauthorized version of Dracula, that the Bram Stoker estate tried to suppress forever (and almost succeeded).

# Looking Ahead to our POE

## Enrollment

We still have nine spots available. If you know anyone who might be interested in attending, please direct them to the Chapter's website (<https://www.lbago.org/poe2022>) or have them contact me directly to get more information about this exciting program. Remember, applicants do not need to already play the organ in order to attend.

## How Chapter Members Can Help

- Encourage your students to participate
- Make a tax-deductible contribution to support the POE
- Become part of the volunteer staff for the POE (Contact Robert Martin, our Service Coordinator, for more information.)
- Plan on attending the public POE events.

## Thanks to Our POE Steering Committee



Dr. Hyunju Hwang, POE Director; Robert Luke Martin, Secretary/Registrar and Service Coordinator; Dolly Ickler, Treasurer and Funding Coordinator; Kyle Black, Facilities Coordinator; Karla Devine, Faculty Coordinator; Kyle Black and Emma Yim, Publicity Coordinator

## From the Service Coordinator

We are in need for chaperones and drivers for our chapter's upcoming POE.

Chaperones accompany students to their lessons and practice time at a local church.

Drivers provide a safe, prompt, reliable ride from CSULB's housing to lessons in local churches, workshops, and other events throughout the week. You must be licensed to drive and have the appropriate insurance on your vehicle. Drivers will also be needed to pick up any out of town students from airports and other transit hubs.

If you are interested and able to volunteer, please fill out our online form at <https://tinyurl.com/LBPOEvoluteer> or contact Robert Martin at [rmartin7191@gmail.com](mailto:rmartin7191@gmail.com)

## Support the LB-POE With Your Shopping

This just in from Karla Devine:

Here is a wonderful opportunity to support the Long Beach POE. Anytime you shop at Ten Thousand Villages, a fair trade non-profit, in either Redondo Beach or San Pedro, 15% of your purchase will go toward the Long Beach POE. (This excludes food purchases.) You can even share the flyer with friends, family and members of your congregation. They just must remember to mention AGO when they make their purchase. Think about upcoming birthdays, Mothers' Day, Fathers' Day, graduations, weddings, even yourself! We have beautiful baskets that could be filled for Easeter, too.

Please support this easy, ongoing FUNdraiser, which supports the POE and fair trade all at once with beautiful purchases!

Thank you!  
Karla Devine



**Here is my tax-deductible gift to support the 2022 Long Beach POE!**

Please make your check payable to "AGO Long Beach Chapter POE" and mail to:  
Dolly Ickler, POE Treasurer  
266 Euclid Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90803

Name as I would like it to appear in the POE programs:

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**WORLD RENOWNED ORGANIST RETURNS TO BAKERSFIELD**

**Live in Concert:**

**PETER RICHARD CONTE**



*Wanamaker Grand Court Organist, Macy's, Philadelphia*

**FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2022, AT 7:00 pm**

**VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH, OLIVE DRIVE CAMPUS**

**(HOME OF THE NINTH LARGEST PIPE ORGAN WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI)**

**5500 OLIVE DRIVE**

**SUGGESTED DONATION: \$10.00**

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## Concert at The Neighborhood Church

Please join us in May, for an organ concert featuring Dr. Hyunju Hwang, performed on the Neighborhood Church's Rosales Glatter-Götz organ in Palos Verdes Estates. Works by Bach and Dupré as well as jazz pieces and more, including a team up with Tsugumi Shikano (jazz percussionist) and Rebecca Ogle (organist emeritus at the Neighborhood Church).



There is no admission fee, but free-will donation which will go to toward organ maintenance.

<https://www.ncpve.org/upcoming-events/2022/5/15/organ-concert-feat-dr-hyunju-hwang>

## Guild Service May 1st

This is our last event of the season (except for the POE, of course).

**Sunday, May 1, 2022 – 4:00 pm**

***Guild Service & Installation of Officers***

***In-Person Event (at least as of press time)***

*Host: Sean O'Neal*

St. Cross Episcopal Church

1818 Monterey Blvd, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

## From the Press Room

*James Lampert, Production and Distribution*

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

For the first time in a while, we've managed to get an issue out the door on time, i.e., before the beginning of its nominal month. But can we do it twice in a row? Given that the Guild Service is on May 1st, we'd certainly better do so!

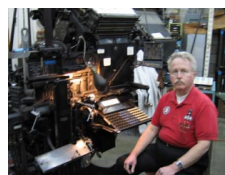
March was a busy month. Before the Franck recital was even uploaded, there was Monica Czausz Berney's long-awaited recital at Disney Hall. Ms. Berney is even better in person than in her YouTube videos; in both the pre-concert lecture and when she addressed the audience during the concert, she turned out to be personable and witty. The lecture took place in the hall itself (because of an art installation in the usual pre-concert lecture space), which allowed her to demonstrate excerpts on the organ itself.

And that was followed, barely three days later, by a violin recital featuring Midori, with pianist Özgür Aydin, in a program of Mozart, Schumann, Bach, Skalkottas, and Brahms. The structure of the program was nearly ideal, getting the audience completely on Midori's side before venturing out of the comfort zone with the Skalkottas, and then returning everyone home with the Brahms.

### CD of the Year, 2021

It has occurred to me that I never did announce the 2021 Christmas "CD of the Year." As always, I was looking for a new-release, new-import, or otherwise newly-in-wide-distribution CD, prominently featuring an organ of at least predominantly real pipes and predominantly tracker key action, with mass appeal, and what I like to call "Tracker Action on Parade." This time, the auditions ultimately boiled down to two finalists: December 1705, Manuel Tomadin's volume of Buxtehude and Bach on a 1691 Arp Schnitger, on Brilliant Classics, and Wonderful Splendor, a more eclectic program by Russell Weismann on the Pittsburgh Beckerath, on Raven.

The Tomadin recording had much to recommend it, but with only two composers represented, its variety was a bit limited. The Weismann recording ended up taking the nod (and a sizable order for Christmas) on the strength of its variety, including both familiar and rarely heard works, including a few that are far from stereotypical material for performance on a tracker instrument.



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#### **Long Beach Chapter Officers**

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