



The Worcester Organist

Official Newsletter of the
WORCESTER CHAPTER
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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Worcester: Pipe Organ Capital of New England



The ballots have been counted, and it's now official: your new slate of officers will be reporting for duty as of July 1. Actually, with two executive board meetings under our belts, we're already quite engaged as we are busily planning the new year.

It's an honor to be serving as Dean. I've sat back over my some 30 years in the Worcester area – fondly recalling the restoration of the Mechanics Hall Hook, plus the 1983 and 1999 regional conventions – and reaped the benefits of other leaders' endeavors who've come before me. Now, I can hopefully contribute to the prosperity of the chapter and spread the good word about pipe organs to central Massachusetts. Two of my initial goals are:

(1) Increase membership by 50%, from 110 to 155, by August 25. This includes a 90% renewal rate of current

members. (Renew now!) Don't raise your eyebrows, but rather, get in gear and invite your colleagues, denominational neighbors, and yes, organ enthusiast choir members to join – there are contest prizes! (There's a national chapter lottery among all chapters who have a 90% renewal rate. The prize is \$500 for the winning chapter – wow!), and:

(2) Increase the chapter's use of technology, particularly on the web. (Read on below.)

Introducing "AGO 2.0"

We're launching a series of initiatives that, collectively, we're calling AGO 2.0, meaning the next "version" of our chapter, just like software releases that come out every couple of years. You've already seen some hints of this in our new online calendar and our online [membership renewal](#) process. Later in the summer, to be released is our online Membership Directory, where you, the members, can edit your own profile and include not only your standard contact information, but also a headshot photo – how many names/faces have you forgotten?! – and Facebook/LinkedIn profile links. (There's a national "group" for AGO in LinkedIn – join it!) Before your eyes glaze over at the thought of "technology", consider that as a member, you'll be able to SEARCH for who's at this church or that church, view a profile to refresh your memory of someone's face, or to find a lost e-mail address!

Membership 2010!

By allowing [online registrations](#), we're saving the chapter printing and mailing costs, and increasing the ease and speed for how we do our clerical business at hand. Please visit our contest categories and rules. There are **five ways** that you can **win a valuable gift certificate** to a local business or for music scores:

(1) By simply renewing your membership before August 25, your name will be placed in that lottery contest. The prize for this category is a \$50 gift certificate from Cliff Hill Music. (Note: Cliff Hill Music also offers a 20% discount from retail, so the value of this prize is really \$62!)

(Continued...)

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"It is easy to play any musical instrument: all you have to do is touch the right key at the right time and the instrument will play itself"
(J.S. Bach).

Worcester: Pipe Organ Capital of New England (cont'd)

(2) All new members (anyone who was not a member during the 2009-2010 year) are entered into a separate category for a drawing.

(3-5) By referring a new member (or non-current member) who has a paid membership application by August 25 and claims you as the referring member, you are entered into one of three separate lotteries, depending on the type of membership they sign up for: (a) regular, (b) dual, or (c) friend.

With each referral, one lottery chance will be entered in your name – so get busy! See complete contest rules and categories listed [here](#). We even have help for you: talking points that you can cut and paste into an e-mail, including links for the prospective member to see what the benefits are for belonging to the Worcester chapter!

Also, on the membership renewal [form](#) is an optional donation amount for the scholarship fund. How about rounding your total amount up to the next even ten dollars? (Your check will be quicker to write, or your credit card easier to balance!) A little extra kick into the fund could well enable one more student to be funded next fall!

“The Console” – Worcester AGO Blog

Please visit our new blog, updated several times a week, and maybe more often during the DC convention. We're hoping to streamline our communication lines among members to disseminate interesting news and happenings in our area. Visit www.WorcesterAGO.org/blog. (There's a link on our website too!)

Oh, and did I mention that you should renew now? Click on the link ([Membership Renewal](#)) to renew by credit card online, or simply print the form and mail it with your check. **Start picking scores to buy if you win the \$50 gift certificate prize!**

“Sincerely,”

Will Sherwood, AAGO, ChM
Dean

Our Worcester Chapter Mission Statement

The Worcester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists educates and empowers local organists by providing resources to develop their skills and to network with other members of the arts community and church music profession in Central Massachusetts. It heightens the visibility of the pipe organ and its music by promoting recitals and recording projects, workshops and other programs while actively supporting the next generation of organists by providing scholarships, seminars and performance opportunities for young musicians.

Update: The Hanover Theatre Organ

Several chapter members attended the recent performance of Jonathan Orloff at the Hanover Theatre in Worcester, Massachusetts. “The program was great,” says Worcester AGO Member-at-Large Kevin Mathieu, who was able to play the newly installed and restored Wurlitzer organ. “What a thrilling instrument it is.”

Submitted by Kevin Mathieu: With renovations complete and two seasons of shows under its belt, the Hanover Theatre has made a solid mark on the performing arts in Worcester. We are so lucky to have a fully functioning and fully outfitted performance center that is capable of presenting the biggest and the best programming right in the heart of Worcester. Now, add to those resources a 4-manual, 35-rank PIPE ORGAN! With just one rank left to install at the time of this writing, the Hanover Wurlitzer is playing and ready to reach the masses! The instrument will be the largest of its kind in New England. It will be comprised of some 2500 pipes, a full complement of tuned percussion instruments, and a large assortment of drums and cymbals. Further info about the organ can be found at www.thehanoverorgan.org, and future programming info will be available at www.emcatos.com.

Remember to visit “The Console”, our chapter's blog, where you can view photos and video of this recent performance.

Placement Listings

**POSITION DETAILS ARE SUMMARIZED. FOR COMPLETE DESCRIPTIONS,
PLEASE CONTACT THE INDIVIDUAL(S) INDICATED FOR POSITION.**

Hadwen Park Congregational Church, UCC (Organist/Choir Director)
6 Clover St., Worcester, MA 01603; www.hadwenparkchurch.org

Description: Direct a non-professional choir and accompany worship using traditional hymns, anthems and contemporary music. Seeking to be more multi-cultural and diverse in our repertoire. Seeking to start a youth choir. Seeking a passionate team player in a growing UCC congregation. 10-15 hours per week.

Salary/Benefits: Details not specified.

Instrument(s): Estes (Organ); Mason & Hamlin (Piano).

Contact: gracelift@aol.com

Saint Christopher Catholic Church (Director of Music/Organist)
62 Manchester St., Nashua, NH 03064; www.stchrisparishnh.org

Description: Select and provide music at 4:00pm Saturday, 8:00 & 10:00am Sunday Masses, Holy Days of Obligation, Christmas and Holy Week liturgies. Direct adult choir, form/direct children's choir, schedule/train adult and youth cantors. Right of first refusal for all funerals and weddings at parish. Seeking a person of warmth, enthusiasm, energy, skill and musicianship who possesses strong interpersonal and communication skills. An academic degree in music or liturgy is highly desirable, but not required. Experience playing for Roman Catholic worship and leading vocalists is expected. Seeking to fill position by September 2010.

Salary/Benefits: Details not specified.

Instrument(s): Allen Digital (Organ); Yamaha Digital (Piano).

Contact: Search Committee, Fr. Richard Kelley (Chair) at musicdirector@stchrisparishnh.org. Fax: 603-881-8728.

First Congregational Church of Milford, UCC (Organist)
4 Congress St., Milford, MA 01757

Description: Part-time. Select, prepare and play music for one service weekly. From mid-September until early in June. Work with Choir Director to accompany talented church choir of about 14 members at rehearsals on Sunday mornings and some Wednesday nights with performance during Sunday service. Accompany solos, duets, other instrumentalists. Some piano work involved. Special services: Maundy Thursday, two (2) Christmas Eve services. Weddings and funerals compensated separately. Facilities may be used for private lessons.

Salary/Benefits: Negotiable, commensurate with experience. 4 weeks paid vacation.

Instrument(s): Steere (Organ); Chickering (Piano); Steinway (Piano).

Contact: Larry Spencer, Music Committee Chair, at 508-478-4624 or lardebspen@verizon.net.

First Presbyterian Church of Worcester (Music Director: Organist/Choir Director)
125 Holden St., Worcester, MA 01606

Description: Available immediately. Part-time (6-8 hours per week). Plan/coordinate, in consult with pastoral staff, all service music, selecting from diverse musical traditions, for blended traditional/contemporary worship services for a multi-cultural, multi-generational congregation. Play piano/organ and lead choir in music for one weekly service at 10:30am on Sundays, plus special holiday services (including, but not limited to Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday). Adult choir rehearsals on Thursday evenings for 90 minutes and before Sunday church services (September-June). Music Director is a member of Worship and Music Committee, participates in monthly worship planning meetings. Maintain appropriate music licenses, maintain/expand existing music library. Coordinate special music and musicians as appropriate. Must be proficient in piano and organ.

Salary: \$10,000 annually, based upon experience.

Instrument(s): Late 19th Century Tracker (Organ); Baldwin (Piano).

Contact: ysheltona@aol.com

(Additional listings on following page.)

Placement Listings (cont'd)

Immanuel Lutheran Church (Director of Music)

346 Shrewsbury St., Holden, MA 01520; www.immanuelholden.org

Description: Part-time. Our vision is for our worship to be a participating assembly, engaging the vocal and instrumental talents of children and adults with music from a variety of cultures and traditions, led by clergy and musicians who seek to enhance its music program with an ideal candidate who will bring education and experience in church liturgy and sacred music; proficiency in organ, piano and voice; excellent organization and communications skills; collaborative working style; and the ability to organize and direct volunteer choirs and musicians. Available summer or fall 2010. Response deadline: July 31, 2010.

Salary: \$19,000-\$21,000 annually. 3-4 weeks paid vacation.

Instrument(s): Gress-Miles (Organ); Yamaha (Piano); Yamaha Digital (Piano).

Contact: Search Committee (Director or Music) at 508-829-4416 or immanuel.holden@verizon.net

United Parish of Upton (Organist)

1 Central Sq., Upton, MA 01568

Description: Part-time. Immediate availability. Provide support for one week per month, including one rehearsal and one Sunday service with the possibility of additional paid special services and programs. Applicants should be proficient in both organ and piano and be willing to work with groups of all musical abilities.

Salary: Details not specified.

Instrument(s): George Reed Tracker (Organ); Roland Digital (Piano).

Contact: Richard Otte, 73 Williams St., Upton, MA 01568 or call 508-529-3543.

2010-2011 Scholarship Awards

The Scholarship Program is one of the hallmarks of our chapter. It's an important part of our Mission, to not only provide educational programming throughout the year, but also financial support for training of member organists who are taking lessons from member teachers. Our program has had over 100 recipients in its 20-year history, and many years have featured a recital by scholarship recipients to demonstrate their progress. (See our blog for photos from the May 2010 recital at First Baptist Church, Worcester.)

There were five applicants in the Spring of 2010. (The first round of requests did not yield any submissions, so there was a second appeal and deadline extension.) Our scholarship committee, headed by Janeen Baker and William Ness, evaluated these applicants to determine this year's recipients based upon their experience level, potential and recommendation.

The recipients for 2010-2011 are as follows, and their teachers will receive a stipend of \$400 per student for the year to assist in their hourly lesson fees:

Horacio Castro, Justin Hernandez, Marcel Sanders, Lydia Grek

(Students of William Ness)

Meredith Gibbons

(Student of Brett Maguire)

We appreciate the great work that our chapter teachers do to help improve the skills of these fine musicians, and we look forward to more successes in the future. And, we appreciate the efforts of all involved for the recent mini fundraiser for the scholarship fund, held at United Congregational Church to sell UCC's anthem sets for \$1 each, where we raised about \$200.

Renew your membership today!

Visit www.WorcesterAGO.org/membership now!

2010-2012 Executive Committee



(Left to Right)

Lois Hagberg, Treasurer; Randy Bloom, Member at Large; David Moulton, Secretary; Tom Ingrassia, Member at Large; Brett Maguire, Sub-Dean; Diane French, Member at Large; Kevin Mathieu, Member at Large; Jean Breidenbach, Registrar; and Will Sherwood, Dean

The 2010-2012 Executive Committee is now in full swing, and we're here *for you*. We are working diligently to invigorate our chapter with the introduction of what we affectionately call "AGO 2.0". Below is a list of other appointments that have been confirmed thus far. Note that there are many positions available. **NOTE OF CLARIFICATION: The below committees are not yet completed. (We expect to fill the committees by 9/1)** If you would be interested in one of these roles, please contact us and let us know! All of our contact information can be found on the rear cover of this newsletter.

Chaplain:

Richard Jones

Publicity:

Tom Ingrassia

Finance Committee:

William Ness & Carolyn Graham

Blog Editor:

Kevin Mathieu

Auditors:

John Weit & Lucia Clemente-Falco

Webmaster:

Will Sherwood

Program Committee:

Brett Maguire, Chair
William Ness
Peter Krasinski

**Yearbook Typesetter,
Placements/Substitutes/Calendar Coordinator:**

David Moulton

Programming Update

The Program Committee is working on an excited 2010-2011 year. Our goal is to take advantage of the talents of our members and the quality of Worcester's organs to provide programs that will appeal to all of our subscribers. In addition to classes and masterclasses, we are working on some social events such as an open loft night that will give members an opportunity for camaraderie while also getting to play some of our city's organs. An organ crawl is in the works for the fall, so stay posted! Even if you are not on the Programming Committee, we welcome your ideas. Please feel free to send me an e-mail at

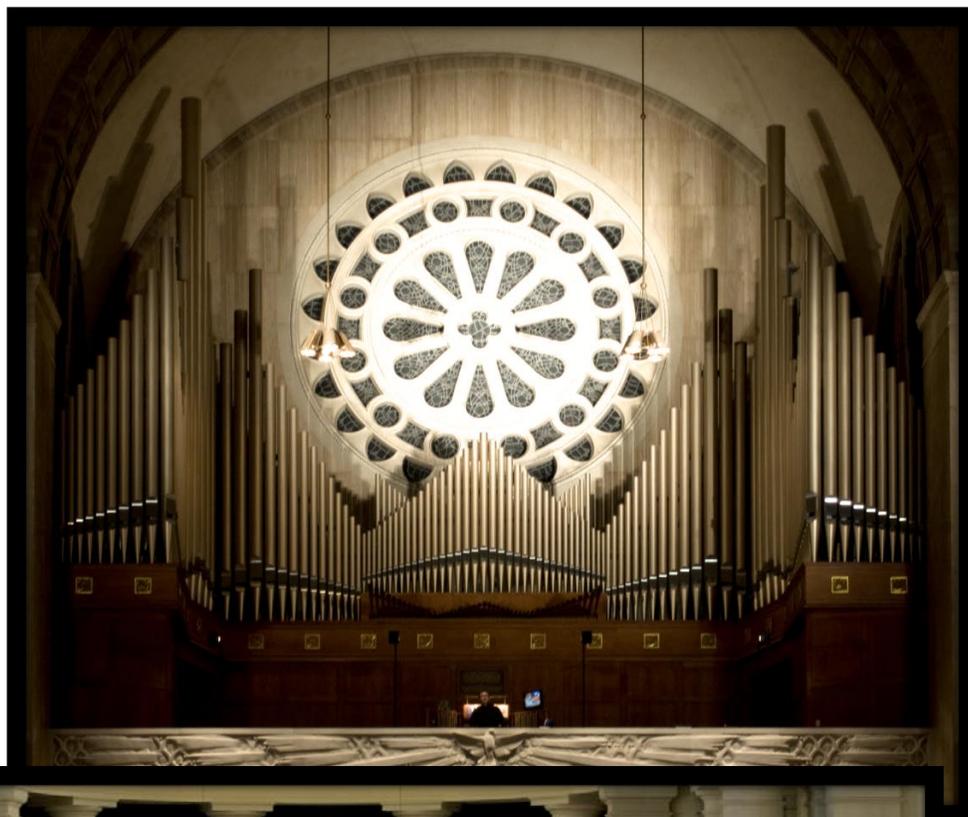
subdean@WorcesterAGO.org

Brett Maguire, Sub-Dean

Photos: National Conference (Washington, D.C.)

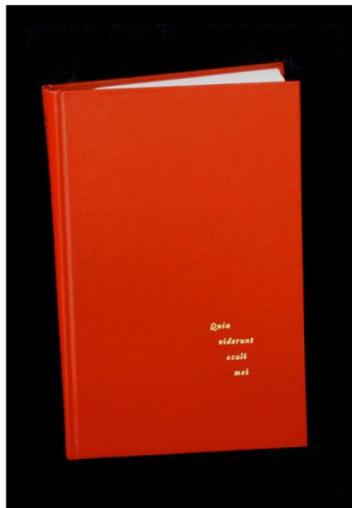
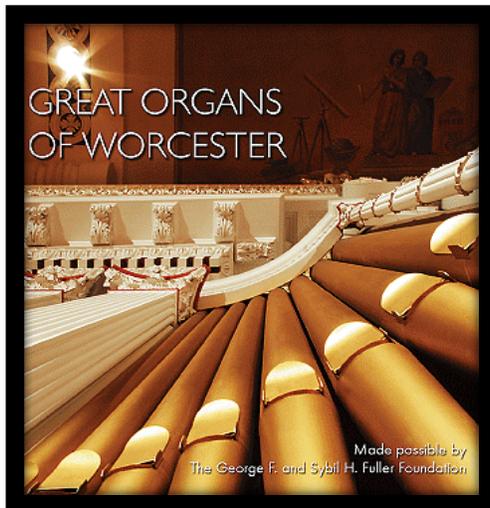
FOR REVIEWS & PHOTOS
(Courtesy of Will Sherwood)

VISIT OUR BLOG:
www.WorcesterAGO.org/blog/



Worcester AGO Online Store

We are happy to make available for online purchase our acclaimed CD, Great Organs of Worcester, featuring sixteen instruments in the city, as well as William Self's book, Mine Eyes Have Seen. Listen to MP3 samples, and **even renew your membership!** Visit www.WorcesterAGO.org/store to see more!



Calendar of Events VISIT OUR [ONLINE CALENDAR](#) FOR THE LATEST UPDATES

July 6, 2010 at 12:15 p.m.

Riverview Chamber Players: Julie Levin, violin; Rebecca Strauss, viola. Mozart, Martinu, O'Connor. King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston. 617-227-2155. Donation of \$3.00. Handicap accessible.

July 7, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.

Dana Robinson, organ: Bach, Schumann, Widor. Methuen Memorial Music Hall, 192 Broadway, Methuen, MA. www.mmmh.org. \$10/\$5.

July 13, 2010 at 12:15 p.m.

Amaryllis Chamber Ensemble: Danzi, Devienne. King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston. 617-227-2155. Donation of \$3.00. Handicap accessible.

July 14, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.

Nicholas White, organ: Buxtehude, Purcell, Elgar, Vierne, Franck, Reubke. Methuen Memorial Music Hall, 192 Broadway, Methuen, MA. www.mmmh.org. \$10/\$5.

July 20, 2010 at 12:15 p.m.

A-No-Ne Trio (Honshuku, dir): Cool Summer Jazz. King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston. 617-227-2155. Donation of \$3.00. Handicap accessible.

July 21, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.

Jacob Street, organ: Buxtehude, Hindemith, Eben, Tournemire, Widor, Litaize, Dupré. Methuen Memorial Music Hall, 192 Broadway, Methuen, MA. www.mmmh.org. \$10/\$5.

July 27, 2010 at 12:15 p.m.

Yael Bat-Shimon, violin: Original works & improvisation. King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston. 617-227-2155. Donation of \$3.00. Handicap accessible.

July 27, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.

Steven Patchel, organ. Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston. 617-739-1340. Donation. Handicap accessible.

July 28, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.

Joyce Painter Rice, organ: Brahms, Reger, Peeters, Parry, Bach, Guilment, Ibert, Grunenwald, Tournemire. Methuen Memorial Music Hall, 192 Broadway, Methuen, MA. www.mmmh.org. \$10/\$5.

August 3, 2010 at 12:15 p.m.

Robert Barney, organ: Bach, Mendelssohn, Stanford. King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston. 617-227-2155. Donation of \$3.00. Handicap accessible.

August 11, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.

Scott Dettra, organ: Brahms, Escaich, Bingham, Dupré, Willan, Franck, Vierne. Methuen Memorial Music Hall, 192 Broadway, Methuen, MA. www.mmmh.org. \$10/\$5.

August 25, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.

Stephen Roberts, organ: Lübeck, Franck, CPE Bach, Liszt, Kerll, Roberts, Alain, Dupré. Methuen Memorial Music Hall, 192 Broadway, Methuen, MA. www.mmmh.org. \$10/\$5.

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Calendar, Placements & Substitutes Coordinator

David Moulton, Secretary
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E-Mail:
secretary@WorcesterAGO.org
Placement listing fee is \$20.00 for 4 mos., payable in advance to:
Worcester Chapter American Guild of Organists
P.O. Box 20208, Worcester, MA 01602

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E-Mail:
subdean@WorcesterAGO.org

Worcester AGO Website links:

Membership – www.WorcesterAGO.org/membership
Online Store – www.WorcesterAGO.org/store
Blog – www.WorcesterAGO.org/blog

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