



*Utah Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists  
Newsletter • December 2018*

## **Engage, Support, and Uplift Every Organist**

---



### **Dean's Message**

Lori Serr

The response to the tribute recital for Parley Belnap at our November chapter activity was overwhelming and heartwarming! The chapel at the American Fork East Stake Center was filled to capacity as a show of love and honor to this wonderful man. Beautiful organ selections were performed by some of his former students. The program also included short, written tributes by each of them. The full text of these tributes will be posted on our chapter's website. I hope you would take the time to read each of them. Thanks to some of the members from our chapter who spent many hours organizing, planning, and coordinating to put this event together! It wouldn't have been the success it was without each of them.

Since this event, I have been reflecting on what makes a great music teacher. I'm sure many of you have had plenty of them over the years! Brother Belnap stands out as the exception for me. He was my own organ teacher while I was at BYU, as well as my older sister's teacher for a short time at USU. I can be counted as one of those students who honor him as a beloved, cherished and respected teacher in their lives.

I have recently been reading from a guide for music teachers called "Making Music and Enriching Lives" by Bonnie Blanchard. Some of the chapter headings include:

- Focus on Relationships First
- Show Students Your Commitment to Excellence
- Instill Pride and Respect
- Promote a Love of Learning and Independence
- Attitude is Everything
- Make Practice a Priority

Each of these headings describes a part of what Brother Belnap was to me as my organ teacher. He has set a great example of excellence in many ways for all of us to follow.

Since this chapter activity, it impressed me how wonderful it is to have events such as these through the guild that uplift and edify! It goes hand in hand with the vision of the AGO: to engage, support, and uplift every organist. So please join us for a great December Informal activity. Details for time and location are included in this newsletter. I look forward to seeing you there!

And may this Christmas season be a joyous one!

---

## Upcoming Chapter Events



December 7  
Christmas Informal  
Provo Sunset Stake Center  
1560 South 1100 West, Provo  
7:00 pm

Bring your favorite Christmas music and play the Johannus organ in an informal setting. Hope to see you there...so we can share!

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) over a dark, mountainous landscape. The lights are in shades of green and blue, dancing across the sky. The mountains below are dark and silhouetted against the light sky.

# UVAGO MEMBER RECITAL

19 January 2019  
2:00 pm  
1006 East 200 South  
Spanish Fork, UT 84660

To play, email [mirandawilcox96@gmail.com](mailto:mirandawilcox96@gmail.com)

January 19

Member Recital

Stake Center of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

1006 East 200 South, Spanish Fork

2:00 p.m.

This will be a more formal recital at Jack Stoneman's stake center. Please email Miranda Wilcox at [mirandawilcox96@gmail.com](mailto:mirandawilcox96@gmail.com) to sign up to perform.

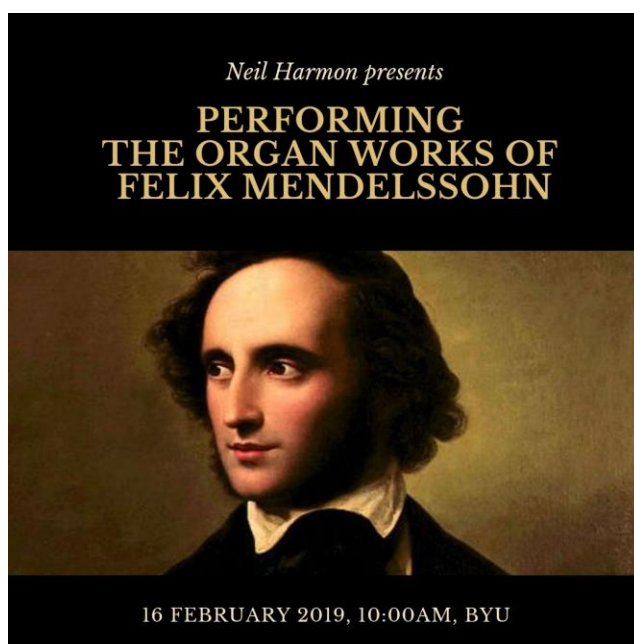
February 9

Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza!  
883 North 1200 East in Provo  
10:00 a.m.

All youth (and parents, too!) are invited to see the inside workings of a pipe organ, ask questions, and try playing the organ! A pizza lunch follows. This will take place in Ruth Eldredge Thomas' home at 883 North 1200 East in Provo (Ephraim and Verena Hatch's former home) from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

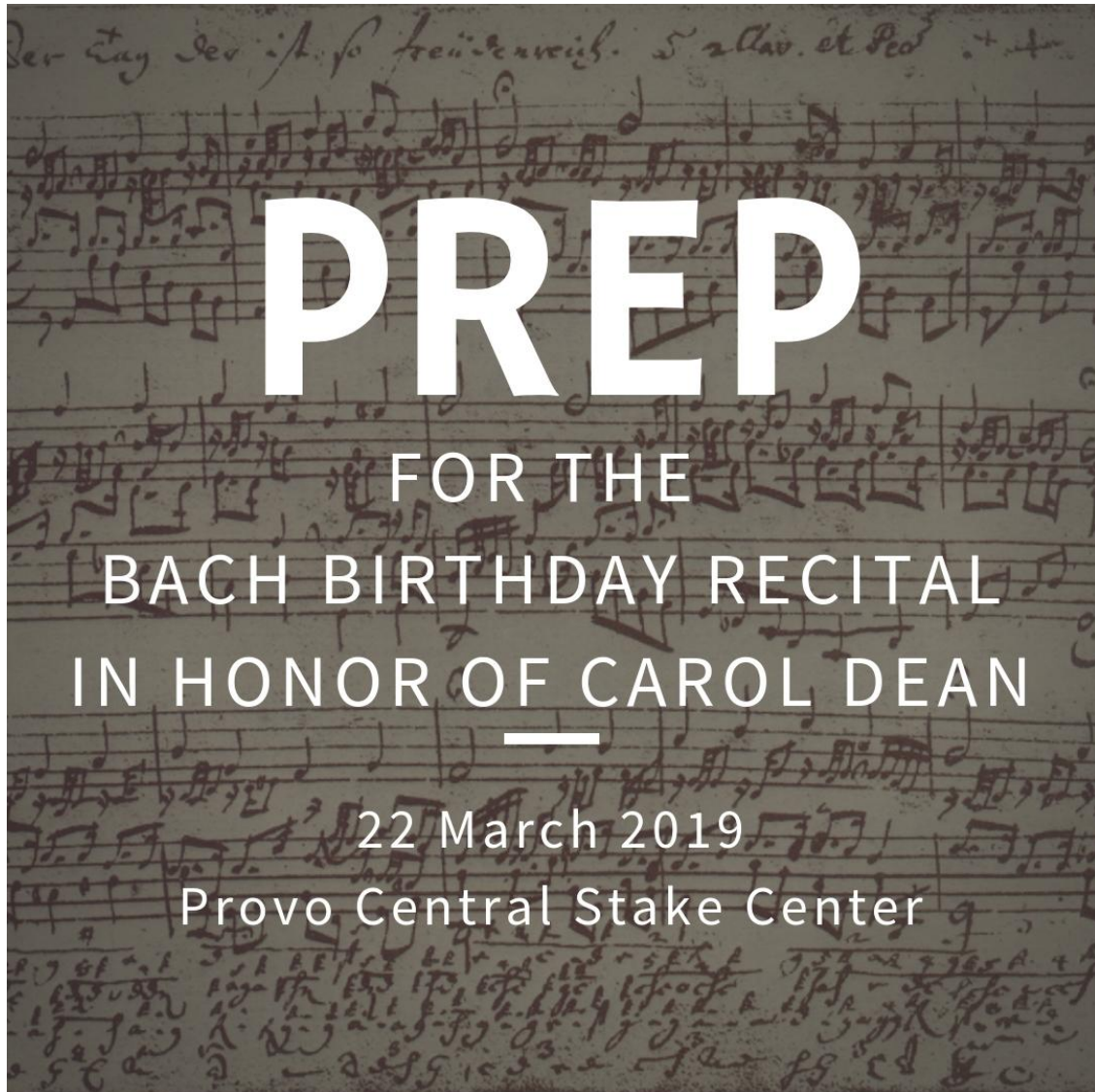
---

New Chapter Event Added in February!



February 16

"Performing the Organ Works of Felix Mendelssohn" by Dr. Neil Harmon  
BYU (room to be determined)  
10:00 a.m.



March 22

Bach's Birthday Recital in Honor of Carol Dean

Provo Central Stake Center

7:00 p.m.

Please contact Miranda Wilcox at [mirandawilcox96@gmail.com](mailto:mirandawilcox96@gmail.com) to reserve your piece and a performance spot on the recital.

April 27

Super Saturday for Church Organists

Details forthcoming!

If you'd like to help the committee organize and execute Super Saturday, please contact Sheri Peterson at: [sheri.peterterson@gmail.com](mailto:sheri.peterterson@gmail.com).

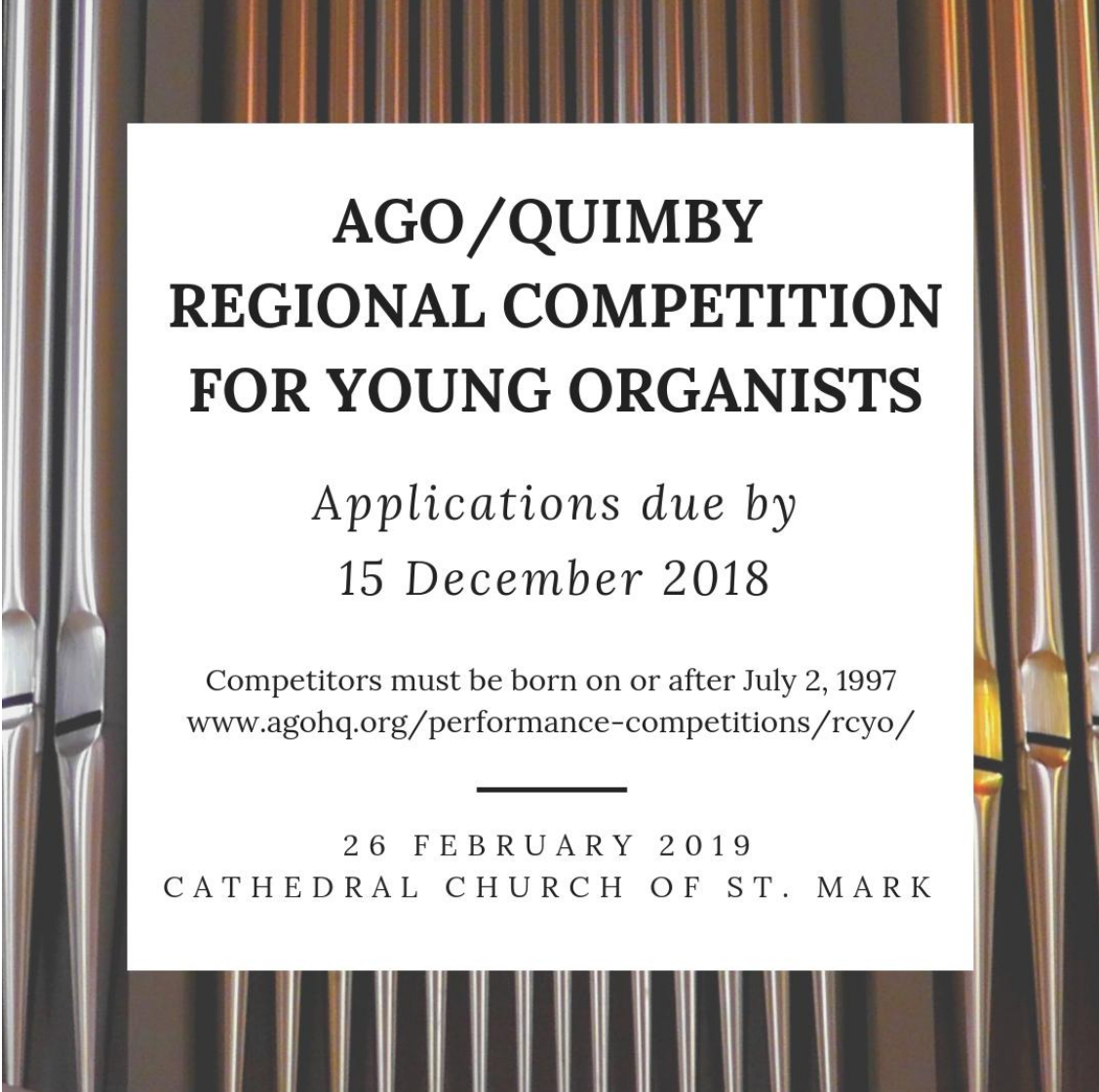
---

REMEMBER! Our chapter news and event details are always available on our website. You can also find contact information for our members on the directory page (directory password is Bigelow16). Visit often. Everything is just a click away.

[uvaqo.org](http://uvaqo.org)

---





**AGO/QUIMBY  
REGIONAL COMPETITION  
FOR YOUNG ORGANISTS**

*Applications due by  
15 December 2018*

Competitors must be born on or after July 2, 1997  
[www.agohq.org/performance-competitions/rcyo/](http://www.agohq.org/performance-competitions/rcyo/)

---

26 FEBRUARY 2019  
CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARK

2019 AGO/QUIMBY REGIONAL COMPETITIONS FOR YOUNG  
ORGANISTS (RCYO)

Utah Competition

Hosted by Utah Valley and Salt Lake City Chapters

Contacts: Jennifer Morgan (UVAGO) & Heidi Alley (SLCAGO)

The purpose of these competitions is to encourage younger organists to pursue excellence, to gain performance experience, to develop service playing skills, and to receive recognition for their achievements.

These competitions begin at the Chapter level and conclude at the seven Regional Conventions. The winner of each Regional Competition will be invited to perform as a Rising Star at the 2020 National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia.

The AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions are made possible by a generous grant from Michael Quimby, President, Quimby Pipe Organs Inc.

[Official Rules](#)

---

## AGO Membership Levels

The American Guild of Organists offers membership, dual membership, and chapter friend options, but understanding what these options mean can be confusing. Hopefully, this information will help you make the best membership decision for your situation. Questions? Please contact the chapter's membership coordinator, Jennifer Morgan, at [jenniferorganist@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferorganist@gmail.com).

[Membership Levels](#)



**Note from Newsletter Editor:** We welcome chapter and guild news and other related items that would be of interest to our members and organ friends. Please email all items, including photos, to Mike Carson at [mcarson@uvago.org](mailto:mcarson@uvago.org). Please send submissions by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the following month's newsletter. Thank you!



[Do you have Facebook? So do we!](#)

"Like" our page to stay in touch with people, events, and important information regarding the Utah Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.