



Utah Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
Newsletter • March 2020

Engage, Support, and Uplift Every Organist

uvago.org



Message from the Dean

Lori Z. Serr, BM, CAGO, NCTM

AGO Achievement Awards

Each month I receive a chapter leadership newsletter from Elizabeth George, an AGO national board member. She is the director of Member Engagement and Chapter Development for the AGO. The newsletters include information and tips for local chapters on matters from planning board meetings, initiating programs, etc., to news and events of other chapters across the U.S.

In a recent newsletter, an article described the success that the Central Hudson Valley chapter in New York has had with the AGO Achievement Awards Program. This program, as stated on the national AGO webpage, “is a

great way to learn basic organ playing skills, to fill in your existing skill set, to start on the road to AGO certification, to structure organ teaching, and to get involved in the chapter.” All the requirements can be completed at any time during one or more appointments with a mentor from our chapter. After all the requirements are met, you are recognized with a certificate during a chapter event. Take a moment to look over the program and the requirements at: <https://www.agohq.org/ago-achievement-awards/>. Awards are given in organ registration, the organ console, manual and pedal techniques, transposition, and harmony. Let us know if you are interested in getting started!

Upcoming Chapter Activities

In recognition of the birthday of J.S. Bach, our annual chapter activity for March will be the Bach Recital on Friday, **March 20**, at the Provo Central Stake Center. Come listen and support the performers and enjoy a slice of “Bach birthday cake” following the recital!

In April our chapter is excited to present a Hymn-Playing Workshop on Saturday, **April 25**. This will take the place of the Super Saturday Training that we normally host each year at BYU. We have many excellent instructors to teach classes in all skill levels of hymn playing. The workshop will be especially geared toward young organists and the YSA age group. Check the printable flyer in this newsletter for more details and

invite all your organist friends to attend this free workshop!

The concluding activity for the year will be a closing social member recital and potluck on Friday, **May 8**, in Spanish Fork. If you haven't already done so, start preparing your selection for this recital!

Micro-volunteers Needed for the Hymn-Playing Workshop

Volunteers are needed on the day of the workshop for small "micro-sized" items that are not too time consuming, e.g. chair set-up, room monitors, registration table, etc. If you can help, contact me at: lori.serr@gmail.com. Thank you!

Many Thanks!

Thanks to all our chapter volunteers who give so freely of their time and talents at our chapter events to promote the organ and encourage all organists. We couldn't succeed without you!

Upcoming Chapter Events

This Month!

7:00 PM
MARCH 20, 2020
450 N 1220 W PROVO

BACH RECITAL



To play in the recital
contact Heidi Rodeback
heidi.rodeback@gmail.com

March 20:

Bach Birthday Recital at the Provo Central Stake Center, 450 North 1220 West, 7:00 p.m. Bring an organ friend or your family. Birthday cake after the recital.



UTAH VALLEY CHAPTER, AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

Hymn Playing Workshop

Free Admission

All organists are invited to attend—
especially young organists and YSA!

8:30 AM - 12 NOON

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

**OREM YSA 3RD STAKE CENTER -
1075 S GENEVA RD, OREM**

Keynote Speaker: Seth Bott, award-winning organist, guest organist at Temple Square, church organist, music director, and organ teacher

Sessions include:

- Organ registrations and hymn-playing techniques
- Resources in the LDS hymnal
- Giving hymns a life
- Hymn playing protocol: dos and don'ts!
- Creating preludes and postludes from the hymnal
- Gaining understanding and appreciation for hymn texts
- Online resources for organists

April 25:

Super Saturday Hymn-Playing Workshop, 9:00 a.m. to noon, Orem YSA Third Stake Center, 1075 S Geneva Road. The keynote speaker will be **Seth Bott**. He will also perform and teach a class on hymn playing. Invite your students and fellow church organists!



May 8: Closing Social

Closing social, member recital, and potluck dinner hosted by Jack Stoneman at his stake center in Spanish Fork, 1006 East 200 South. Bring a side or dessert; meat and drink will be furnished by the chapter.

To perform please contact [Heidi Rodeback](mailto:heidi.rodeback@gmail.com). Then contact [Jack Stoneman](mailto:jackstoneman@gmail.com) to schedule a practice time on the organ.

The potluck will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by the recital at 7:30. Bring a guest or two!

James Welch to Perform at Salt Lake Tabernacle



Dear Organ Friends in Utah Valley! I want to let you know that on **Friday, April 17**, at 7:30 p.m., I'm playing a recital of the music of Dale Wood at the Salt Lake Tabernacle, as part of Temple Square Performances. The recital is free of charge.

The theme is "Wood Works: A Tribute to Dale Wood." I am just completing a biography of Dale Wood, and it will be out by that time. I'd be happy to see you at the recital and thrilled to greet you after.

All the best,
James Welch

Editor's Note: James Welch is the University Organist of Santa Clara University. Previously he taught at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He also serves as organist of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Palo Alto. Jim is a good friend of many in our chapter.

Successful Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza Was Enjoyed by All!

On Saturday morning, February 8, the chapter hosted a group of excited youth and parents at the chapter's annual Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza activity. Chapter members Daivd Chamberlin, Ruth Eldredge Thomas, and others were on hand to offer instruction and to assist the children in playing the little pipe organ at Ruth Thomas's home.





Photos by Kari Nay

Seth Bott to Keynote Hymn-Playing Workshop on April 25



Seth Bott is a native of Castle Dale, Utah. He is currently finishing the final defenses of a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in organ performance at the University of Kansas, where he studies under James Higdon and Michael Bauer and will graduate in May 2020. At Kansas he was appointed to a graduate teaching assistantship, where he taught private lessons and worked closely with the organ faculty to organize and execute organ department business. Before attending the University of Kansas, he received his Master of Music and Bachelor of Music degrees in organ performance and pedagogy from Brigham Young University, where he studied with Don Cook and Douglas Bush.

Seth is an active recitalist and performs many recitals around the United States every year. He has served for many years as a guest Tabernacle organist on Temple Square and has performed in the daily recital series on the famous Tabernacle organ.

Seth has had an abundance of church music roles in many denominations and is currently serving as Director of Music and Organist at St. James Episcopal Church in Midvale, Utah. His playing experiences in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have afforded him many opportunities to play for large and small meetings, with

several of them being televised.

In 2009, Seth won first place in American Guild of Organists (AGO)/Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists, Region IX, qualifying him to perform at the National AGO convention in Washington, D.C. in 2010. As a natural teacher with much background, Seth loves to share his passion for music and the organ with others.

Eccles Organ Festival
at the Cathedral of the Madeleine
SEASON FINALE!



SEASON FINALE! The 26th Season of the Eccles Organ Festival will conclude with a Recital by **Michel Bouvard**, Professor of organ at the Paris Conservatory, as well as titular organist of the Basilique Saint-Sernin in Toulouse and of the Royal Chapel at the Palace of Versailles.

The Eccles Organ Festival is an internationally recognized organ recital series, which seeks to provide the highest quality and most engaging organ performances free of charge to Salt Lake area audiences, as well as masterclasses and public lectures.

[Find out More!](#)



Thirty-Minute Sunday Evening Organ Recitals at the Madeleine

Thirty-minute organ recitals are offered at the Cathedral of the Madeleine every Sunday through the end of March 2020, at 5:30 PM.

March 1

Travis Peterson, Trumpet - Utah Symphony
Music by Purcell, Bach and Hohvaness

March 15

Ruth Eldredge - Cathedral of the Madeleine
Music by Bach and Howells

29 March

Amber Dahlberg - BM Candidate, Brigham Young University, Provo UT. Winner of the AGO West Regional Competition for Young Organists. Music by Bach, Vierne and Vidor

Visitors are invited to stay afterwards and join the Cathedral parishioners for the 6:00 PM Mass.

We Value Your Membership

The chapter appreciates your continued support of its mission to "engage, support, and uplift every organist." If you already have a membership, you may receive an email reminder when it is time to renew it. Your contributions enhance the chapter's ability to sponsor monthly organ events each year, including Super Saturday. Please reflect on how your associations in the guild have supported and uplifted you, and consider joining or renewing today!.

[Learn How](#)

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.

Photo by Kari Nay

