



BOSTON PIPINGS

news and notes for members of Boston Chapter AGO

December 2023

The Newsletter of the Boston Chapter American Guild of Organists

A Message from your Sub-Dean:



Our fall programming has gotten off to an incredible start, in part because of you and your wonderful ideas! At Louise's house last January, we had a giant easel pad where BAGO members could jot down what they would like to see more of from us - what events and activities they would like to take part in, as well as which organists and organs they would like to hear. This information helped our Program Committee narrow down all ideas into a slate that has something for everyone.

Now that the three busy months of fall are behind us, we can look back and see what opportunities we have had for connection and inspiration: our opening recital at King's Chapel featured four outstanding organists from our Emerging Artists group, the Holistic Wellness Night that paved the way for attendees to be centered as they enter the busy holiday season (co-sponsored by the Harvard

Organ Society), the TAO Book Club with Louise Munding that featured great conversation in a virtual setting, and the Worcester Chapter's Reger Festival 150, featuring our own Peter Sykes, which was filled with enlightening lectures, outstanding performances, and wonderful fellowship with colleagues from across the region and around the country. We are so fortunate to have such riches around us!

Have you marked our calendar for these upcoming events in the next few months? The more people who attend, the better they will be!

December 31, 2PM - First Night Concert at The First Church of Christ, Scientist, Boston

Hear three BAGO organists in a 60-minute recital on the magnificent Aeolian-Skinner organ at The First Church of Christ, Scientist, as a part of Boston's First Night festivities. This year's performers include Nathan Skinner, Jennifer Velasquez, and Andrew Sheranian. This annual tradition is not to be missed!

January 7 at 5PM - Epiphany Party at the home of Louise Munding

This is THE social engagement of the season! You are cordially invited to the absolutely stunning, warm, and cozy home of Louise Munding for our annual Epiphany Party! Plan to bring something delicious for the potluck dinner, as your ideas for the 2024-25 programmatic year. This is a wonderful opportunity to wind down from the hustle and bustle of Christmastide, and break bread with your fellow members in a delightful evening of merriment and cheer.

February 12, 7-8PM - TAO Book Club on Zoom

What new and exciting things are happening in The American Organist magazine? Come and discuss your favorite articles with our incredible former dean, Louise Munding! Pour yourself

your favorite beverage, put on your fuzzy slippers, and login using the Zoom link (which will be found on bostonago.org).

February 24, 8:30AM-1:30PM - MVAGO Mini-Convention at All Saints' Church, Chelmsford

Join the Merrimack Valley AGO chapter for their annual mini-convention. New location at All Saints' Church, 10 Billerica Road, Chelmsford. This long-standing half-day includes workshops, fun, fellowship, and fleas (gently used organ music) to share for purchase with others. Confirmed presentations include a choral reading session featuring accessible new choral music, improvisation for the non-beginner with Leonardo Ciampa, an unorthodox but successful approach to conducting amateur choirs with Randy Steere, a panel discussion on "If these pipes could talk: tales about Merrimack Valley organs and organists" with Matthew Bellocchio, Richard Ouellette, and Andrew Scanlon, and more. More details to come, and registration will begin in January.

See you there!


Cathy Meyer



It's not too late to contribute to the annual appeal of the Boston AGO!

Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to our Chapter before year's end to help fund our various projects and programs.


[Read More & Make a Donation](#)



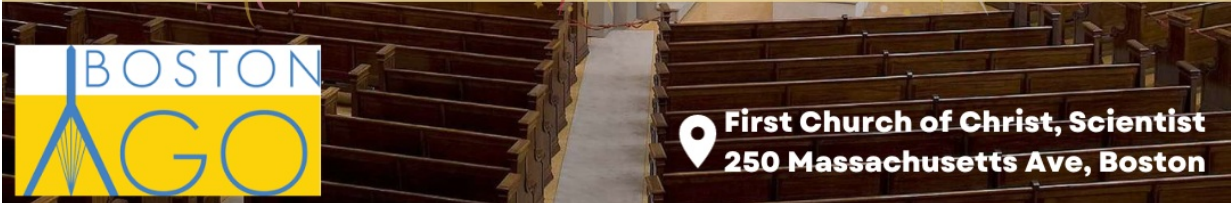
FIRST NIGHT *Organ Recital*

December 31, 2023 | 2PM

ANDREW SHERANIAN | JENNIFER VELAZQUEZ | NATHAN SKINNER



**First Church of Christ, Scientist
250 Massachusetts Ave, Boston**



save the date for
Boston AGO's annual
Epiphany Party

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024
5PM**

Maybe you want to celebrate epiphany, or you have ideas about future programs and events, or perhaps you'd just like to connect with friends over delicious food and drink. **YOU ARE WELCOME!!!**



The Boston Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
presents

PEDALS, PIPES & PIZZA!

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Sunday, February 11, 2024 | 2-4PM

Parish of All Saints | 209 Ashmont Street, Boston
Free admission | Open to all youth in grades 4-12



AGO GDPR Update

AGO Headquarters has instituted a new policy on data privacy to be consistent with GDPR regulations. The **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** is the toughest privacy and security law in the world. Though it was drafted and passed by the European Union (EU), it imposes obligations onto organizations anywhere, so long as they target or collect data related to people in the EU.

The regulation was put into effect on May 25, 2018. The GDPR will levy harsh fines against those who violate its privacy and security standards, with penalties reaching into the tens of millions of euros. The American Guild of Organists has Chapters in Europe, and must comply with this regulation. The Boston Chapter must comply as we are part of the AGO, and also because we have Chapter Members who reside in Europe.



To comply with this policy, the Boston Chapter will be sending out 2 electronic mailings to you in late December and in January. The first email will ask you to review your data in the AGO Membership system to make sure it is up to date. The second electronic email will be to comply with the GDPR policies on Membership Directories, which you can read [here](#). More details about the second email in January Pipings. Questions? Please contact [Claire DeCusati](#) or [Jeffrey Mills](#)



Don't miss this opportunity to experience the true essence of Christmas in the heart of Boston. Let the melodies transport you to a world of holiday magic. Donations are welcome to benefit the Music Program of First Church. Mark your calendars for this unforgettable event!

Come join a magical evening of festive cheer at First Church in Boston! Director of Music Gigi Mitchell-Velasco leads the First Church Boston Choral Ensemble in A Christmas Celebration, featuring Benjamin Britten's A Ceremony of Carols.

The program includes:

- The original Ukrainian Carol "Shchedryk, Shchedryk"
- Lauridsen's "O Magnum Mysterium"
- Many other holiday favorites, concluding with a Christmas Carol singalong.

Special guests are harpist Hyunjung Choi and cellist Eleanor Blake.

Trinity Copley Square Events



Handel's Messiah **Sunday, December 10th at 2pm**

Begin your holiday season with Boston's only performance of Handel's masterpiece in a sacred setting. The Trinity Choirs, soloists, and orchestra perform George Frideric Handel's Messiah (Part the First) along with Johann Sebastian Bach's Cantata 140, "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme."

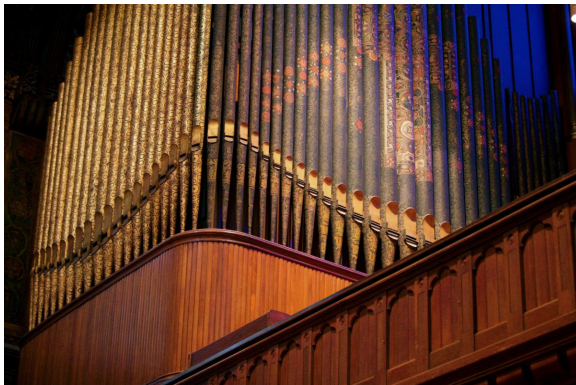
Tickets can be purchased [here](#).



Candlelight Carols **Saturday, December 16th @ 4pm & 7pm; Sunday, December 17th @ 2pm**

A beloved Boston tradition since 1909, Candlelight Carols celebrates the coming birth of Christ through carols and anthems, by candlelight, offered by the Trinity Choirs and Brass.

Tickets can be purchased [here](#).



Dec. 1 Leo Abbott
Dec. 8 Peter Krasinski
Dec. 15 Louise Mundinger
Dec. 22 Ethan Haman

Friday's at Trinity **Organ Recital Series**

Join us on Friday afternoons at 12:15 pm for this weekly series of midday organ concerts featuring innovative programs by recitalists from across the United States and abroad.

There is no charge for admission, but we invite a donation of \$10.

All performances take place in the Church. Every Friday at 12:15pm

Learn More About Our Upcoming Programs!

View The Chapter Calendar



American Guild of
ORGANISTS



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