



The CYPHER

Newsletter of the Southern Arizona Chapter
American Guild of Organists

Volume 40, Number 5
January 2021

Chapter Website: www.saago.org

Programs at a glance

CANCELLED

Pedals, Pipes and Pizza
Sat., January 23

Coping with Covid Organists/Clergy share Challenges

Sun., January 24, 3 pm
ZOOM

Honoring Black Composers

February 14, 3 pm
ZOOM

Home Pipe Organ Tour

April TBD

End of Year Annual Meeting and Social

TBD

English Victorian Organ Pipes



January 24 at 3 p.m. *Coping with Covid*

Coping with Covid

Sunday, January 24, 3 p.m., ZOOM

Musicians and clergy discuss the challenges of worship during the Covid-19 pandemic.

This promises to be an engaging look at the challenges—and opportunities—facing musicians and clergy during this on-going pandemic. Organists and clergy from several churches will share their challenges and consequent decisions in order to continue to conduct worship during these very difficult times.

There will be opportunity for chapter members to ask questions of the participants. Some of the topics to be addressed are identified below.

Topics will include

- Technology used—past recordings, off-site music, visuals livestreaming/pre-recorded music and services.
- Financial implications—as related to operating expenses, particularly as related to staff and musicians.
- Emotional support—how emotional support has been provided for congregants and staff members
- Protocol for memorials, weddings, baptisms
- Moving forward in 2021--changes incorporated during pandemic to be continued in 2021 when crisis is over

The various participants will be identified in a forthcoming flier which will also contain a link for the ZOOM presentation.

Mark your calendars now for this very interesting and informative program.

INSTRUCTIONS for accessing the online program will be forthcoming and will be emailed to the membership.

Welcome 2021 and Goodbye to 2020!

**AMERICAN GUILD
OF ORGANISTS**

**SOUTHERN ARIZONA
CHAPTER**

P.O. Box 31315
Tucson, AZ 85751-1315

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DEAN

Janet Tolman 888-3173
Tolman@wvcnet.com

SUB DEAN/PROGRAM CHAIR

Raymond Ryder 505 720-9483
raymond4music@gmail.com

SECRETARY & TREASURER

David Horr 822-7808
dahorr@comcast.net

ADVERTISING

Maxine Fifer 743-7993
wetypefast@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP & PUBLICITY

Lars Andersen 909-9038
L.andersen@q.com

HOSPITALITY

Joyce Swinehart 207-0785
joyceehart@gmail.com

EDITOR, *THE CYPHER*

Dusty Johnson 323-7856
skj5@cox.net

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Catharine Kennedy 286-6159
Kdkceck@hotmail.com

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Wesley Moulton 325-669-9219
superwes1984@yahoo.com

LIAISON, UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Pamela Decker 327-2169
pdecker@email.arizona.edu

CHAPLAIN

The Rev. Beth Rambikur 327-1116
office@ccumtucson.org

ARIZONA/SOUTHERN NEVADA

DISTRICT CONVENER

Kristin Prouty 480-964-8606
kristin.holtonprouty@gmail.com



The CYPHER

Stardust (Dusty) Johnson, *Editor*

520-323-7856

skj5@cox.net

NOTE: Chapter members are invited to submit information about their special programs to be included in THE CYPHER. If you have programs you would like included, we would like to hear from you! Please send program descriptions, along with pertinent information—title, date, location, time, brief description, cost, and photos—to Dusty Johnson, *CYPHER* editor. The information will appear in the print edition as well as in the online edition. Material may be edited as needed.

Deadlines for the 2020-2021 season are

January 15

February 15

March 15

April 15

Please email information to

Dusty Johnson, editor, at skj5@cox.net by the published deadlines. You may also send it via U.S. mail.

Advertising space available

Full page, \$150; Half page (horizontal), \$100

Quarter page (vertical), \$75; Business card size, \$50

Contact Maxine Fifer, Advertising Chair (wetypefast@gmail.com)

To play only what is written is the domain of science. To realize what is not written is the domain of art.

—Jean Langlais.

AGO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
James Thomashower
212-870-2311

NATIONAL PRESIDENT
Michael Bedford
918-346-8104

WEST REGION COUNCILOR
Skye Hart
480-948-8380, ext. 17 (W)



message from the dean...

Dear colleagues,

Are you as glad as I am that 2020 is over? I'm looking forward to a much brighter 2021. We all dealt with many unforeseen challenges in 2020, in our churches and in our personal lives. Some of us lost dear friends, family or extended family because of the coronavirus or other terminal illnesses. I think we all learned a lot, including how to go forward using unfamiliar technology in making music and in connecting with each other when face-to-face meetings were not advisable.

Like every year, it was a year of what we consider gains and losses. Unlike other years, we wore masks, washed our hands a lot and used hand sanitizers, and probably spent much more time in some form of social isolation. It may be several more months before we can return to some semblance of our previous "normal". During this time, I think we have been blessed by music, perhaps in a way not previously experienced.

For many of us, music is the constant in our lives, and a very good reason to be continually grateful, in spite of whatever else is going on.

I think of the words penned by Frances R. Havergal (1836-1879) for a New Year's card in 1874. The first stanza of the poem follows:

Another year is dawning.
Dear Father, let it be
In working or in waiting,
Another year with Thee.

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876) set these words to his tune AURELIA, which many of us know as "The Church's One Foundation". It's a great tune, and the words fit perfectly.

I pray for each of you God's richest blessings for this new year, 2021.

Keep the music going!

Dean Janet Tolman



February Program

Roy Johnson Memorial Scholarship

Honoring Black Composers

Sunday, February 14, 3 p.m.

ZOOM

In recognition of Black History month, SAAGO is preparing a program which features organ literature composed by Black composers. This will be an interesting and informative program which highlights a portion of literature that may be fairly unknown, but which deserves to be performed.

Some of the composers to be represented are Florence Price, Leslie Adams, William Farley Smith, George Walker and Fela Sowande

Be sure to add this date to your calendar.



Established by the Southern Arizona Chapter of the AGO in memory of Professor Roy Andrew Johnson, the scholarship is available to assist in funding organ study as follows:



- ◆ lessons at any level through collegiate;
- ◆ introductory organ lessons for pianists;
- ◆ Registration fees for an educational event, including a Pipe Organ Encounter (POE);
- ◆ for collegiate level students, registration fees for regional and national conventions of the AGO.
- ◆ for collegiate level students, full membership in the American Guild of Organists, Southern Arizona Chapter.

Scholarship awards for organ study will range from \$350 to \$500. For educational events, the scholarship will cover the cost of registration.

An application form may be found online at www.saago.org. ***Completed forms may be submitted to the Scholarship Committee Chair at any time.***

A photograph of a large pipe organ with many tall, silver pipes. The organ is set in a room with a window behind it. Above the organ, a sign reads "Home of the Roy Johnson Memorial Pipe Organ".

Experience Church!
Streaming live weekly
Sundays, 8, 9:30 and 11am
<https://npctucson.org/watchlive>
<https://facebook.com/npctucson/live>
<https://youtube.com/npctucson>

The hope you're looking for!

norhminster
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Plan your visit:
npctucson.org

First Presbyterian Church



III/55

Charlotte, North Carolina • Scheduled for Completion 2022

Quimby Pipe Organs, Inc.

208 Marshall Street P.O. Box 434

Warrensburg, MO 64093

Phone 660.747.3066

Email qpo1@earthlink.net

www.quimbypipeorgans.com



Inspiring quotes to spark your passion for the organ

- If you are called upon to play a church service, it is a greater honor than if you were to play a concert on the finest organ in the world... Thank God each time when you are privileged to sit before the organ console and assist in the worship of the Almighty.— **Albert Schweitzer**
- The Church knew what the psalmist knew: Music praises God. Music is well or better able to praise him than the building of the church and all its decoration; it is the Church's greatest ornament.— **Igor Stravinsky**
- Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us.— **Martin Luther.**
- There is nothing to playing the organ. You only have to hit the right notes at the right time and the instrument plays itself – **Johann Sebastian Bach**
- Organ playing is the manifestation of a will filled with the vision of eternity. – **Charles Marie Widor**
- Listen and for organ music thou wilt ever, as of old, hear the Morning Stars sing together. — **Thomas Carlyle**
- To my eyes and ears the organ will ever be the King of Instruments. – **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**



Dr. Lori Wiest, Director
Fred Fox School of Music
lwiest@arizona.edu

Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series

Dear friends,

As the newly appointed director of the Fred Fox School of Music, it is a pleasure to greet the rich organ community in Southern Arizona. I had the opportunity to work with Dr. Roy Johnson when I was a doctoral student at the University of Arizona in the late '80s, as he helped to advise me my first year in the Choral Conducting/Music Theory programs. What a wonderful, warm person! I am happy to be involved with such an outstanding organ series that honors both his legacy and his memory.

While we truly don't know what fall semester will hold for us as it relates to health during the current Covid-19 situation, we are postponing live performances, including our organ series. At this time, I would like to encourage the organ community to help strengthen the established Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series Endowment at the University of Arizona. I look forward to hearing from you!

The Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series, established in memory of Professor Johnson following his tragic death in 1995, showcases outstanding contemporary organists. Professor Johnson made enormous contributions to the organ studies program, the keyboard area, and to graduate studies during his 29 years at the University of Arizona. The installation of the beautiful Schoenstein organ given by Isabelle Harris, in a hall designed for the organ, was the fulfillment of his vision for a flourishing organ program.

Co-sponsored by the Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists



**Specializing in locating, procurement, removal, moving,
restoration, refurbishment, installation and maintenance of
pipe organs**

We have over 12,000 square feet of shop and storage space located in central Phoenix, Arizona. Large inventory of vintage and repurposed pipe work along with accessorial items available for purchase. Crating and shipping services available. Our staff and associates are available to assist you with your needs. Fully insured, nationwide service and consultation services available.

Phillips Organ Company & Associates Inc.
3801 East Roeser Road, Suite 7
Phoenix, AZ 85040

Contact us at 602-538-6697
Email: Info@phillipsorgan.com
Phillipsorgan.com

Greetings and Updates from Woosug Kang

Hello all!

It is great to be in touch with you again. It has been more than four years since I took my new position at St. George's Episcopal Church in Nashville, TN. I was asked to share briefly what I have been up to, and as I wish you are all safe and well during this difficult time, here are some highlights!



Director of Music Ministries, St. George's Episcopal Church, Nashville



Woosug and Rebekah

Since leaving Tucson, I have married. I met my wife, Rebekah Alexander, a professional soprano in Avant-Garde music (yes, nothing to do with the organ even though we have performed together!) in Nashville, and we were married in 2018 in Hawaii.

I am enjoying my time here at St. George's, where I followed the footsteps of those Wilma Jensen and Murray Sommerville. I took our choristers to beautiful Ely

Cathedral in UK last year, where we almost overlapped with folks from St. Philip's in the Hills, which was purely coincidental!

Our Sanctuary in St. George's Episcopal Church has gone through a major renovation for acoustical enhancement, and we are expecting a new J.P Buzard pipe organ in 2022. You might have seen some news about it in TAO magazine not long ago! It was lots of work researching and working to find a builder, but we are very excited for this.

I have been performing and teaching, and I founded a new professional choral ensemble called

"Elevare" (www.elevaremusic.com). We were scheduled to perform at the 2020 Atlanta AGO convention, which, as you know, was unfortunately canceled. However, we are working on some new projects. I am still active in Nashville AGO chapter, and in fact, I am the dean-elect for 2021. It will be interesting to face the challenges of continuing our programming during these challenging times!

I hope you are all well and safe. It is great to connect with you again!

Woosug

NEW MUSIC TERMS

- ALLEREGRETTO:** When you're 16 measures into the piece and suddenly realize you set too fast a tempo.
- ANGUS DEI:** To play with a divinely beefy tone
- A PATELLA;** Accompanied by knee-slapping
- APOLOGGIATURA:** A composition that you regret playing
- APPROXIMATURA:** A series of notes not intended by the composer, yet played with an "I meant to do that" attitude
- APPROXIMENTO:** A musical entrance that is somewhere in the vicinity of the correct pitch
- DILL PICCOLINI:** An exceedingly small wind instrument that plays only sour notes
- FERMANTRA;** A note held over and over and over and over and . . .
- FIDDLER CRABS;** Grumpy string players
- FLULTE FLIES;** Those tiny insects that bother musicians on outdoor gigs
- FRUGALHORN;** A sensible and inexpensive brass instrument
- GAUL BLATTER;** A French horn player
- GREGORIAN CHAMP;** The title bestowed upon the monk who can hold a note the longest
- PLACEBO DOMINGO;** A faux tenor
- SPRITZICATA;** An indication to string instruments to produce a bright and bubbly sound
- TEMPO TANTRUM;** What an elementary school orchestra is having when it's not following the conductor

Patronize our Advertisers

**LUTHER
COLLEGE**

William B. Kuhlman
College Organist and
Professor of Music Emeritus

563.419.8570 HOME
563.419.6718 ALTERNATE
kuhlmawi@luther.edu

HOME ADDRESS:
10697 N. Pyrenees
Oro Valley, AZ 85737

700 College Drive Decorah, Iowa 52101-1045 www.luther.edu



Grahame Scott Davis

President and Artistic Director

4814 East Fairmount Street
Tucson, Arizona 85712

Cell (520) 437-8906
onlypipes@dakotacom.net

Member International Society of Organbuilders

Pipe Organ Artisans of Arizona, Inc.

**TANQUE VERDE
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

8625 E Tanque Verde Rd
Tucson, AZ 85749
(520) 749-1606 | tvlc.org



CATALINA ORGAN FESTIVAL

**Thank you to SAAGO
For our ongoing partnership
Bringing organ music
To Tucson
Hoping for a resolution
To COVID Pandemic Soon!**



CATALINA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2700 E. SPEEDWAY BOULEVARD, TUCSON
www.catalinamethodist.org/organfestival/





Serving Southern Arizona

**Photography and Video
Production Services**

- **Performances**
- **Promotion**
- **Remote Editing Services**

Pettepiece
Photography



PettepieceHeadshots.com
Brian@Pettepiece.com
(253) 468-1993



**CHRIST CHURCH UNITED
METHODIST**

655 N. Craycroft Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85711

520-327-1116
office@ccumtucson.org
www.ccumtucson.org

DOUG BENTON

Arizona's Handbell Specialist Since 1973

Malmark.com



Handbells ♦ Choirchimes ♦ Cajons ♦ Gifts ♦ Accessories*
245 N 56th St Unit 121 Mesa AZ 85205-8128
BellmasterAZ@gmail.com C: 602-710-5425

**Tucson Music Teachers Association
Board
2020-2021**

President:
Marie Sierra
Vice President:
Jayme Bigelow
Corresponding Secretary:
Diann Lopez
Recording Secretary:
Lynn Moser
Technology Secretary:
Christine Harper
Treasurer:
Theresa Dietrich
Member-at-Large:
Dr. Ian Houghton
Member-at-Large:
Dr. Astrid Chan
Immediate Past President:
Gloria Singleton

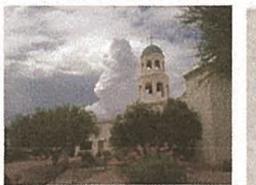


Designed to enhance the
professionalism, personal
growth and career development
of its members.

www.tucsonmusicteachers.org

Valley Presbyterian Church
Oasis of Grace

2800 S Camino del Sol
Green Valley, AZ 85622
520.625.5023
520.625.4289 (fax)



Email: vpc-office@valleypres.net
Website: www.valleypresbyterian.net



**LEVSEN
ORGAN COMPANY**

David A. Horr
District Director
P.O. Box 31511
Tucson, AZ 85751
Cell Phone: (520) 822-7808
Fax: (520) 395-1945
dahorr@comcast.net

TOLL FREE: 1-800-397-1242
EMAIL: Levsenorg@aol.com
WEB SITE: www.Levsenorg.com

Patronize our advertisers



**TECHNICALLY
ACCURATE
CONSULTING**

KEEPING YOUR TECHNOLOGY ON TARGET

**TECHNICALLY
ACCURATE CONSULTING**



ED STEVENSON
owner

ed@technicallyaccurate.com
(520) 834.7848
technicallyaccurate.com



TUCSON
3600 N. 1st Ave Suite 104
Tucson, AZ 85719
Office: 520.829.3075
copy@printapc.com

SAHUARITA/GREEN VALLEY
101 S. La Cañada Dr. Suite 69
Green Valley, AZ 85614
Office: 520.625.9696
plots@printapc.com

NEED LOCAL PRINTING?

TUCSON SAHUARITA GREEN VALLEY

Visit us at: www.printapc.com

- 1 Create an account
- 2 Browse products
- 3 Place your order!

Support our chapter with a financial gift.

Consider underwriting a concert, making a contribution to the general fund or to the Johnson Scholarship Fund.

DONOR LEVELS

\$500+	Tuba Mirabilis
\$250-\$499	Trompette
\$100-\$249	Diapason
\$50-99	Flute Harmonique
\$1-\$49	Voix Humaine

Please make your check payable to So. AZ AGO
Mail it to

David Horr, Treasurer
P.O. Box 31511
Tucson, AZ 85751

Thank you!
Your gifts make a difference.

Piano Tuning and Repair

Mar-Kay Petty
Piano Technician



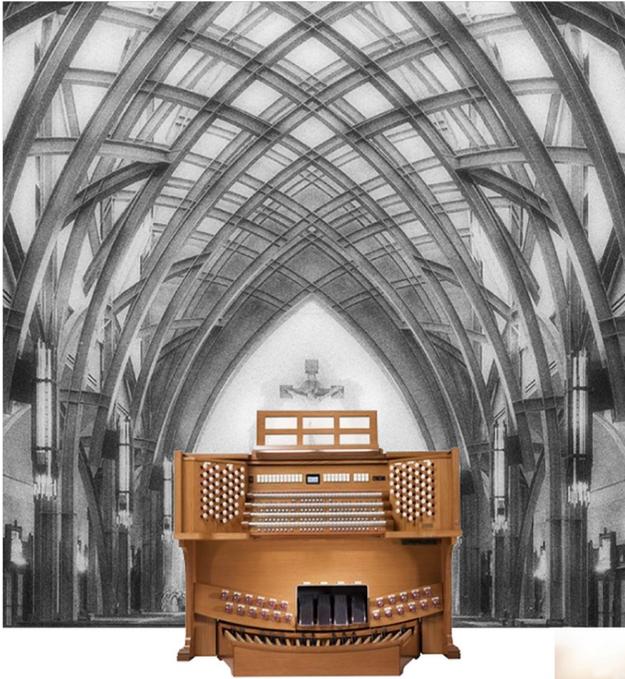
Call for an Appointment
#520-237-4210

ANDREW'S CATERING CO.

ANDREW BRUNO, CHEF

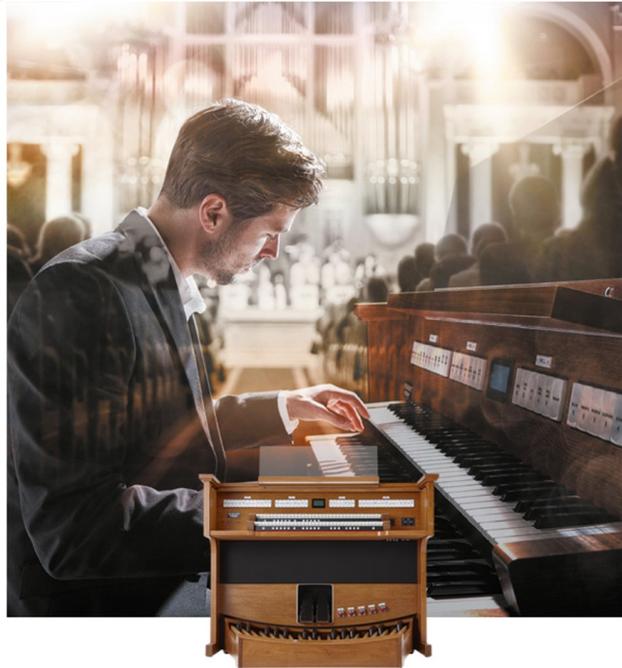
CATERING FINE FOOD SINCE 1995
FOR FUTURE EVENTS PLEASE CALL
520-904-8442





For performance
RODGERS
Infinity SERIES™

and Home.
NEW
inSpire
SERIES



We have it all!



JOHANNUS

ORGANS AZ

— A Division of Wang Piano & Organ —

Contact David Wang

(480)808-3973 2060 E. Southern Ave. Tempe, AZ
ORGANSAZ.COM DAVEORGANSAZ@GMAIL.COM

Inside:

Coping with Covid, cover
Dean's Message, p. 3
Honoring Black Composers, p. 4
Johnson Scholarship Information, p. 4
Inspiring Quotes, p. 6
Greetings from Woosug Kang, p. 8

Publication Information: ***The Cypher*** is a bimonthly newsletter published by the **Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists**. It is distributed to chapter members, organists of churches in Tucson and surrounding communities, and deans of all chapters in the West Region (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Alaska, Oregon, and Washington as well as Korea, Shanghai, Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Sydney, Australia). **Southern Arizona Chapter members who do not request the printed version will receive *The Cypher* via email.** Send information for publication to Stardust (Dusty) Johnson at email skj5@cox.net, or to 2215 E 2nd St., Tucson, AZ 85719-4930. Please type "Cypher" in the subject line. Views expressed in any of the pieces herein are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, its officers or members.



Southern Arizona Chapter
American Guild of Organists
P.O. Box 31315
Tucson AZ 85751-1315