



The CYPHER

Newsletter of the Southern Arizona Chapter
American Guild of Organists

Volume 44, Number 2
October 2024

Chapter Website: www.saago.org

Chapter & Member Programs at a glance through November 17

Halloween Themed Silent Films

Oct. 17– Nov 19, 7:30 p.m.
Fox theatre, 17 W. Congress School Matinee field trip with Dave Wickerham, Nov 18

Jeffri Sanders, Organ

Sunday, Oct. 20, 3 p.m.
St. Alban's Episcopal Church

Evensong Organ Prelude

Sunday, Oct. 20, 4:15 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church

Rising Stars

Jacqueline Rodenbeck, Violin
Sunday, Oct. 26, 3 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church

SAAGO Showcase Concert

Sunday, Oct. 27, 3 p.m.
St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

A Candlelight Concert for All Saints Day

Friday, Nov. 1, 7 p.m.
Chapel, Trinity Presbyterian Church

16th Annual HymnFest

Sunday, Nov. 3, 2 p.m.
St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, Sierra Vista

Chelsea Chen, Organ Catalina Organ Festival

Friday, Nov. 15, 7 p.m.
Catalina United Methodist Church
\$30; \$25 seniors; \$10 students

Evensong Organ Prelude

Sunday, Nov. 17, 4:15 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church

Annual Showcase Concert Sunday, October 27, 3 p.m.

St. Michael and All Angels Church

602 N Wilmot Rd.
Reception Following
Donation

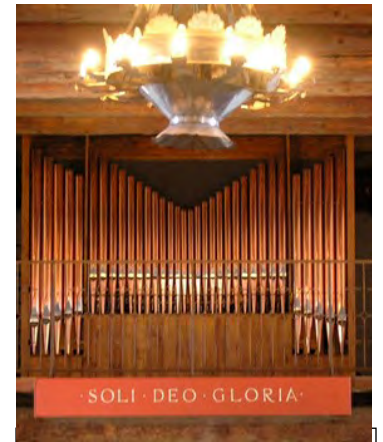
Our Annual Showcase displays the talents of SAAGO members and this year features Chris Fresolone, Jessie Jewett, and Laura Silva. The program displays their artistry as well as some of the organ repertoire's most beautiful music. A few words about each of our performers.

Chris Fresolone, Director of Music and Organist at St. Michael and All Angels Church, is also a music instructor at the Gregory School where he leads two choirs, two piano classes, an AP Music Theory Class, and directs the annual musical. He took the Gregory School choir to New York City last year to join other choirs to perform Bach's 'Magnificat' at Carnegie Hall. He holds his DMA from the University of Arizona where he studied organ with Dr. Pamela Decker and his MM and BM from Northwestern University where he studied with Wolfgang RübSam.

Chris previously served as organist at Christ Presbyterian Church and Casas Adobes UCC Church. A long time member of SAAGO, he has performed previously for the chapter and in the Roy Johnson Memorial Organ Series in the UA School of Music. He is playing *Cantilène*, from *Suite Brève*, Langlais; *Florinda*, Andres Laprida; and *Introduction and Passacaglia In D Minor*, Reger.

Jessie Jewett began her organ studies at Vassar College with Donald Pearson. In 1982 she received a Maguire Fellowship to study French music in Paris with the famous blind organist and composer Jean Langlais, obtaining a "Prix de Virtuositè" at the Schola Cantorum.

She won a "Premier Prix" in 1985 in the international organ competition sponsored by the "Union des Femmes Artistes Musiciennes" held at St.



A. F. Schultz Æolian-Skinner

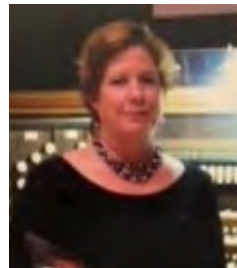
Augustin in Paris. She played regularly at the

Note: time is 3 p.m., not 4 p.m. as previously announced.

Biographies continued on page 4



Dr. Chris Fresolone



Jessie Jewett



Laura Silva

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The CYPHER

Stardust (Dusty) Johnson, *Editor* (skj5@cox.net)

**Submission Deadlines for the 2024-2025 season
are the 15th of each month.**

NOTE: Chapter members are invited to submit program information for inclusion in THE CYPHER. We want to include your programs!

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.

Please email information to

Dusty Johnson, editor, at skj5@cox.net by the 15th of the month. You may also send it via U.S. mail.

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

—Jean Langlais.

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message from the dean...

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As I started thinking about my Dean's Message, I reflected on my involvement with AGO and other professional organizations through the years. Ever since finishing my bachelors degree, I've assumed part of being a professional musician is being a member of professional organizations. In that respect, I've had good role models and mentors. My mother, Audrey, and my first piano teacher, Ruth Bradley, were both organists in the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter of the AGO. As a pianist, in between completing my bachelors and beginning my masters, I studied piano with Wendell Diebel, who at that time had recently retired from the faculty of Colorado State University. He encouraged me to join the Music Teachers National Association and its state and local affiliates, and to attend a state convention. He also had me be part of a small team adjudicating my first piano festival (also memorable because it was during a blizzard and the three of us had to spend the night at the convent where the festival had taken place).

So it was only natural when I first moved to Tucson to join both the Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and Tucson Music Teachers Association almost as soon as I started my first semester at the university, and not as a student member, but as a regular member. The programs, conferences, and publications, as well as the personal interactions and 'networking' have always been interesting and rewarding. In fact, because of network connections, none of my musical positions came about through my own job hunting, but rather through other musicians asking if I'd be interested. Another important aspect of being a member of the organizations is, of course, the social connections, since we as musicians are on our own much of the time.

Once I sat down at the computer to write this column, I thought a good point of departure would be to reflect upon some of the purposes of the Guild. As I scrolled down, a couple points caught my eye: "To provide members with opportunities to meet for discussion of professional topics, and to pursue such other activities as contribute to the fulfillment of the purposes of the Guild." That statement had prompted most of my musings so far, but the next statement also caught my attention: "Guild sponsored activities include a series of examinations for professional certification as well as programs and an extensive list of publications, CDs, DVDs, and learning resources for all levels of interest." Then, I kept scrolling down the page...

Now I have just started to explore the AGO national website, and if you haven't explored the site recently, I strongly encourage you to do so! One of the things that interested me right away was "Lessons for the New Organist." This will certainly be an excellent resource for my own chapter presentation in the spring, so I clicked on the picture and was pleasantly surprised. The 'Lessons' is a series of thirty YouTube videos on a wide variety of topics relative to playing the organ, and playing services, mostly around ten or fifteen minutes long. I will definitely be watching these videos in the weeks ahead!

This month's Message didn't end up going the way I expected, but it does relate to a couple quotes I had intended to use as points of departure. So here are a couple of points to ponder at the beginning of our season:

"I was obliged to be industrious. Whoever is equally industrious will succeed equally well."

J. S. Bach

"To achieve great things, two things are needed; a plan, and not quite enough time."

Leonard Bernstein

So my plan is to be industrious and not to worry about whether I have enough time.

Raymond Ryder, Dean

Chapter and Member Programs

Biographies *Continued from page 1*

(*Jessie Jewett continued*) American Cathedral in Paris, and has held numerous positions as organist in the San Francisco Bay area.

She performed the Poulenc Organ Concerto with the Palo Alto Symphony in 2015 to benefit the children of Pacasse, Haiti, a cause near and dear to her heart.

Laura Silva, CAGO, is happily retired after having served various churches as organist and/or choir director in Richmond, CA, Richland, WA, and Columbus, OH, and has served as Dean of the Mid-Columbia (Washington) and Columbus (Ohio) AGO chapters. She currently serves as the organist for her residence organ, Fritts-Richards Opus 2B. She studied the organ privately with Sandra Soderlund and David Dahl; piano teachers included Bela Nagy, Helen Madsen, and Judith Schoepflin. She graduated from Washington State University with B.S. and M.S. degrees in Chemical Engineering and enjoyed various engineering, management, business, and executive roles at Chevron, Battelle, Velocys (which she cofounded), and Tech Launch Arizona at the University of Arizona.

They will perform on the church's Æolian-Skinner organ, which was originally built for Christ Methodist Church in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1959. St. Michael's purchased this instrument in 1989.. It was installed in 1998, after repairs and upgrades were made. It has been renamed the A. F. Schultz Organ, in recognition of Alan F. Schultz's many contributions to St. Michael's and the Tucson community.

Jeffri Sanders, Organ Sunday Songbook

Sunday, . October 20, 3 p.m.
St. Alban's Episcopal Church
3738 N Old Sabino Canyon Rd
Freewill offering

Organist Jeffri Sanders will perform "Sunday Songbook," a potpourri of favorite voluntaries well suited to the Fritts organ at St. Alban's. A respected Tucson organist and harpsichordist, he was co-director of Musica Sonora, an early music ensemble.

The program will also include larger works by Bach and others.



Organ Prelude and Choral Evensong

Sunday, October 20, 4:15 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church
4440 N. Campbell Ave.

On the third Sunday of every month St. Philip's choirs offer a Choral Evensong with a pre-service organ prelude at 4:15 p.m. The pre-service prelude will be performed on the magnificent Holtkamp pipe organ. These services will also be live-streamed on the church's website www.stphilipstucson.org/livestream. Remaining dates are: November 17, December 15, January 19, February 16, March 16, and May 18.

Rising Star, Violinist Jacqueline Rodenbeck

Saturday, Oct. 26, 3 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church
4440 N. Campbell Ave.
Donation

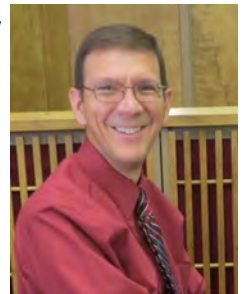
St. Philip's Music Outreach Initiative showcases phenomenal young Tucson area musicians in recital. The events feature an hour of special chamber music, followed by a reception with sweet treats. This is an excellent opportunity for young people who might be inspired by seeing a peer as a featured artist.

A Candlelight Concert for All Saints Day

Friday, Nov. 1, 7 p.m.
Chapel, Trinity Presbyterian Church
400 E. University Blvd. Tucson

This free program of meditative and peaceful music will be presented by Lynn Moser (piano and organ), Christine Harper (flute), Korby Myrick (mezzo-soprano), soloists from the Trinity Choir, and handbell players from the Trinity Ringers.

Lynn will play the chapel's self-contained, 2/8, chapel organ built in 1983 by David Harris, the builder having been selected by Roy Johnson.



16th Annual Hymnfest

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church
Sunday, November 3, 2 p.m.
800 Taylor Drive, Sierra Vista, AZ
Free will offering

St. Andrew's has hosted an annual hymnfest since the present Möller pipe organ was installed in 2008. Lars Andersen has been the guest organist for this

Continued on page 5

Chapter Programs *continued*—and Member Programs

Continued from page 4

event since its inception. The three-manual Möller organ was built in 1949 for a church in Racine, Wisconsin. When that church closed, the organ was sold, dismantled, moved, and installed in the beautiful sanctuary at St. Andrew's in the fall of 2008.

The program features a massed choir from many churches in Sierra Vista, a high school choir, and robust congregational hymn singing.

Chelsea Chen, Organ Catalina Organ Festival

Friday, Friday, November 15, 7 p.m.
Catalina United Methodist Church
2700 E. Speedway Blvd.

\$30 online, \$25 seniors 60+, \$10 students with ID card.

Chelsea Chen returns to Tucson! With playing described as “stunning” and possessing “lovely lyrical grandeur” (Los Angeles Times), Chelsea Chen has electrified audiences throughout the United States and Asia.



A Fulbright scholar and graduate of Juilliard and Yale University, she has performed to great acclaim at many important venues including Singapore's Esplanade, Hong Kong's Cultural Centre, Philadelphia's Kimmel Center, and Los Angeles' Disney Hall. She currently serves as Artist-in-Residence at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church in Manhattan.

Howell's Requiem and Jonathan Dove's Passing of the Year

Sunday, Nov. 30, 3 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hill's Episcopal Church
4440 N. Campbell Ave.
Donation

EPIPHANY PARTY & POTLUCK

SAAGO Epiphany Party—Potluck

Saturday, January 4, 1 p.m.
The Highland Community Clubhouse
332 West Matterhorn in Oro Valley

Join us once again for this favorite holiday event which will be held after Christmas, celebrating close to Epiphany. The Kuhlmanns have once again very kindly invited us to celebrate at The Highland Community Clubhouse in Oro Valley.

SAAGO—Pedals, Pipes and Pizza

Saturday, Jan. 18, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church
4440 N. Campbell Ave.
Free. Registration Required

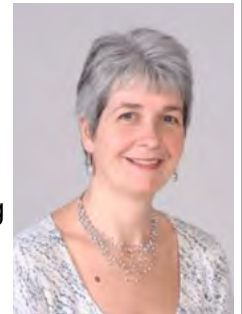
SAAGO will once again host its popular *Pedals, Pipes and Pizza* for youth and children. All participants get to play the organ and also explore the inner workings of the instrument. They also receive individual instruction on one of Tucson's finest instruments, a pizza lunch and perform in a closing program. Part of the program includes a performance of “Rex, the King of Instruments.” Additional information and a registration form will be available in a future edition of THE CYPHER and on the website (www.saago.org).



Julia Brown, Organ

Friday, Jan. 31, 7 p.m.
St. Alban's Episcopal Church
3738 Old Sabino Canyon Rd.
Donation

Julia Brown, director of music and organist at First United Methodist Church in Eugene, Oregon, maintains a full schedule of teaching, performing and recording. She has appeared in concert in North and South America and in Europe, having performed for the AGO Regional and National Conventions, the Latin American Organist Conventions, the Oregon Bach Festival and other international organ and music festivals. Her organ and harpsichord recordings of W. F. Bach, J. S. Bach, Buxtehude and Scheidemann have gained high critical acclaim.



Kimberly Marshall, Organ Roy Johnson Memorial Organ Series

Sunday, Feb. 2, 3 p.m.
Holsclaw Hall, UA School of Music,
\$10

Kimberly Marshall, renowned Professor of Organ, Arizona State University, returns to Tucson to perform in the UA Johnson Series.



Welcome SAAGO 2024-2026 Officers

Welcome your 2024-2026 chapter officers

We continue introducing you to our current chapter officers, some of whom have held their offices for more than one term and some of whom are new. This month we introduce you to *Dave Horr*, *Delores Schultz* and *Dusty Johnson*. As an FYI and reminder, all our current officers are listed below.

Raymond Ryder, *Dean*
Laura Silva, *Sub Dean, Program Chair*
David Horr, *Secretary & Treasurer*
Lars Andersen, *Membership, Placement*
Richard Hockett, *Publicity*
Fern Hieb, *Advertising*
Delores (Dee) Schultz, *Hospitality*
Dusty Johnson, *Cypher Editor*
Kathryn Snodgrass, *Member at Large*
Mark Stockwell, *Member at Large*
Pamela Decker, *Education Coordinator & University Liaison*

David Horr, Secretary & Treasurer



David joined the Southern Arizona Chapter in 2009 when he and his wife Beverly retired in Tucson from Portsmouth, Ohio. He has served as the chapter's secretary and treasurer for the past 12 years. An executive for 31 years in Marting's, his family's department store, he was the fifth generation from the founder and the last family member to serve as president

of the company. Later, he was an adjunct professor of finance and accounting for 14 years at three universities in Ohio. David served as organist for a variety of Protestant and Catholic churches, as well as Jewish synagogues for over 50 years. He has performed organ recitals in Ohio, Kentucky, Pennsylvania and Tucson. More recently, he was organist at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church in Tucson. He now enjoys substituting for his colleagues at SAAGO.

Delores Schultz, Hospitality



Delores (Dee) Schultz received a Bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Arizona, studying piano with Richard Faith and then organ with Roy Johnson. Upon graduation, she continued organ studies with Alan Schultz and was assistant organist at St. Michael and All Angel's Episcopal Church for a number of years while obtaining a degree in nursing from the

University of Arizona. Dee had a 40+ year rewarding career in critical care nursing and critical care nursing education. She and Alan were married and had 2 children and then 2 grandchildren. Dee currently sings in the choir at St. Michaels and enjoys hiking, birding, traveling, and time with her children and adorable grandchildren.

Stardust (Dusty) Johnson, CYPHER Editor



Dusty became involved in the SAAGO when she tagged along with her late husband, Roy (UA professor of organ), about 56 years ago. Sometime after his tragic death, she assumed chapter leadership activities and served in a variety of capacities, including dean. Active in church music her entire life, she served a small church as director of music and was Director of Music

at Northminster Presbyterian Church for 40 years, working as a team with Roy, for 14 of those years prior to his tragic death in 1995. She is retired from the University of Arizona where she was Director of Summer Session, Associate Director of the Curriculum Office, Associate Director of General Administration. Following Roy's death, she became active in Homicide Survivors, sharing the devastating impacts of homicide on survivors and the community, giving classes and presentations, and serving as victim advocate. She testified at the Arizona legislature and was a guest on local and national radio and television relating her experiences as a homicide survivor. She holds both a bachelor's and master's degree in vocal performance from the University of Arizona and she is the proud grandmother to Sophie Martinez, grad student at Princeton Theological Seminary, and organ student of Eric Plutz.

Program Recaps



Business meeting following opening service and dinner`

Photo, Dave Horr

New Season Opening Program

Sunday afternoon, September 15, Steve Keyl welcomed thirty-three SAAGO members and guests to St. Alban's Episcopal Church for an Evensong service to begin the chapter's 2024-2025 season. The officiant was Father Robert Hendrickson of St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church. The service included the installation of newly-elected officers, led by Past Dean Janet Tolman. Laura Silva, Steve Keyl, and Raymond Ryder played voluntaries and accompanied hymns and responses on the beautiful Paul Fritts pipe organ.

After the service, members enjoyed an "open console" period as they explored the resources of the Fritts organ. A short business meeting was held in the Guild Hall with Board members sharing brief reports about programs for the upcoming season, membership and financial information.

A pleasant social time was followed by a tasty catered dinner prepared and served by Andy Bruno and his staff.

Dave Horr



Raymond Ryder, dean, conducting the business meeting.

ORGAN & VIOLIN CONCERT

— FEATURING THE DUO OF —

MICHAEL T.C. HEY & CHRISTIANA LIBERIS

**February 2, 2025 at 3:00PM at
Lutheran Church of the Risen Savior
555 S. La Cañada Dr, Green Valley, AZ
Free Will Offering**



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A little bit about Halloween

As you no doubt know, Halloween's origins date back more than 2,000 years. On what is now November 1, Europe's Celtic peoples celebrated their New Year's Day, called Samhain (SAH-win). On Samhain eve spirits were thought to walk the earth as they traveled to the afterlife. Fairies, demons, and other creatures were also said to be abroad. In addition to sacrificing animals to the gods and gathering around bonfires, Celts often wore costumes—probably animal skins—to confuse spirits, perhaps to avoid being possessed, according to the American Folklife Center at the U.S. Library of Congress. By wearing masks or blackening their faces, Celts are also thought to have impersonated dead ancestors.

In an early form of trick-or-treating, Celts costumed as spirits are believed to have gone from house to house engaging in silly acts in exchange for food and drink—a practice inspired perhaps by an earlier custom of leaving food and drink outdoors as offerings to supernatural beings.



Samhain was transformed and co-opted when Pope Boniface IV decreed November 1 to be All Saints' Day, or All Hallows' Day in the 7th Century. The evening before All Saints' Day became a holy, or hallowed, eve, from which the word "Halloween" evolved. By the end of the Middle Ages, the secular and the sacred days had merged.

The celebration of Halloween was largely forbidden among the early American colonists, although in the 1800s festivals developed that marked the harvest and incorporated elements of Halloween. European immigrants brought Halloween to the United States, and the celebration expanded, particularly with the Irish-American immigration since the custom was especially prevalent in Ireland.



Chelsea Chen
Zurich & New York
International Concert Organist
Friday, November 15, 2024



Alcée Chriss III
New York
Trinity Wall Street
Associate Organist
Wesleyan University, Professor of Organ
Friday, February 21, 2025



Anna Lapwood, MBE
Cambridge, London, UK
Organist / Conductor
Director of Music, Pembroke College
Royal Albert Hall
Associate Organist
Monday, April 7, 2025

2024-2025 Concerts

Catalina United Methodist Church - 2700 East Speedway Boulevard - Tucson, Arizona 85716
(520) 327-4296 - www.catalinamethodist.org/organ-festival/





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Recognizing Steve Keyl (Dr. Stephen Keyl)

Editor's note: As most of you may know, Steve and Anne Keyl are making a major change in their lives by moving from Tucson to the Seattle area in the next couple months. SAAGO is recognizing his dedicated service (and Anne's, too) over the past several years and wishing both he and Anne the very best in their new ventures. But, please note, he will return in April to perform with Jeffrey Campbell at St. Alban's.

After undergraduate studies at Williams College, I received a small stipend from Williams, which I used for two years of intensive organ study with Fenner Douglass at Duke. Fenner became one of my two great mentors. He encouraged his students to learn about the history and construction of the organ and to study historical documents about performance practice—



especially registration and articulation. I had been taught to play a constant, unbroken legato, and I was bowled over to read in Dom Bédos, "Each note consists of a duration and a silence." I also had the benefit of learning from the tracker organs at Duke: the magnificent Flentrop in Duke Chapel, and the superb practice organs—two Fisks, two Flentrops, and a Brombaugh.

Fenner also introduced me to my other great mentor, Norman Ryan, the Curator of Organs and Harpsichords at Duke. Norman had worked for Æolian-Skinner, Robert Noehren, and John Brombaugh, and was an expert in every aspect of both electropneumatic and tracker instruments. He taught me to tune, and later hired me to assist in the early stages of the restoration of the large Æolian in Duke Chapel. He remains a close friend.

One of my fellow students in Fenner Douglass's studio was Kimberly Marshall. Kimberly was already a brilliant organist, as well as a vivacious and outgoing personality, and it soon became clear to me that as an organist I was not in the same league. I did have a scholarly bent and some knowledge of French and German, and one of the Duke profs encouraged me to pursue musicology. Eventually, after a fellowship year in Munich, I earned a Ph.D. just as the academic job market collapsed.

Anne and I moved to Tucson with our two daughters in January 1995. Anne had been offered the position of Design and Production Manager at the University

of Arizona Press, and we came to Arizona hoping that something would work out for me. What worked out, surprisingly quickly, was St. Alban's. I thought I was finished with church music, but St. Alban's offered a decent small Walker organ, a good choir, and (frankly) a paycheck. Over the years my responsibilities grew to include a Young People's Choir, two handbell choirs (and at times a third), a concert series, and a large part of the parish's communications, including the weekly bulletin and newsletter.

One of my first conversations with St. Alban's then-Rector, Fr. Tim Scott, was about the possibility of a new organ for the parish. The eight-stop Walker was still relatively new, but Fr. Tim was open to the idea, and several years later he persuaded the Vestry to establish an organ fund. The fine small Walker proved to be a blessing: we could commend the parishioners who had worked to get it, and argue that we wanted to move forward in size without retreating in quality. After nine years of patient effort, with contributions (mostly small and medium-sized) from more than three hundred donors, funds had grown to a point where it made sense to ask organ builders for proposals. We approached three outstanding tracker organ builders. The proposal from Paul Fritts was the most attractive musically, visually, and financially, and Paul delivered his Opus 35 to St. Alban's in July 2012. The Fritts organ is a joy to play and a source of pride to the parish. While Tucson has organs that are larger and more expensive, in my opinion there is none more beautiful in sound or appearance.

Because of my background in musicology, one of the first things I did after arriving in Tucson was to meet with John Brobeck at the University of Arizona. The School of Music had no faculty openings in musicology at the time, but several years later John phoned me to ask if I would like to teach a freshman-level survey of music literature. I did so for ten years, starting in 2003. I enjoyed my students (most of the time), and I valued my connections with colleagues and with university life—especially free admission to concerts and faculty library privileges. But eventually my commitments at St. Alban's increased to a point where I no longer had the time to do my best work either at the church or at the university. Something had to give, and as a friend put it, I needed to focus on my main gig.

Around 2014 I was asked to serve as Publicity Officer for the Southern Arizona Chapter of the AGO. I felt it was time I contributed to the work of the Chapter, and I served three two-year terms from 2014 to 2018 and 2022 to 2024. In collaboration with then-Dean Dennis Grannan, I worked with designer Don Regole to

Steve Keyl recognition continued...

create the SAAGO logo, with its playful image of organ pipe cactus, and with web expert Michael Fan to produce the Chapter website. My wife, Anne, was kind enough to design posters for Chapter events while I held the Publicity portfolio. I have also spoken occasionally at Chapter presentations and have very occasionally **performed**.

Over the past few years I've become aware of some age-related physical limitations: high-frequency hearing loss and osteoarthritis in the thumb joints. These have made it difficult to work at a high level, and I retired from St. Alban's at the end of July. Anne and I have long intended to move in retirement to the Seattle area, where we have family, and we plan to do so late this year.

We will maintain ties to Tucson—our older daughter will continue to live here, and I will work with St. Alban's to facilitate this season's concerts. I'm even scheduled to perform a joint concert with Jeffrey Campbell at St. Alban's next April. So I look forward to seeing my friends from the Chapter going forward.

Membership Renewals

Membership Chair, Lars Andersen , reports the following membership information, effective September 30, 2024

Young Organists - 3
Chapter Friends - 6
Regular (Age 31-64 - 10.
Special (Seniors 65+) - 43
Total Membership: 62
Eligible voting members - 56.

Twelve (12) members need to renew between September and December, 2024.

You can renew using ONCARD by logging in with your username and password at www.agohq.org/oncard-login/. You can also renew anytime by calling the national office (212-870-2310) with a credit card

If you need a refresher, here is a link to an [ONCARD instructional video](#) and [ONCARD FAQs](#)

If you have not received a copy of the 2024-2025 Membership Directory, contact Lars Anderson.

Be sure to renew. Don't let your membership lapse.

Roy Johnson Memorial Scholarship

Students may apply for a scholarship!

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 \$1500. 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.**



**AGO 2025
PHOENIX**
JUNE 16-19

Sizzling Summer Stops
June 16-19, 2025
phxago2025.org

Our sister chapter invites you to the 2025 Phoenix Convention, June 16-19. A number of splendid instruments will be featured along with first-rate soloists, trips to the Musical Instrument Museum, Organ Stop Pizza, and inspiring work-shops and exhibitors. Early registration begins November 1!

Correction: Roy Johnson held the AAGO certification, which was presented to him by Alec Wyton in 1973 at a massed choir festival at Grace Episcopal Church, conducted by Dr. Wyton and at which Dr. Johnson was organist.

www.quimbypipeorgans.com



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October 11-12, 2024



**Frankenstein A Choral
Ballet & Brahms "Love Song
Waltzes"**
November 22-24, 2024



**Lessons & Carols by
Candlelight
A Southwest Christmas**
December 12-15, 2024



**The Best of Baroque
Handel Dixit Dominus &
Vivaldi Gloria**
January 17-19, 2025



**The Love of Flight
Works of Blitzstein,
Bernstein, Copland & More**
February 28-March 2, 2025



**Mozart Requiem & Paulus
Prayers and Remembrances**
March 28-30, 2025

Close-Up Vocal Recitals 2025



**RYAN SPEEDO
GREEN**
bass-baritone
January 16



**NATION
duo**
February 18



**CHELSEA
HELM**
soprano
April 1



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The Protestant Music Director shall provide for a comprehensive choral music ministry and associated programming, including all necessary music direction, and necessary advertising coordinated with responsible chaplain or chapel administrative staff.

Qualifications include two plus years' experience in leading music ministry, the ability to play and direct music with emphasis in the contemporary worship tradition, experience in planning and leading music in church or chapel setting, ability to play keyboard, piano or guitar as needed, ability to sing and lead a team of musicians for congregational singing, adequate command of music theory to transpose, arrange, and lead music as needed.

The comprehensive list of qualifications and duties can be found at the [SAAGO.org](https://www.saago.org) website.

This is a part-time position with compensation based on budget and the candidate's experience and qualifications. Applications must include three references and may be made through the Job Board or Directly: <https://music-ministry.jobsoid...>

Virgil Fox, Walk of Stars. .

A Princeton, IL. native, Fox earned a star on Princeton's Walk of Stars. His star was unveiled with hundreds attending the ceremony in his honor. Read more at <https://www.shawlocal.com/illinois-valley/2024/09/07/world-renowned-organist-earns-spot-on-princetons-walk-of-stars/>



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Oct 6



Samara Joy

Oct 31



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Nov. 13



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Publication Information: *The Cypher* is a monthly newsletter published by the Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. It is distributed to chapter members, organists of Tucson churches and surrounding communities, and deans of all chapters in the West Region (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Alaska, and Oregon, as well as Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Sydney, Australia.).

Southern Arizona Chapter members who do not request a printed version will receive *The Cypher* via email. Send information for publication to Stardust (Dusty) Johnson at email skj5@cox.net. 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 AGO, its officers or members.

2024-2025 Chapter and Member Programs at a Glance

Halloween Themed Silent Films

Oct. 17– Nov 19, 7:30 p.m.
Fox theatre, 17 W. Congress St.
School Matinee field trip with
Dave Wickerham, Nov. 18

Jeffri Sanders, Organ Sunday Songbook

Sunday, Oct. 20, 3 p.m.
St. Alban's Episcopal Church
donation

Evensong Organ Prelude

Sundays at 4:15 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal
Church
October 20
November 17
December 15
January 19
February 16
March 16
May 18

Rising Stars, Young Musicians

Jacqueline Rodenbeck, Violin
Saturday, Oct. 26, 3 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal
Church

SAAGO—Showcase Concert

Sunday, Oct. 27, 3 p.m., not 4 p.m.
St. Michael and All Angels
Episcopal Church
Donation

A Candlelight Concert for All Saints Day

Friday, Nov. 1, 7 p.m.
Chapel, Trinity Presbyterian Church

16th Annual HymnFest

Sunday, Nov. 3, 2 p.m.
St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic
Church, Sierra Vista

Chelsea Chen, Organ Catalina Organ Festival

Friday, Nov. 15, 7 p.m.
Catalina United Methodist Church
\$30; \$25 seniors; \$10 students

Listings include member events and are included at editor's discretion and may be edited for space and style. Information is subject to change. Please check with the sponsoring organization.

Howell's Requiem and Jonathan Dove's Passing of the Year

Sunday, Nov. 30, 3 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hill's Episcopal
Church
Donation

SAAGO—Epiphany Party and Potluck

Saturday, Jan. 4, 1 p.m.
The Highlands Community
Clubhouse, Oro Valley

Annual Steinway Concert The Fanya Lin-Daniel Lindner

piano duo
Saturday, Jan. 11, 3 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal
Church

SAAGO—Pedals, Pipes and Pizza

Saturday, Jan. 18, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills
Registration Required

Julia Brown, Organ

Friday, Jan. 31, 7 p.m.
St. Alban's Episcopal Church
Donation

Kimberly Marshall, Organ Roy Johnson Memorial Organ Series

Sunday, Feb. 2, 3 p.m.
Holsclaw Hall, UA School of Music,
\$10

Mid 20th Century Organ Culture William Kuhlman

Saturday, Feb. 15, 10 a.m.
Northminster Presbyterian Church
Lunch

Alcee Chriss, Organ Catalina Organ Festival

Friday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m.
Catalina United Methodist Church
\$30; \$25 seniors; \$10 students

Rising Stars, Young Musicians

Ayla Moreno & Bryan Zhang, Piano
Saturday, Feb. 22, 3 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal
Church

SAAGO—Members' Recital— Concert repertoire based on hymns

Sunday, Mar. 16, 4 p.m.
Location TBA
Donation

Rising Stars, Young Musicians

Sarah Roland, Cello
Saturday, Mar. 22, 3 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal
Church

SAAGO—Valerie Harris, How the West was Won: European organists touring the US in the 1920s—1950s. . .

Saturday, Apr. 5, 10 a.m.
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Lunch

Anna Lapwood, Organ Catalina Organ Festival

Monday, Apr 7, 7 p.m.
Catalina United Methodist Church
\$30; \$25 seniors; \$10 students

Jeffrey Campbell & Stephen Keyl, Organ

Sunday, Apr. 27, 3 p.m.
St. Alban's Episcopal Church
donation

SAAGO—Building Church Musicians, Raymond Ryder

Saturday, May 10, 10 a.m.
Location TBA

St. Philip's Sings—Finzi and R. V. Williams

Sunday, May 11, 2 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal
Church

Youth of St. Philip's in Concert

Sunday, May 25, 3 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal
Church

SAAGO—Summer Social Potluck & Business Meeting

Sunday Jun 1, 4 p.m.
Colonia Verde Clubhouse