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LETTER FROM YOUR DEAN

Greetings friends,

And welcome to the lazy days of summer. June and July are usually good months for a change of pace, and in the AGO, there are typically good opportunities for gathering and growth.

The national AGO produced a very nice series of virtual events in lieu of any regional conventions, and these remain available for viewing on agohq.org. Conventions typically include some sort of regional meeting, and Mike and I attended the virtual event last month.

We heard updates from both Wyatt Smith, one of the chairs of the 2021 National Convention in Seattle, and Heidi Kohne, who serves on the planning committee for the 2022 Regional Convention in Portland. The 2023 National Convention in San Francisco means that we will have three consecutive opportunities to have a convention close at hand.

Furthermore, we've just emerged from a prolonged period that required the utmost creativity, flexibility, and willingness to take on new skills as we've brought programming and worship services to our audiences, assemblies, and congregations.

Perhaps this is a good time for church musicians to make the necessary push for the continuing education opportunities we need, especially given the close proximity to many fine conventions (including many more not listed here) in the upcoming years.

Closer to home, we continue to see signs of a new normal returning. Last week at First United Methodist, we hosted a greatly scaled back Organ Academy as part of the Oregon Bach Festival. Paul Jacobs and a smaller group of students (four this year) spent the week at four area churches, and presented a final recital to a small group of masked attendees.

Though the group was smaller this year, everyone played phenomenally, and the numbers allowed us to hear each organist more than once, and get to know them all a bit better.

In May, we met in my backyard to catch up with one another and approve the Chapter officers for the 2021-2022 year. They are: Brad Schultz (Dean), Mike Reiter (Sub Dean), El-Ray Stewart - Cook (Secretary), and Susanne Giordano (Treasurer).

Additionally Pam Swisher has joined the board as member at large, Richard Guy publishes and distributes our newsletter, and Eric McCurdy is our webmaster.

Cont'd, next column



JOB OFFERINGS

Organist / Choir Director Position

Shepherd of the Valley
Lutheran Church in Corvallis
svlc-corvallis.org

Interim Choir Director / Choir Director

9 Month, Half time position
Unitarian Universalist Church
in Eugene
uueugene.org/uuce-music/

More details on pages 2—4.

DEAN'S LETTER, CONT'D

We express our heartfelt thanks to Gail Goshert, our outgoing treasurer, who has served faithfully in this role over the past several years. She has been extremely helpful in the transition, helping us tie up some banking-related loose ends, and getting Susanne up to speed. Thank you, Gail!

We are looking forward to a return to more normal programming this year. While many events are still in the works, or in flux as churches determine new best practices for holding events, I can tell you that Pipescreams will be back in person, so save the date for Sunday, October 31, 3pm at First United Methodist Church in Eugene.

In many chapters, the sub-dean leads the charge in the programming area, and I've asked Mike Reiter to take the helm in helping to identify opportunities for the chapter in this area. If you have any suggestions, please pass them on to Mike!

We have received a couple of announcements of position openings recently, which you will find in the newsletter. If there's someone you know who may be interested, please pass this information along.

Wishing you all the best,

Brad Schultz

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT - Interim Choir Director of UUCE

The Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene has an immediate opening for an Interim Choir Director. This half-time (0.50), one-year position will be based at the UU Church in Eugene, Oregon when the Church goes back to in-person programming (date TBD, but not before September 2021). We hope to grow this position to a full time Director of Music (DoM) in the near future when the pandemic is behind us and the church can re-generate the budget to increase this position's hours. The Interim Choir Director would be eligible to apply for the permanent position.

UUCE is a 350-member church dedicated to our mission, "Empowered by love, we transform ourselves and serve our world." Our church recently adopted the principle that we work to dismantle all forms of oppression. UUCE has a 60-year established music program which has included 3 choirs, the largest one numbering 45 members. The Choir Director is part of the ministry of the church. Hiring an interim choir director will help us to recuperate from the pandemic closure of the church, with the goal of eventually bringing back all three choirs and the ability to hire additional instrumental and vocal musicians for church concerts. In this interim ½ time, the choir director's goal would be to bring back 2 of the 3 choirs, rotating performances 2-3 services per month. This position collaborates to lead the musical life of the congregation.

<https://uueugene.org/about-our-church/about-unitarian-universalism/uuces-statement-of-affirmation/>

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Posting Date: July 15, 2021

Interviews: Will be conducted evenings as soon as possible via Zoom.

Goal Start Date: Week of August 23, 2021

This is a 9-month ½ time interim position paid within the guidelines of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) policy.

Send Cover Letter, Resumé and References to: office@uueugene.org as soon as possible. We will continue to accept applications through the interviewing process until we have found the successful candidate.

Qualifications

- Formal training and significant experience in choral conducting; have a familiarity with a wide diversity of spiritual, secular, and justice music. Bachelor's degree in Music (minimum or equivalent);
- Broad knowledge, teaching ability of music techniques, theory, performance, musical periods, styles and choral repertoire;
- Desirable to have keyboard and arranging skills;
- Own the copyright to any work composed or arranged by the employee;

- Clarity and empathy in organizational, interpersonal and communication skills, works easily with others;
- Has strong leadership and also values leadership through teamwork; ● Conform to the church's policies on COVID vaccination.

Responsibilities

- Direct the two adult choirs in 2 services a month from September to mid-June; ● Training and rehearsing two 1.5-hour choir rehearsals every week;
- Some special music such as additional holiday music;
- Engage the congregation in musical participation;
- In collaboration with the Minister, research, order, and schedule appropriate choral music to align with and enhance Sunday service themes; the Music Program has an extensive music library;
- Preparation for rehearsals and performances (normally Sundays), including research, conducting practice, recording practice tracks;
- Manage the music budget;
- Submit monthly timesheet;
- Submit an annual Music Program budget request and annual report; ● Develop a choir calendar showing the dates of practices and performances, and the associated repertoire;
- Participate in planning of worship services;
- Work collaboratively with staff across Church functions;
- Work collaboratively with the pianist/organist;
- Help UUCE's Music Program navigate the transition to multi-platform Sunday services; ● Contract guest musicians as necessary for performing choral programs; ● Arrange regular maintenance for all musical instruments (2 grand pianos, 1 Baroque pipe organ, 1 practice piano);
- Utilize the Music Committee for upkeep of the music library and other assistance as needed;
- Report to the minister;
- Benefits include standard holidays and time off, health insurance, and retirement as eligible per the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), https://www.uua.org/files/pdf/b/benefits_summary_chart.pdf ;
- BIPoC applicants are strongly encouraged to apply!

Position Opening - Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church - Corvallis

Role:

Help facilitate the experience of Christian community through music. Primary role is to provide keyboard music for worship services and lead the congregation in hymns and liturgy.

Paradigm of Christian corporate worship:

A heart turned toward God with thankfulness and praise for the grace offered through Jesus Christ. Christian worship is centered on receiving Jesus Christ through his gifts (sacraments) and God's Word so gratitude can transform the individual and community. The church musician aids our community in this goal.

Qualifications:

- Proficiency in playing keyboard instruments (piano, organ) at intermediate level or above for normal 4-part hymnody.
- Proficiency and leadership in instrumental & vocal skills, with a focus on keys.
- Knowledge of historic & modern hymnody, Lutheran liturgical practices & liturgical calendar.
- Collaborative. Contribute one's own gifts & fulfill plans of designated person(s) & seasons.

Hours and Compensation:

- Sunday morning worship typically 1.5 hours including pre- and post-service music.
- Special midweek services (e.g. Advent, Lent) - typically 1 hour
- All necessary prep and practice time required.
- \$65/worship service
- Right of first refusal for weddings, funerals, and other special services.

Responsibilities:

Musts:

- Available to play Sunday morning services and additional mid-week services during Advent, Lent, & Holy Week.
- During worship services, accompany hymns, liturgy, special music, prelude and postlude music on piano or organ.
- Rehearse and accompany special vocal music as appropriate.

Want

- Familiarity with 4-part hymn arrangements as well as more contemporary music
- Assist with selecting hymns and finding non-copyrighted Christian music from various source.
- Select and play prelude and postlude music appropriate to the liturgical season and theme of the worship service.
- Familiarity with a variety of worship music styles
- Knowledge of reflective music such as Taizé and various other call & response style music.
- The ability to play multiple instruments. (piano, organ, percussion, stringed, etc.)
- Lead choirs or other types of group music experiences.
- Skill in, or desire to learn, worship planning.

Current Covid-19 worship situation (no corporate singing; live and recorded music selections)

- Ability to select and play prelude and postlude music on piano or organ
- Ability to pre-record selections as needed independently
- Accompany recordings of hymns, liturgy, and special music as needed and record them

NATIONAL AGO WEBINARS

Visit <https://www.agohq.org/upcoming-ago-webinars/>

for registration and login information.

www.youtube.com/user/GuildofOrganists/playlists

The AGO's national webinars moves to a weekly format for May. Join them at 9am Fridays (or archived later) for a weekly recital featuring young organists. For more information:

<https://www.agohq.org/agoyo/agoyo-fridays-at-noon-online-events/>

PIPE DREAMS ON KWAX-FM

Michael Barone, host of Pipe Dreams is heard on KWAX-FM on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. and at 8 pm. This program's presentation on KWAX-FM is underwritten by the Eugene Chapter of the AGO. The program can also be heard anytime streaming on the world-wide web. More details at: www.pipedreams.publicradio.org.

WITH HEART AND VOICE

With Heart and Voice is a radio program that spans the full range of Western classical music from the Gothic period through the 21st century. There are occasional surprises from the non-western tradition. The program is hosted by Peter DuBois, an active organist who teaches at the Eastman School of Music. This program originates from Rochester, New York, and is broadcast Sundays, 11 am and 7 pm on KWAX-FM.



The Organ Loft is a radio program about choral and organ music, particularly music of the Pacific Northwest. The program is hosted by Roger Sherman,

the Associate Organist of St. Mark's Cathedral in Seattle. The Organ Loft features music of Pacific Northwest choirs, organs, composers and organ builders. The programming is half organ, and half choral music.

This program is underwritten and sponsored by your Eugene AGO Chapter on KWAX-FM and the University of Oregon radio network (webcast: KWAX-FM Homepage) on Sundays at 6 PM.

Eugene, 91.1 KWAX-FM Redmond, 88.5 KWRX-FM
Florence, 91.5 KWVZ-FM Canyonville, 92.3 KWRZ-FM

and on these translators:

		Corvallis 92.9
Bend 98.9	Cottage Grove 101.9	Salem 92.9
Newport 91.3	Reedsport 90.9	Roseburg 97.9
Sunriver 90.9	Sutherlin-Oakland 107.1	Glide 105.3

YEAR OF THE YOUNG ORGANIST

The AGO has declared 2021-2022 the "Year of the Young Organist." This means that any young organist (defined as under 30) can join the guild or renew their current membership for free. This is an excellent opportunity to engage younger organists in our midst to join our ranks. It's also a great opportunity for us to think as a chapter of the ways we can continue to bolster interest in the organ. More information about the membership subsidy can be found at agohq.org/free-membership.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE NOW

If you haven't already joined or renewed your AGO membership via ON-CARD, now is the time to do so. In order to be able to include your current contact information in our annual Eugene Chapter AGO directory, please renew your membership immediately.

To renew or become a Eugene Chapter AGO member, just go online:

New members: https://ago.networkats.com/members_online/members/ago_new_member.asp

Renewing members: <https://www.agohq.org/oncard-login/>

If you have questions, or need assistance, you can call (212) 870 - 2310 and they will help you with the process. If you are more comfortable sending a check, it can be sent by mail to:

American Guild of Organists
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260
New York, NY 10115

Please note that the check should be made out to the American Guild of Organists, NOT the Eugene Chapter.

If you are a student, assistance with a portion of your membership dues is available. Simply visit www.agoeugene.org, click "join," and scroll to the bottom of the page for the appropriate form.

Current member categories are: Regular Member (\$105), Young Organists (\$50), Special, 65 and older (\$80). Chapter Friends are \$35.