



# Pipeline

The Newsletter of the Nassau Chapter  
of the American Guild of Organists  
[www.agohq.org/chapters/nassau](http://www.agohq.org/chapters/nassau)



November 2020

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## Chapter Calendar Highlights

### DECEMBER

#### Zoom Meeting for Nassau Chapter members.

Sunday evening December 6, 7:00 PM. See dean's column for additional details. A zoom link for this meeting will be provided during the preceding week.

### JANUARY

#### Joint Meeting with the Suffolk & Queens Chapters.

Sunday evening January 24. Zoom meeting from the comfort of your home. See dean's column for additional details.

### FEBRUARY

#### Demonstration of Continuo Organ at the Cathedral of the Incarnation, Garden City.

Sunday, February 28, 4pm. Arrangements will be made for both in person and remote attendance.

## GROW THE GUILD

Invite an organist, choir director friend to join the Guild. We'll be happy to send them information

*from the dean...*



Greetings:

I hope all our members and their families are wearing their masks, doing proper social distancing and staying safe from the coronavirus. Now that two vaccines are in the approval process, we can start to see some light at the end of a long tunnel.

We had a great start to our anniversary events last year, with five wonderful events:

- The chapter social in September, at which we gave away John Hartofil's immense collection of organ music and CDs.
- A masterclass and a concert featuring John Walker in October at St Agnes Cathedral
- A handbell workshop with Kathleen Ebling Thorne at St John's Lutheran Church in Merrick
- An exciting program at the Martin Luther King Day Workshop at the Congregational Church in Manhasset, cosponsored by the Nassau, Suffolk and Queens chapters.

We had to postpone the two special events we had planned to celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the chapter, the concerts featuring Peter Conte and the Juilliard students Daniel Ficarri and Raphael Vogl, but will reschedule them when it is safe to do so.

We have several chapter events coming up. We will hold a Zoom meeting on Sunday evening, December 6<sup>th</sup> to connect with our chapter members and discuss what we are doing about safely including music in our services under the present conditions when Covid19 cases are increasing. Matthew Koras will also give his excellent presentation on the techniques he used to put together a virtual choir concert at the Church of St Patrick, Huntington. This presentation is definitely worth hearing! Matthew went through an amazingly detailed process to put the virtual concert together. A link for this meeting will be sent by email during the week preceding the meeting.

Speaking of Matthew, he performed an organ recital at the Church of St Patrick on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. If you missed this performance, you can still hear it by clicking on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4cpK4FQBn-o>.

In January, the three chapters will jointly sponsor another Zoom meeting on Sunday evening, January 24<sup>th</sup>. There will be two parts to this meeting. Elizabeth George, Director of Member Engagement and Chapter Development at the national AGO office, office, will provide an overview of the AGO website. This website has a large amount of useful information on it; she will show us what is available and where to find everything.

Deanna Muro, Suffolk Chapter member, will give a presentation on a new AGO initiative, the Achievement Awards program. This program provides a structured way of teaching and learning basic organ skills.

The music staff at the Cathedral of the Incarnation will host a program on Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> beginning at 4 PM. You will be able to attend this event remotely or in person at the cathedral. The program will consist of a demonstration of the Taylor and Boody continuo organ which was recently acquired by the cathedral. The special features of a continuo organ will be discussed and demonstrated using appropriate music.

Larry Tremsky, has provided us with a preview which can be found at <https://www.dropbox.com/s/97j4wu5exex11ml/Prelude%20Frescobaldi-%20Kyrie%20versets.m4a?dl=0>. Here, Frescobaldi versets alternate with the chant on which they are based.

Returning to the subject of the AGO website, the national office has offered several webinars which members may find useful. The first of these webinars is entitled Successful Online Streaming to Avoid Online Screaming and may be viewed at the following link: [Successful Online Streaming to Avoid Online Screaming](#) Handouts that go with this webinar may be found at: [Webinar Handout: Online Streaming and Recording](#) [Webinar Handout: Mobile Recording Guide](#)

The second webinar, entitled Streaming Music Legally in Churches and Recitals, was presented on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. It can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xV51vnmQxm4&feature=youtu.be>.

The third webinar, entitled Google, Skype and Zoom – Oh My!, was presented last Friday and can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KI6duNgfeU0&feature=youtu.be>. One portion of this webinar discusses using zoom for organ music. Zoom is designed for uses such as business conferences; it was not designed to transmit the wide range of

frequencies that an organ produces. However, certain Zoom settings can be tweaked to improve the quality of organ music transmission when Zoom is used.

America magazine has published an article entitled A Brief History of O Holy Night. This article can be viewed at <https://www.americamagazine.org/arts-culture/2020/11/19/brief-history-o-holy-night-christmas-hymn-review>.

## Other Events

The next online organ concert offered by the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in Washington DC will feature Jordan Prescott of St Peter's Episcopal Church, Ellicott City, MD and will take place on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 4 PM. To hear this concert, google Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land and click on VIEW OUR LIVESTREAM at the bottom of the home page.

## New Feature

Did you notice the new feature on the first page of this newsletter? Answer yes or no in your own mind before you go back to the first page to peek! The AGO has redesigned its seal.



Question: How many choir directors are needed to change a lightbulb?

Answer: No one knows, because no one has ever looked at a choir director long enough to find out.

Question: How many snakes would it take to have a Handbell choir of 3 octaves?

Answer: You are out of luck. Snakes can't play handbells – they don't have hands!

Choir director: I walked to the podium, ready to start the rehearsal. The choir was silent and everyone was watching me attentively, music in hand. Then I woke up!

## **Concerts Commemorating Beethoven's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

Soprano Helene Williams and the Dakule Trio (Dan Hyman, violin; Josh Epstein, cello, and Leonard Lehrman, piano, will be celebrating Beethoven's Semiquincentennial (250th birthday) with Zoom concerts on Sun. Dec. 13 at 2:30pm co-sponsored by Oyster Bay & Valley Stream Libraries & Wed. Dec. 16 at 7pm co-sponsored by the Long Beach Public Library.

Repertoire includes the "Archduke" Trio, Variations on "God Save the King" and a duet from Mozart's MAGIC FLUTE (plus the duet itself), an excerpt from FIDELIO, sonata movements, and half a dozen songs, including "Again, my lyre," for soprano and piano trio.

These concerts are free, on Zoom, and audience members may sign up as follows: for Oyster Bay (beginning Dec. 1st), email: <https://bit.ly/BeethovensBirthday>. for Valley Stream, email: [hwmlcontact@hotmail.com](mailto:hwmlcontact@hotmail.com). for Long Beach, Dec. 16 (the actual birthday), no registration is necessary. At 7pm just click on: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86181250993?pwd=WUJhT08ySG5mbWIMcys3SjV2WnhkUT09>. Meeting ID: 861 8125 0993, Passcode: 990228. **To join by phone:** 1 646 558 8656.

These programs are made possible with funds from the Decentralization Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and administered by The Huntington Arts Council.

### ***Holidays in Music: A Parade of Nantucket's Historic Pipe Organs!***

**Nantucket, MA, November 5, 2020** - The unique pipe organs on Nantucket are pulling out all their stops for Nantucket Community Music Center's (NCMC) 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Organ Crawl, *Holidays in Music: A Parade of Nantucket's Pipe Organs!*

This 90-minute virtual equivalent of NCMC's Annual Organ Crawl will be streamed live on YouTube, **Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 5pm**. The program features the island's six historic mechanical-action pipe organs and highlights music from the end-of-year holidays, showcasing the American flare of Thanksgiving, the anticipation and festivity of Christmas, the exuberant ringing-in of the New Year...and much more!

Performing on the organs, four of which are over 100 years old, are Nantucket organists Jeff Cutts, Joe Hammer, and Isaiah Williams, joined by renowned guest organist and composer Carson Cooman. The instruments, the oldest dating to 1831 and the newest to 2001, are housed in the First Congregational Church, St. Mary's – Our Lady of the Isle, St. Paul's (Episcopal), United Methodist Church and The Unitarian-Universalist Church.

To watch this event, visit the Nantucket Community Music Center [YouTube](#) page at **5pm, Friday, November 27**. Post-premier, *Holidays in Music* will continue to be available for viewing on NCMC's YouTube Page and website at [nantucketcommunitymusiccenter.org](http://nantucketcommunitymusiccenter.org).

For more information on this event, please call the NCMC at (508) 228-3352 or email us at [office@nantucketmusiccenter.org](mailto:office@nantucketmusiccenter.org).

## Nassau Substitute List – May 2020

Denominations: B=Baptist, CS=Christian Science, E=Episcopal, L=Lutheran, P=Presbyterian, RC=Roman Catholic, T=Temple, O=Other  
 Time of Day: M=Mornings, A=Afternoons, E=Evenings

### Monday - Friday

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Dave Opatow	dopatow1@gmail.com	Oceanside	516-992-0965	Sun	B, CS, E, L, P, RC, T	MAE

This list is for the use of chapter members only. The chapter takes no responsibility for the performance of those listed.