



# The Bombarde

The Official Newsletter of the Detroit Chapter  
of the American Guild of Organists

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## In This September 2018 Issue

[Dean's Column](#)

[Chapter News and Events](#)

[Member News](#)

[The List](#)

[Substitutes](#)

[Positions Available](#)

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

## The Dean's Column

Greetings!

I hope everyone is managing to stay cool with our very warm summer here. I, for one, am enjoying a real summer but you have to remember, I am a transplanted Texas boy. Those of you that get a breather in the summer congratulations! Hope you are enjoying your leisure time. As we are about to embark on our 2018-2019 year, I am both humbled and excited to be serving the Detroit Chapter as Dean. I have been fascinated with the pipe organ as a major instrument for as long as I can remember.

Growing up, I used to love to run up to the choir loft at my hometown church, where the organ was slightly recessed and watch Dorothy Compton (blessed memory), the then organist, as she played the postlude. I would marvel as I watched two hands - often each one on separate manuals and both feet moving at the same time to produce some of the greatest musical sounds I had ever heard. I started studying organ at the age of 12 - I could not even reach the pedal board. I remember how much I loved playing around with the different pull knobs and hearing the different sounds. Over the years, my love for the organ has not waned one bit.



What saddens me is how many organs in our churches and temples are lying dormant-not being played. Some have not been played for years and have been allowed to go into a state of malignant neglect-costing thousands of dollars to get back into playing form. I have several goals for our chapter. One of those is to really step up the education side of our chapter work-to be strong advocates as we foster interest in the organ through our youth and young adults so that the organs in our churches are not allowed to go silent.

My other goal is more participation by our membership. We are planning to offer an exciting year of programming that will appeal to everyone regardless of your skill set.

If you are presently an active member, please renew when your anniversary date comes around. If your membership has lapsed, I encourage you to re-up your membership. And if you have never been a member, I strongly encourage you to consider becoming a member and to actively participate in chapter activities.

This is your chapter, so be a part of it. Be a voice, have more than just a speaking acquaintance with the organ. We look forward to seeing you and working together as we change the world, on stop at a time.

We have officially launched another year for the Detroit Chapter. Our newly elected board met for the first time yesterday and I have to say I could not be happier. I believe you have elected a strong board to guide the chapter through this next year.

With that in mind-WELCOME MEMBERSHIP-yes, welcome to our 2018-2019 year. I am looking forward to a great year together.

**Start the year off on a great note by joining us on September 30 at 4:00 p.m. We will be co-sponsoring a concert with the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, 9844 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI 48202. As part of the cathedral's Cultural Series , the artist that afternoon will be Michael Hey, who is organist at St. Patrick's in NYC. He will be joined by Christiana Liberis, violinist.**

**As part of the afternoon event, your newly elected officers and Executive Board Members will be installed. I am delighted to have Rev. Randall Engle, our chapter chaplain to administer the oath of office that afternoon. We are co-sponsoring this event with the cathedral.**

**This will be a ticketed event (free for Guild members, \$10 for non-members.) The installation of officers will take place after the concert and a reception will follow immediately afterward. Further information is available in Chapter News & Events, below, in this issue of The Bombarde.**

**Please join us that afternoon. It will be great to see familiar faces, some new faces and, hopefully, some faces we have not seen in awhile. Let's plan to kick off our new year with a great chapter turnout. After the concert and installation, your board will be hosting a reception for the membership and guests. Hopefully, our artists will join us and you will have the opportunity to meet them personally. The reception will be a very important Detroit chapter event .**

Plans for the rest of the year are still being put together and will be announced soon. We will have our annual Epiphany Banquet, an organ crawl and our Pipes, Pedals and Pizza event (or some version thereof) and our annual scholarship/member recital. This year that will be in May and be at Hartford Baptist Church. We are also planning some special music events, perhaps a joint event with two of our sister chapters, the Windsor Chapter and the Ann Arbor Chapter. If you have ideas for programming, do not hesitate to contact our Sub-Dean Andrew Herbruck or contact me and I will pass the information along. At any rate, I believe you will find a whole menu of activities in which you will want to participate.

As I close out this article, I want to continue to encourage you to renew your membership when it comes up as renewal dates are staggered throughout the year now. And once again I encourage you to contribute any additional amount you can to the chapter Scholarship Fund. This is a vital program that promotes and fosters strong interest in the organ as it remains a viable instrument in our churches, schools and theatres.

See you September 30. Let us once again, collectively and separately, pledge to change the world one stop at a time.

Kindest regards,  
George Jonte-Crane  
Dean-Elect

## Chapter News and Events

**Concert and Installation of Officers  
followed by a Reception  
Sunday, September 30, 4:00 pm  
Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament.  
[9844 Woodward Avenue, Detroit](#)**



The Cathedral Cultural Series presents Michael Hey, associate organist at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, and renowned New York City violinist Christiana Liberis, present a fresh and innovative program using the cathedral's historic organ, on Sunday, September 30, 2018 at 4 pm.

The recital will be held at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, 9844 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48202. Tickets are \$10 general admission, (AGO members are admitted free) and may be purchased from [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/organ-and-violin-recital-tickets-49176798127#tickets) (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/organ-and-violin-recital-tickets-49176798127#tickets>) Tickets may also be purchased starting at 3:45 pm at the door the day of the concert.

Michael and Christiana will employ the entirety of the grand stone sanctuary of the cathedral presenting a program of solo organ works and violin/organ duo works, including works by Bach, Wagner, Ravel and Naji Hakim.

Doors open 45 minutes before the concert. Free, secure parking is adjacent to the Cathedral.

Concert organist Michael Hey has been described as "scintillating" and "tremendously virtuosic" (The Straits Times, Singapore, 2016). In 2015 Michael was appointed Associate Director of Music and Organist of the famed Saint Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. Not exclusively a solo organist, Michael enjoys a varied career that includes collaborations with other musicians, solo piano recitals, improvising, and transcribing works. He has performed with renowned soloists including soprano Renée Fleming, tenor Matthew Polenzani, and mezzo-soprano Isabel Leonard. In 2016 he recorded an anthology with baritone Tim Krol entitled Robert Franz: Ordinary Man, Extraordinary Songs. Lately, he has been performing duos for organ or piano with violinist Christiana Liberis.

Christiana Liberis, born in Italy of Italian, Greek, and Polish heritage, is a performer of international reach. Recognized for her captivating tone and deeply enthralling musical interpretations, she has performed to acclaim, transporting audiences with her performances of traditional forms of classical music as well as more postmodern and popular idioms. Versatile in diverse musical genres, Christiana has collaborated in

concert engagements across the globe and has mastered the art of playing in many different capabilities; not limited to the more well-known classical forms of solo, chamber, symphonic, opera, and ballet, but also in tango, jazz, Broadway, electric improvisation, and other eclectic styles.

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## **Chapter Scholarship Information, Guidelines and Application Form**

Jean Randall has submitted our Chapter Scholarship information, guidelines, and an application form, [all available online here](#).

Auditions will be held at Royal Oak First Methodist on March 18, 2019. The members recital will be held on May 6, 2019 7PM at Hartford Memorial Baptist Detroit.

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## **Is Your Roster Information Up-to-Date?**

Is Your Information in the Roster Correct?

The annual Roster is being formatted. You can help us by making sure we have your latest home address, phone and email; your latest work place information, and any updates to certifications or other information. All this information is obtained from the AGO National ON-CARD system. If there have been any changes in the past 18 months, please update your information. To access the national system go to [AGOHQ.org](http://AGOHQ.org); click on the ON-CARD item in the menu at the bottom; enter your first initial and full last name as the 'username'; and your password is your member number that appears at the top of the American Organist mailing label. If you have any problems accessing the system send an email to Pete Townsend, [registrar@detroitago.org](mailto:registrar@detroitago.org).

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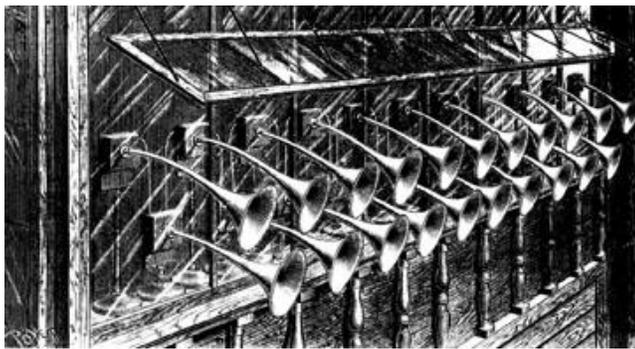
## **Would You Like to Play the Area's Largest Residential Organ?**

Once again the original-condition 1919 Aeolian organ in Meadow Brook Hall will be featured during the annual Holiday Walk from Thanksgiving until Christmas. Meadow Brook Hall is a National Historic Landmark. It is the 88,000 sq.ft. former home of Alfred and Matilda Dodge Wilson, and is on the campus of Oakland University.

In past year s members of the Detroit AGO have generously joined in volunteering to man the console and provide holiday music for the hall's visitors. Around the end of October, interested organists will be contacted to set up schedules. If you have an interest in playing this historic instrument and would like to be added to the contact list, please contact Pete Townsend at [ptownsend@comcast.net](mailto:ptownsend@comcast.net) so your name can be added to the email list. If you have an interest in a short practice or trial session prior to then, please also contact Pete.



## Member News



Do you have news that you'd like to share with the Chapter?

Please send your news bno later than the 15th of the month to Gerald Furi at:

[detroitago@gmail.com](mailto:detroitago@gmail.com)

for inclusion in the next issue of *The Bombarde*.

## The List

**Sunday, September 23, 1:30 & 3:00 pm**

**[Saint Matthew's & Saint Joseph's Episcopal Church](#)**

**8850 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48202**

**"Tea & Pipes" Benefit Organ Recital for**

**the restoration of their Four-Manual 1927 E.M. Skinner pipe**

**Organ Opus 623-A**



**"Tea & Pipes" will include an informal reception @ 1:30PM, with the concert @ 3PM featuring former Music Directors Dr. Timothy Huth and Dan Dillingham, with special guest Dr. Marie Mehler on trumpet.**

For more information, please call (313) 871 - 4750 or visit:  
[www.smsjdetroit.org](http://www.smsjdetroit.org)

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**Saturday. September 29, 2018 7:00 p.m**  
**Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church**  
**[24110 Cherry Hill St, Dearborn, MI 48124](#)**

**313-563-4800**

**Matthew Ball, "The Boogie Woogie Kid" Pianist/Singer and Songwriter Matthew Ball, aka The Boogie Woogie Kid, is the attorney turned musician with now over 4 million views! A national touring artist, Matthew performs New Orleans and Swing favorites from the 20s 30s and 40s. His performances are described as "Awesome!" "Crushing!" "Fantastic! "**

**Free will offering.**

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**Sunday, October 7 at 3:00 pm**  
**[Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church](#)**  
**467 Fairford Rd. Grosse Pointe Woods, MI**  
**Ave Maris Stella: Organ Recital in Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Music Director Matthew Jakubisin will perform on the 2001 Karl Wilhelm organ, featuring works by Bach, Boellmann, Brahms, DeGrigny, Peeters, Schlick and Widor. For more information visit <https://www.olsos.org/pipe-organ> Free will offering.**

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**Sunday, October 21 at 4:00 pm**

**[St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church](#)**

**31555 Hoover Rd. Warren**

**Organ Recital**

**John McGovern will perform works by J. S. Bach, Buxtehude, Franck, Frescobaldi and Mendelssohn. Free will offering.**

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**Sunday. October 21, 2018 4:00 p.m**