



Notes From A Loft

March 2023

The American Guild of Organists
Tampa, Florida Chapter
Celebrating 75 Years
ago-tampa.org

FROM THE SUB-DEAN

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

BOT BACH?

Come and play your favorite work by Johann Sebastian Bach at the 22nd "Bach Bash" on Sunday, March 19, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. Organ, piano, vocal, and instrumental works are welcomed!

This program will benefit the Margaret Smith McAlister Scholarship Fund.

Come play the mighty 3-manual Reuter at Hyde Park United Methodist Church, 500 West Platt Street, Tampa, Florida. Contact Michael Dougherty at 813-624-6768 or mdougherty@hydeparkUMC.org to schedule a practice time.

Contact Van Howard at vbhoward@gmail.com by March 8th to add your work to the program.

Bring your friends to this wonderful event! A reception will follow.

Stephen L. Allen, Sub-Dean – Tampa Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

FROM THE DEAN

Dear Tampa AGO Members and Friends,

"Seven Chances", Buster Keaton's silent film classic with Artist-in-Residence Dr. Steven Ball accompanying should be offered at the AGO National Convention!

What a great way for us organists to be reminded of the awesome miracle which marriage really is! This February Tampa AGO Chapter event at the Tampa Theater on Valentine's Day 2023 preceded by a most delightful and delicious dinner with Dr. Steven Ball and AGO members and friends at the Si-am Thai Restaurant next door, was so much fun! I feel sorry for all those who missed it! As a Chapter we are so blessed to have such internationally famous talent in our chapter and on our AGO board.

Don't miss our 22nd Bach Birthday Bash March 19, 2023, at 4pm at Hyde Park United Presbyterian Church ! Another stellar event in our 75th Anniversary Celebration Year!

Check out the specifics of an Allen organ looking for a good home found later in this newsletter. You may be able to help two parties with this find.

See you at the Bach Birthday Bash!

Sylvia Chai, Dean
Tampa Chapter AGO



2022 – 2023 Calendar of Chapter Events

October 30, 2022 – 4:00 pm – “Peculiar Pipes” – A Costumed Halloween Recital

First Presbyterian Church of Lakeland, 175 Lake Hollingworth Dr, Lakeland, FL 33801

Contact: Thomas Ingui (772) 913-0279 or hippomaster@gmail.com

**November 13, 2022 – 4:00 pm – Members Organ Recital featuring
Tampa AGO Scholarship Winners and Our Young Organists**

Grace Lutheran Church, 3714 W Linebaugh Ave, Tampa, FL 33618

Contact: Sylvia Chai (813) 390-0911 or sylviachai0@gmail.com

January 21-22, 2023 – see next page for details – Festival of Music with

**Former Dean Nancy Callahan, Clinician, Members of the Tampa Oratorio Singers, the
Chancel Choir, and All Interested Singers**

Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church, 3501 W San Jose St, Tampa, FL 33629

Contact: Stephen Allen (813) 997-7859 or slafl@aol.com

**February 14, 2023 – 7:00 pm – “Seven Chances” – A silent film with accompaniment on the
Mighty Wurlitzer by Artist-In-Residence Steven Ball**

Tampa Theatre, 711 N Franklin St, Tampa, FL 33602

[Promo code TAMPAAGO for \$3 ticket discount on online ticket sales]

Pre-Concert Dinner – 5:00 pm – Si-Am Thai Restaurant, 713 N Franklin St, Tampa, FL 33602

Contact: Steven Ball (609) 515-5857 or info@stevenball.com

**March 19, 2023 – 4:00 pm – 22nd Bach Birthday Bash – Featuring Organ, Instrumental, and
Vocal Works of Johann Sebastian Bach**

Benefiting the Margaret Smith McAlister Scholarship Fund

Hyde Park United Methodist Church, 500 W Platt St, Tampa, FL 33606

Contact: Van Howard (813) 857-8800 or vbhoward@gmail.com

April 16, 2023 – 4:00 pm – Margaret Smith McAlister Scholarship Auditions

St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 13312 Cain Rd, Tampa, FL 33625

Contact: Edwin Taylor (203) 947-3497 or edwintaylor52@gmail.com

April 30, 2023 – 5:00 pm – Adam Brakel Organ Concert

Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church, 3501 W San Jose St, Tampa, FL 33629

Contact: Van Howard (813) 857-8800 or vbhoward@gmail.com

May 19, 2023 – 6:30 pm – Closing Dinner and Installation of Officers

Bonfish Grill, 3665 Henderson Blvd, Tampa, FL 33609

Contact: Van Howard (813) 857-8800 or vbhoward@gmail.com

Our Next Chapter Event!!!

22nd Bach Birthday Bash

In Honor of Our 75th Chapter Anniversary
Sunday, March 19, 2023, at 4:00 pm



Hyde Park United Methodist Church
500 West Platt Street
Tampa, FL 33606

Parking Available Behind the Church On West Azeele Street

Featuring

Music by Featured Local Musicians

Bach Birthday Reception to Follow

Sponsored by the American Guild of Organists, Tampa Chapter

Free Admission - Offering Taken to Benefit the Margaret Smith McAlister Scholarship Fund
Contact bhhoward@gmail.com for more information or call 813-857-8800

From Our Colleague Dr. Laura Ellis

Plans are in place for another invigorating Sacred Music Workshop on the UF campus on May 7-9. Our guest clinician will be Dr. Vicki Schaeffer. Vicki hails from Oklahoma and is the current National Councillor for Membership for the AGO.

The event will also include an organ recital by Notre Dame student (and recent SE AGO Rising Star) David Stultz. And, of course, we'll have some great workshops, a choral reading session, and a carillon recital by a current UF carillonneur!

More details may be found on our website: <https://uflsmw.wixsite.com/home>

Registration is only \$80! Register here:
<https://reg.conferences.dce.ufl.edu/SSP/1400087991>

Thanks much!

Laura Ellis
Associate Director & Professor of Music
University of Florida

From Our Friends in the Central Florida Chapter



Friday, March 10, 2023

The next Central FL AGO Lunch Bunch will take place in Lakeland on Friday, March 10, 2023. We will visit three churches with pipe organs and have lunch together. Bring along something to play. This is the schedule for the event.

10:15 am

First United Methodist Church

72 Lake Morton Dr, Lakeland, FL 33801

Schantz Organ 72 ranks

11:30 am

All Saints Episcopal Church

202 S Massachusetts Ave, Lakeland, FL 33801

E.M. Skinner 32 ranks

12:30 pm

Lunch at **Harry's Seafood Bar & Grille**

101 N Kentucky Ave, Lakeland, FL 33801

1:30 pm

First Presbyterian Church

175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr, Lakeland, FL 33801

Austin Organ 60 ranks

*For Carpooling and Information
Contact John Reilly 321-277-6194*

Upcoming Scholarship Auditions

Information for this year's Margaret Smith McAlister Scholarship auditions will be distributed in the coming week to our distribution list.

Please mark your calendars for April 16th, 2023, 4 pm at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Carrollwood.

Allen Organ For Sale

Contact Ms. Linda Williams for pricing and details. Her e-mail is: lindawill@tampabay.rr.com, and her number is: (813) 503-4284. She mentioned she has some organ music as well.

2022 – 2023 Officers – Tampa Chapter

Dean

Sylvia Chai

Sub-Dean

Stephen Allen

Secretary/Treasurer

Van Howard

Members-At-Large

Steven Ball

Dennis Douglas

Thomas Ingui

Tony Sievert

Rebecca Steinke

Edwin Taylor

Rebecca Steinke, Webmaster

John Matthew Cowan, Social Media Coordinator

Please send any newsletter submission by no later than the 25th of the prior month for the next month's newsletter to Van Howard at vbhoward@gmail.com

Positions Available

Please send available positions to Van Howard at vbhoward@gmail.com along with clear contact information for any inquiries

Substitutes Available

(O - Organist, P - Pianist, O/D - Organist/Director, D - Director, V - Vocalist)

Please send updates or corrections to this list to Van Howard at vbhoward@gmail.com. Inclusion in this list does not constitute the Chapter's endorsement of skills, and thus it encourages interviews with prospective substitutes. Those listed must be a member of the American Guild of Organists.

Mr. Stephen Allen	O/D	(813) 997-7859	Mon - Sat
Mr. Timothy Belk	O/D	(704) 309-0822	Sun, Tue - Sat
Ms. Cheryl Blackwell-Cox	O/P	(813) 465-3332	Sun - Sat
Ms. Sylvia Chai	O/D	(813) 390-0911	Sun - Sat
Dr. Christopher Combie	O	(813) 990-7369	Mon - Fri
Dr. Michael Dougherty	O/D	(813) 624-6768	Mon - Sat
Mr. Dennis Douglas	O	(813) 352-4748	Mon - Sat
Mr. John (Jay) Findlater	O/P	(313) 410-6478	Sun - Sat
Ms. Jan Ellis Highsmith	O	(813) 495-8905	Sun - Sat
Ms. Frances Johnson	O/P	(813) 730-4173	Sun - Sat
Mr. Cal Leferink	O/D	(813) 850-9845	Mon - Fri
Ms. Rebecca Steinke	O/D	(619) 841-8930	Mo, Tu, Th, Fr
Mr. Edwin Taylor	O/D	(203) 947-3497	Sun - Sat
Mr. Kurt Taylor	O/D	(660) 631-9416	Sun - Sat
Dr. Shawn Thomas	O/D	(850) 316-0321	Mon - Sat
Mr. Brandon Vennink	O/D	(508) 208-7774	Mon - Fri
Ms. Sarah Whitt	O	(813) 928-2102	Sun - Sat