



Notes From A Loft

September 2022

The American Guild of Organists

Tampa, Florida Chapter

Celebrating 75 Years

ago-tampa.org

FROM THE SUB-DEAN

Happy 75th Anniversary Tampa Chapter!

You are invited to my home (5432 Windbrush Drive, Tampa, FL 33625) for our Anniversary Kick-Off on Sunday, September 11th, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. Main course and beverages will be provided! Attendees are asked to bring an appetizer, salad, or dessert to share.

Please RSVP to SLAFL@AOL.COM or (813) 997-7859 by Thursday, September 8th if you plan to attend and let me know what you plan to provide. Come and share food and hospitality with your fellow Guild members and hear the plans for the 2022-2023 season. A year's worth of programs has been planned which include a member's recital, the annual Bach Bash, a silent movie at the Tampa Theater, a choral workshop and performance, the sponsorship of a nationally known artist, and much more!

To borrow a popular sports phrase – **BE THE GUILD!!** Each member's participation is crucial to the success of our chapter. Our membership has grown on paper – now, let's see our membership's participation grow as well!

I will be looking for you on Sunday, September 11th, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

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

FROM THE DEAN

Dear Tampa AGO Members and Friends,

What a fantastic group of organists, talented musicians, and music lovers we have in our Tampa AGO Chapter! On August 28, 2022, the Tampa Theater showed two Buster Keaton silent films. Our own Stephen Ball, Artist-in-Residence at the Tampa Theater performed the entire two-hour score, which he composed especially for this presentation, to a full-house teeming with laughter!

Our first official event of this our 75th Anniversary Year begins at 5:00pm at Sub-Dean Stephen Allen's home. Read Stephen Allen's Sub-Dean letter, for all the details about this wonderful opportunity to meet and greet members and friends, and hear about our National AGO Convention from Cal Leferink, Chris Combie, Jack Rain, and Van Howard.

We are presenting to you our Tampa AGO Schedule of Events for this season so you can mark your calendar now and be prepared to attend each. We will also let you know about additional great musical happenings in our area involving our talented members and friends.

See you Sept. 11, 2022, at Stephen Allen's home! 😊

Sylvia Chai, Dean
Tampa Chapter AGO

2022 – 2023 Calendar of Chapter Events

September 11, 2022 – 5:00 pm – Tampa AGO Chapter 75th Anniversary Kick Off
Home of Stephen Allen, 5432 Windbrush Dr, Tampa, FL 33625
Contact: Stephen Allen (813) 997-7859 or slafl@aol.com

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 – [detailed schedule forthcoming] – 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
Bonefish Grill, 3665 Henderson Blvd, Tampa, FL 33609
Contact: Van Howard (813) 857-8800 or vbhoward@gmail.com

Looking Ahead - "Peculiar Pipes"

Grotesque greetings Tampa AGO ghouls, goblins, and ghosts!

It's that delightfully dreadful time of year again and this year we are having a special Halloween concert called "Peculiar Pipes" and we need YOUR help to make this a truly memorable event.

The concert is at First Presbyterian Church of Lakeland at 4pm on October 30, 2022, with a short reception immediately following. This event is of course free admission, and we will collect donations for our scholarship fund.

It would be spooktacular if you could participate! Solos or ensemble pieces are welcome, but we will try to keep the concert to a reasonable length so please consider this as you select music. Email me the title, composer, and performer(s) by October 15th AND include in that email when you would like to practice on the instrument (I have included the stop list below). Most times are available to practice EXCEPT Tuesday until 5pm and from Wednesday from 1-5pm. Feel free to request any day between now and the concert date, and I will see if I can accommodate you.

Naturally, we are obligated to include BWV 565 in the program, so I will do the honors of playing that this year.

Looking forward to this horrible night of hideous costumes and haunting music!

Tom Ingui

Organ Specification: <https://pipeorgandatabase.org/organ/11273>



Other Upcoming Events

September 18, 2022 - Organ Recital

Our own Thomas Ingui in Concert at Stetson University, Elizabeth Hall, Room 100 (Lee Chapel), 421 N. Woodland Blvd., Deland, FL 32723, as part of the Great Organist Concert Series at Stetson University's School of Music. Thomas is the Organist at First Presbyterian Church in Lakeland, FL.



October 9, 2022- Organ Recital

Ben Vantoorburg, Student at University of Florida
2017 Margaret Smith McAlister Scholarship Recipient
Grace Lutheran Church. 3714 W Linebaugh Ave, Tampa, FL 33618

October 14, 2022 - 7:30 pm - Organ Recital

Organist Joshua Stafford



Winner of the \$40,000 International Organ Competition at Longwood Gardens in 2016, performs on the Tampa Bay area's largest pipe organ at First Presbyterian Church, St. Petersburg. Joshua is currently Director of Music at Riverside Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, Florida. In 2021, he was officially named Director of Sacred Music and Organist at the famed Chautauqua Institution in New York
First Presbyterian Church, 701 Beach Dr NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

October 28, 2022 - 7:00 pm - Halloween Special Silent Film with accompaniment on the Mighty Wurlitzer

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

November 30, 2022 - 3:00 pm - Third Annual Organ Recital Organists of the Diocese of St. Petersburg

Christ the King Roman Catholic Church, 829 S Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa, FL 33609

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, 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. 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. Myles Hayden	O/D	(727) 644-6534	Sat
Ms. Jan Ellis Highsmith	O	(813) 495-8905	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