



## Weekly Update - Cleveland Chapter

### American Guild of Organists

January 9, 2014

#### From the Dean



Fern Jennings

I feel like a hibernating critter, hunkered down inside for refuge from the extreme cold of this week. Well, I don't think the woodchucks have the Internet or Netflix so it is not so bad. Actually after the busy holiday season both at church and home it is lovely to have time to read, play the piano and observe the world from my family room window. (How do those little bundles of feathers survive the cold?) It is predicted to warm up by this weekend in any case. With a bit of luck this may be the end of the fury of winter. Perhaps after getting over her tantrum (more like a cold shoulder) Mother Nature will smile favorable on us with an early spring or perhaps even a mild end to the winter!

You might be ready to come out of your cave this weekend and even entertain attending a concert. Many venues are still on winter break so there is a slow start to the concert season. There is the orchestra at Severance Hall of course. You might consider trekking down Akron way to view the new Steinway Hall showroom and Concert Hall. Paul Zelek, a student of Paul Jacobs at the Julliard School will be performing on the there. See the concert listings below for information.

Otherwise there is no chapter event scheduled this month. Remember to put our next program scheduled for Monday, February 10, a professional concerns workshop on your calendar.

Warmly,

Fern

#### UPCOMING CHAPTER PROGRAM

##### **Professional Concerns Workshop with Lorain County Chapter AGO**

Monday, February 10 - 7:30 pm  
Trinity Cathedral  
2230 Euclid Ave. Cleveland

National and Regional AGO activity updates - AGO Great Lakes Region Councilor, David Lamb

Minister/musician team - Rev. Jimmy Madsen and Brian Wentzel, FAGO; Lorain First Lutheran Church

Resume Writing - Timothy Robson, Case Western Reserve University

#### NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, February 3, 2014, 7:30 pm, Place TBD

## CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Early registration for the AGO 2014 convention in Boston, June 23-27 ends January 31st. Boston is a popular convention location so if you are planning to go registering early is better than being disappointed.

## FESTIVAL AT THE FORKS

For a closer to home, drivable convention you might consider the 2014 convention of the RCCO to be held in London, Ontario July 6-8. The convention is billed as a walkable convention with a choral track. Here is a [link to their website](#).

## NATIONAL AGO ANNOUNCES NEW ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP

### Pogorzelski and Yankee Memorial Scholarship

The Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Memorial Scholarship is intended to support the education of talented young organists who will make significant contributions to the fields of organ playing and sacred music.

The Pogorzelski-Yankee Memorial Scholarship will be awarded for a period of up to four years for undergraduate applicants and two years for graduate applicants. Awards for the initial year of the scholarship (2014-2015) will be as follows:

1. Four undergraduate awards of \$7500 each for a rising freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior. The award will be renewable each year totaling \$30,000 for the rising freshman, \$22,500 for the rising sophomore, \$15,000 for the rising junior, and \$7500 for the rising senior.
2. Two graduate awards of \$15,000 each for a student entering graduate study and a student in his/her second year of study. This award will be renewable once for the student entering graduate study for a total of \$30,000.

Applicants for the Pogorzelski-Yankee Scholarship must include the following in their application materials:

1. A digitally recorded video, essay, registration form, the applicant's most recent official academic transcript, and two letters of recommendation. The digitally recorded video may not exceed 45 minutes of music. It will contain a program that includes three pieces of organ music: one composed by J.S. Bach, and two additional contrasting works composed after 1800. The video must clearly show the applicant performing at the organ console. It must be of sufficient quality to ensure a fair assessment of the candidate's abilities. Different instruments may be used; the candidate must provide a specification for each instrument. Individual pieces must not be edited.
2. In addition, the video should contain a brief (5-10 minutes) personal statement in which the applicant must describe his/her musical background and hopes for organ study at the university/college/conservatory level.
3. An essay of no more than three pages should answer the following questions: What are the applicant's career goals, and what makes the applicant a good candidate for this scholarship?
4. Two letters of support are required: one from the primary organ instructor, and a second from another music or education professional. References should underscore the applicants achievements, potential for future success, and qualities that align with the mission of the Pogorzelski-Yankee Memorial Scholarship.

Applications are due by February 15, 2014 and all materials must be received at the AGO offices by this date. There will be no application fee. Applicants will be informed by April 15 so that they may

include this information in negotiations with the school of their choice.

Scholarships will be awarded to entering freshman and entering masters students contingent upon notification of acceptance into the degree program. As per the donors' wishes, the student must agree in writing to commit a significant portion of the two years following graduation to teaching, performing, sacred music, or other serious endeavor with respect to the organ.

The Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Memorial Scholarship will be renewable only if the student maintains an overall 3.0 academic GPA in all music coursework. Those who do not maintain this average or for any reason lose good standing at their academic institution will be placed on probation for a term; if the situation is not corrected, they will lose the remainder of the scholarship funding. It will not be reinstated. Should a recipient decide to transfer to another nationally accredited music program, the scholarship can be transferred along with the recipient.

The scholarship will be disbursed as a check directly to the appropriate office of the recipient's chosen institution. Before the final disbursement of the scholarship, each recipient of the Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Memorial Scholarship must provide the committee with documentation that he/she will graduate with the intended degree. In the two years following graduation, the recipient will provide updates on organ- related activities pursued during that time.

## TODAY IN CLASSICAL MUSIC HISTORY

On this date in 1839, American organist and composer John Knowles Paine was born in Maine. A founder of the American Guild of Organists, Paine was one of the first symphonic American composers. He was also a pioneering music educator- the first organist and choral director at Harvard where he instituted the first collegiate music program in America. He remained on the faculty at Harvard until a year before his death in 1906. He also was a director of the New England Conservatory of Music. Trained as an organist he studied and concertized in Europe before commencing his American career. His major works are the Mass in D Minor, two symphonies, the oratorio "St. Peter." Here is a link to his performance of his "Concert Variations on Austrian Hymn". There is some nice pedal work by Julliard student John Hong.



John Knowles Paine "Concert Variations on Austrian Hymn"

## Concerts and Events of Interest

Remember to send us your concert listings for our Google calendar and weekly updates. Send them to [newsletter@agocleveland.org](mailto:newsletter@agocleveland.org). Some of our concert listings have been gleaned from ClevelandClassical. For a complete list of concerts plus previews, reviews and more from Cleveland's classical music scene click the link [www.clevelandclassical.com](http://www.clevelandclassical.com).

**Gregory Zelek**, organ. Jan. 10, Fri. 7pm. In celebration of the opening of the T.S. Good Organ Company new recital hall and showroom. 334 Hines Hill Road, Boston Heights.

**Florence Mustric**, organ. Jan. 15, Wed. 12:15. "Bach at his best". Beckerath organ. Trinity Lutheran Church, W. 30th & Lorain, Cleveland. Freewill offering.

**Robert Schneider & Betty Meyers**, organ & piano. Jan 19, Sunday 2:00 pm - Works by Liszt, J.S. Bach, Collinsworth, Gigout, Burkhardt & Ginastera. First Baptist Church, 3630 Fairmount Blvd., Shaker Heights. Freewill offering

## Quick Links

[Web Site](#)

[Job Openings/Substitutes](#)

[Join AGO](#)



## A Note About Job Postings

Gerry Mass, our Cleveland Chapter Placement Officer collects and updates job openings in the area. Although they are not listed in the weekly updates, there is a link in the "Quick Links" section every week that will take you to the updated list on the chapter website. Questions or need help finding a position? Email: [placement@agocleveland.org](mailto:placement@agocleveland.org)

## About These Updates

Each week on Thursday, we publish this email newsletter to help you stay informed about activities and programs of the Cleveland AGO Chapter. Questions or comments? Please let us know: [admin@agocleveland.org](mailto:admin@agocleveland.org). Have a news item for a future issue? Send to: [newsletter@agocleveland.org](mailto:newsletter@agocleveland.org). The deadline each week is Tuesday at 5 PM for Thursday publication.

## Contact Us

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## About Us

*The purpose of the American Guild of Organists is to promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles, to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of Guild members.*

