



Peninsula Pipings

The Newsletter of the Palo Alto/Peninsula Chapter of
The American Guild of Organists

May 2019

What a month April has been! Many of us have been busy with Holy Week and Easter at our churches, and I hope that everyone has had some time to rest from their work. Whether you're a church organist, a choir director (or choir member), a concert artist, a teacher, or "just" a substitute musician like I am, what we do as musicians is not always easy but it is deeply meaningful and vastly rewarding.

Because of the Easter season, there were no chapter meetings or activities planned for the month of April. Therefore, this issue of the newsletter will focus mainly on upcoming events. With the end of the academic year fast approaching, I hope many of our members will take some time to enjoy our chapter's last few programs before the start of summer.

Sincerely,
-Katherine Ou, Editor

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Brainstorming Sessions Called for AGO National Convention

Chapter members are encouraged to attend one of two brainstorming sessions to help plan for the 2024 AGO National Convention. The following is a message from Rani Fischer, sub-dean of the PA/Pen AGO:

The AGO National Convention is coming to the Bay Area in 2024! Although five years may seem like far away, now is the time to begin thinking together about what exciting opportunities we can offer our colleagues from across the Guild. Michael Velting, our National Councillor for Conventions, will be in town to help us begin the process of developing our vision and strategy as the hosts of this unique event.

We want to include as many voices as possible, and so are holding two brainstorming sessions, in San Francisco and Palo Alto:

Monday May 6 at 7:00 p.m. St. Mary's Cathedral (Choir Room), 1111 Gough St., San Francisco

Tuesday May 7 at 7:00 p.m. All Saints Church (Multi-Purpose Room), 555 Waverley St., Palo Alto

At both locations wine and beverages will be served.

Please join us if you are able—we need your experiences, skills, and ideas to make this an unforgettable Convention both for our local chapters and for the entire AGO. Please contact Matthew Burt, Convention Coordinator, with any questions at matthewburt@gmail.com or 650-283-7512.

Upcoming Events

- Saturday, May 4, 3:00 PM: San Francisco City Chorus. Old First Presbyterian Church, corner of Van Ness and Sacramento, San Francisco. Larry Marietta, Conductor; John Walko, Organ and Piano; Leandra Ramm, Mezzo-Soprano. Selections will include “Three Spiritual Songs” by F. Mendelssohn; “Miriam’s Song of Triumph” by Schubert; and *Missa Festiva*, composed by Alexander Gretchaninov. *Free admission for AGO members and students with valid ID. \$20 General admission, \$15 Seniors*
- Sunday May 5, 2:00 PM: Angela Kraft Cross, 26th annual Spring Organ Concert and Ice Cream Social. The Congregational Church of San Mateo, Tilton and San Mateo Dr. Works by Bach, Mendelssohn, Kraft Cross, and Widor in celebration of his 175th birthday! *Suggested donation: \$20 regular, \$15 students/seniors, Free under 12. Donations Benefit the Music Ministry of CCSM*
- Wednesday, May 8, 7:30 PM: Pavel Kohout, Organ. Stanford Memorial Church. *Free admission, love offering taken*

- Saturday, May 11, 2:30 PM: Daniel Gonzalez, Organ. The Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist, 1661 15th St., San Francisco. Daniel will be performing works by J.S. Bach, Buxtehude, Weckmann, Couperin, and Muffat. *Free admission*
- Saturday, May 18, 10:00 AM: Gail Archer Masterclass. St. Bede's Church, Menlo Park. Please call Rani Fischer at 650-793-4849 if you would like to perform.
- Sunday, May 19, 4:00 PM: Golden Anniversary Organ Recital, St. Bede's Church, Menlo Park. Grammy-nominated organist Gail Archer <http://www.gailarcher.com/> presents a gala program honoring the 50th anniversary of the installation of St. Bede's beloved von Beckerath organ. In addition to her work as a recitalist, Ms. Archer serves on the faculties of Vassar College, Barnard College, Columbia University, and the Harriman Institute. Founder of Musforum, an international network for women organists, she has toured extensively in Europe and recorded for Meyer Media and CALA records. Her program includes works by Max Reger, Mary Howe, Judith Shatin, Robert Schumann, Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel, J.S. Bach, and Dieterich Buxtehude. *Tickets \$15, available at the door or in advance at www.stbedesmenlopark.org/upcoming-arts-events*
- Friday, May 24, 7:30 PM: Schola Cantorum and Sinfonia Schola Cantorum. Stanford Memorial Church. Performance of Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem*. *Free admission*

If you would like to have your upcoming event listed in next month's newsletter, send an email with all relevant details to kvloudermilk@gmail.com.

Position Available at Foothill Presbyterian Church

The following is a message from Andy Wong, Pastor at Foothill Community Presbyterian Church:

Foothill Community Presbyterian Church is a small, diverse, mission minded church on McKee Rd. in East San Jose. We have 120 members with a wide range of backgrounds, passions, and theologies, some of whom have been here their whole lives and others of whom have joined us in the last few months. Our guiding scripture passage is Matthew 5:13-16, "You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world." Our musical passions are as diverse as our congregation.

We are seeking a part time (20 hrs./ week) Minister of Music to direct and participate in our music program including weekly rehearsals, Sunday worship services, and special worship services. Compensation is commensurate with experience.

Our current musical ensembles include a choir, a bell choir, a quartet, and occasionally a praise band and a ukulele band. We have a few highly trained and formerly professional musicians and we have a few musicians who are still growing in their musical development. To us, the most important characteristic of the Minister of Music is a love of God and of God's people. We value fellowship and growth and many of our musicians participate for the fun and fellowship of making music more than for excellence in performance. We encourage a growth mindset in both our musicians and in our leadership.

You can find out more about our church and our ministries at www.foothillpc.org We invite you to submit a resume or inquiry to foothillpc@gmail.com or call the church for more information: (408)-258-8133.

Minister of Music

PURPOSE: The Minister of Music at Foothill Community Presbyterian Church is responsible for the oversight and development of the music programs and ministries at the church.

ACCOUNTABILITY: The Minister of Music reports to the session through the personnel committee and will work under the supervision of the co-pastors.

RESPONSIBILITIES: The Minister of Music is to fulfill the following responsibilities:

- Direct and rehearse with the Chancel Choir and Glory Ringers and invite new members
- Supervise musical ensembles
- Oversee staff musician (organist/pianist)
- Coordinate with the pastor in selecting hymns, anthems, and special music to be used in the worship services (Sundays, seasonal mid-week services, special services)
- Lead congregational singing in worship
- Lead the children at Foothill Christian Preschool chapel time once a month

- Write informational and educational articles for the monthly church newsletter
- Oversee the maintenance of audio equipment, church instruments, and bells Encourage and teach participants in their musical pursuits as available
- Make arrangements for substitute and supplementary musicians as needed
- Maintain and organize the church music library
- Purchase music and music supplies as needed
- Attend quarterly staff meetings and worship planning meetings as necessary

This position is 20 hrs a week.