



Program

Welcome—Chris Muller—Co-Dean, Greater Bridgeport AGO Chapter

Presentation—James Thomashower, Executive Director, AGO Headquarters

Daniel Ficarri, organist

- ❖ *Ceremonial Dialogue* by Daniel Ficarri (b. 1996)
- ❖ “Clair de lune” from *Suite bergamasque* by Claude Debussy (1862–1918); transcribed by Ficarri
- ❖ *Five Spirituals for Organ* by Calvin Taylor (b. 1948)
 - I. “Go Down, Moses”
 - V. “Soon I Will Be Done”
- ❖ *Adagio for Strings* by Samuel Barber (1910–1981); arranged by William Strickland (1914–1991)
- ❖ **Suite No. 2: Homage to H. T. Burleigh* by Ficarri
***World Premiere**
 - I. “Deep River”
 - II. “There is a Balm in Gilead”
- ❖ III. “Ev’ry Time I Feel the Spirit”
- ❖ “Berceuse” from *24 Pièces en style libre*, Op. 31 by Louis Vierne (1870–1937)
- ❖ Finale from *Organ Symphony No. 1*, Op. 14 by Vierne

Member Salute

Chapter History Highlights—John Polo, Scholarship Treasurer, Webmaster

****Dedication**—*My Life Flows On* by Dr. Joe Utterback (1944-)
Dr. Joe Utterback, pianist-commissioned in honor of Rev. Meg Williams

Honoring 40+ Year Chapter Members—see names in program

Hymn—*Sing Praise to the God of Love* by K. Bryan Kirk (1997-) - see insert
Chris Muller, organist—commissioned for the 50th Chapter Anniversary

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Daniel Ficarri



Named one of the top "20 under 30" organists by The Diapason, Daniel Ficarri is Associate Director of Music and Organist at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, NYC, and a composer of organ, choral, and chamber music.

Daniel has made appearances in Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall

under the batons of Marin Alsop, Itzhak Perlman, David Robertson, James Gaffigan, and Bernard Labadie; and he has performed in many of the country's great concert halls and houses of worship, including Symphony Hall in Boston and St. Patrick's Cathedral in NYC. The New York Times featured Ficarri in the "Week's 8 Best Classical Music Moments," and WQXR-FM presented him as part of the 2014 Bach Organ Marathon. Daniel studied the organ with Paul Jacobs at The Juilliard School, where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees.

Ficarri's compositional output includes inaugural organ works for St. Thomas Church Fifth Avenue and Christ Cathedral in Garden Grove, CA. Last season, his works received premieres at Juilliard's Paul Recital Hall, The Madison Symphony Orchestra's Overture Hall and the American Guild of Organists' Westchester Convention. Much of Daniel's music is published by ECS Publishing Group. Daniel studied composition with Rachel Laurin. For more information, visit www.danielficarri.com.

Program Notes

**Suite No. 2 Homage to H. T. Burleigh* by Daniel Ficarri was commissioned by the Greater Bridgeport Chapter of the American Guild of Organists in commemoration of its 75th Anniversary.

***My Life Flows On* by Dr. Joe Utterback was commissioned in honor of our dear colleague and friend Rev. Meg Williams who has moved from the Connecticut area to retire in Maine. In addition to being a Dean for the chapter, Meg has been Chaplain and Professional Concerns leads for decades. "My Life Flows On" found as # 619 in the Chalice Hymnal was chosen to celebrate Meg's long career in church music. The words and music are by Robert Lowry, 1869. Lowry (1826 - 1899) was an American Baptist preacher and writer of gospel tunes. He wrote over 500 hymns, this one as well as "Shall We Gather at the River." *My Life Flows on in Endless Song* began as an American folksong, often used by the Quakers as a hymn.



AGO & Chapter History

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) was founded on April 13, 1896 in New York City to support the educational and professional needs of area organists, choir directors and the churches and synagogues they serve. The national membership now includes more than 12,000 persons over 250 local chapters in all 50 states and many foreign countries.

The Greater Bridgeport Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (GBAGO) was founded in 1948 by Dorothy Kish to support colleagues in this local area. Over the past 75 years the chapter membership has flexed from 30-150 members as GBAGO would help neighboring chapters startup or combine.

Each chapter has a Dean, Sub-Dean, Treasurer, Secretary and committee leaders that create professional education, and public events that takes advantage of our eco-system of churches, synagogues, universities, the symphony, choral groups, talented soloists and recitalists.

We have a lot to celebrate. Just in the last 25 years we have:

- Established an annual national \$2,500 scholarship and organ competition in memory of colleagues M. Louise Miller and Paul E. Knox that is in its 20th year and whose winners have gone on to prominent leadership roles throughout the USA.
- In the 23rd year of presenting annual Pipescreams concert performing Halloween-themed and Broadway musical pieces featuring the pipe organ, amazing choral ensembles, incredible musicians, a 1920's silent film, reaching patrons of all ages.
- Three Choral Festivals that brought together up to 25 choirs and individual singers in a massed choir (200+ singers), being led by noted choral conductors from the chapter and area choral ensembles.
- Regularly offered Pedals, Pipes, Pizza educational programs for pianists of all ages as an introduction to the organ. We enhanced that program with the purchase of an Orgelkids kit that allows participants to assemble/play a small pipe organ.
- The chapter supported the AGO Northeast Regional 2010 Pipe Organ Encounter summer program for teenage organ students led by wonderful instructors from the New Haven, Fairfield West, Waterbury and our own AGO chapters.
- Wonderful programs and partnerships with members' churches, the Greater Bridgeport Symphony, area adult, university age and children's choral ensembles that create a musical eco-system of exciting educational and public awareness events.

For 75 years, our chapter members have worked diligently to introduce new audiences to choral and organ music, support our choirs and congregations, and be a supportive, vibrant, and warm community for each other as members, to our audiences, and guests.

Expect more of the same for the next 25 years!

Past Chapter Deans *-Co-Deans, †-deceased

1948-1950: Dorothy Kish (founder)†	1978-1981: Mark C. Kasmint†
1950-1952: Ethel H. Brandont	1981-1983: Barbara Bayers Muller
1952-1954: Robert L. Lenox†	1983-1985: Suzanne Scott†
1954-1955: M. Louise Miller†	1985-1986: Bruce J. Barber
1955-1957: Phyllis McCurry†	1986-1989: Marie E. Lambert†
1957-1958: Dorothy Menne†	1989-1991: Barbara A. Bayers
1958-1960: Florence B. Forstrom†	1991-1996: K. Bryan Kirk
1960-1961: Charles Hickmant	1996-1997: Wilma Y. Whitley†
1961-1962: Patricia Brown†	1997-1999: Carole J. Fanslow*, Kitty Hubbard*†
1962-1964: Dorothy Partridge†	1999-2003: David L. Yoder
1964-1966: John Alves†	2003-2007: Flora H. Major†
1966-1968: Francis L. Yatest	2007-2009: Dr. John T. Michniewicz
1968-1969: Frederick DeHaven †	2009-2012: RoseAnne Homola
1969-1970: David L. Tate†	2012-2014: Rev. Meg Williams
1970-1972: Carole J. Fanslow	2015-2016: Rev. Meg Williams*, Dottie Cameron*
1972-1974: Alice B. Evans†	2016-2017: Dottie Cameron*, Bernadette Aubin Allan*
1974-1975: Dr. Paul E. Knox†	2017-2021: Dr. Frank Martignetti
1975: Alan Barthel	2021-2022 Daniel Brownell*, Frank R. Zilinyi*
1976: Sonya T. Schopick*†, Donald Keene*†	
1976-1978: Sonya T. Schopick†	

M. Louise Miller—Paul E. Knox Scholarship Winners

2023—Ryan Giraldi	2013—Katelyn Emerson
2022—Anne Maria Lim	2012—Amanda Mole
2021—Katherine Jolliff	2011 -Mary Pan
2020—Hannah Engwall	2010—Kevin Neel
2019—Nathan Pennington	2009—Nicholas Capozzoli
2018—Elena Baquerizo	2008—Christopher Howerter
2017 -Jeremy Paul Jelinek	2007—Scott Montgomery
2016—Alden Wright	2006 -Susan Beisner Powell
2015 -David von Behren	2005—Frederick Teardo
2014—Colin MacKnight	

Sing Praise to the God of Love

Commissioned by the Greater Bridgeport Chapter of The American Guild of Organists for their 50th Anniversary year, 1997-1998.

Text: K. Bryan Kirk, 1997

Tune: Greater Bridgeport AGO

♩=92, Broadly, not fast

K. Bryan Kirk, 1997

1. Sing praise to the God of love, let ev-'ry-one re-joice, Sing
 2. We make all our mu-sic to en-rich and to re-sound, We
 3. Our faith and our his-to-ry have led us all a-bout, Our
 4. Let all peo-ple bear the song we joy-ful-ly do sing, Let

praise with your soul and heart and with a joy-ous voice. We
 make all our in-stru-ments to play and send the sound. The
 work and our min-is-try have spread it all through-out. The
 all crea-tures liv-ing join in to re-sound and ring. A

cel-e-brate this day, We sing with one ac-cord, We
 sing-ing of each choir, The psalm and hymn are great, With
 great-ness of the past, the chal-lenge of to-day, Look
 mel-o-dy sub-lime, a har-mo-ny re-fined, With

About the Cathedral Pipe Organ

1979 Moller/2014 A. Thompson-Allen III/42 ranks. Completed in 2014, the pipe organ was tonally overhauled, either revoicing, replacing or deleting stops from the 1979 M.P. Moller Opus 11385 and the pipework additions from Peragallo Opus 655 (2003). The work done to the instrument is thus so comprehensive that is now considered as Opus 124 of the A. Thompson-Allen Company and is used for not only liturgical use as a Cathedra-style instrument, but also as a fine work of art on which can be played the vast corpus of organ literature, both solo and with instrumental, choral and symphonic accompaniment.

Honoring 40+ Year Chapter Members

We salute the following GBAGO members that have been involved with the chapter, many in chapter leadership roles since they joined, for over half of the chapter's 75 years, and still going! These individuals have been roles models for chapter leadership, in their professional positions impacting thousands of congregants, musicians and singers. Thank you!

Alan Barthel

Carole Fanslow

John Polo

Barbara Bayers

Mary Ann Jenkins

Rev. Meg Williams

Elaine DeGrood

Sandra Shaw Murphy

sing this song to ev - ry - one, We make the mu - sic soar. Sing
pipe and tune to lead us through the mu - sic we cre - ate. We
 for - ward with ex - cite - ment as mu - si - cians meet al - way. Our
voice and or - gan blend - ing, lead - ing to in - spire our mind. Sing

praise from this place to reach be - yond the walls that stand, Sing
write and com - pose a - new the mu - sic that we may, We
 hope and our gen - er - a - tion call us to u - nite, Our
out all a - round the world of mu - sic strong and sure, Sing

praise to the world a - round, to each and ev - ry land.
teach and dis - cov - er how to learn and share to - day.
 strength and our fu - ture can be rich and ve - ry bright.
praise near and far be - yond, Sing mu - sic to en - dure.

Music and Text Copyright 1997 by K. Bryan Kirk, Darien, Connecticut.

Special Thank You

A special thank you to Dr. William Atwood, Organist and Diocesan Director of Music Ministry at the Cathedral Parish for hosting this event at Saint Augustine Cathedral. To First Church Congregational Fairfield and Stratford United Methodist Church for print and mailing expense. To the 75th Anniversary Committee—Chris Muller, RoseAnne Homola, Dr. Frank Martignetti, John Polo, Carole Fanslow. And to you, that are making this another memorable milestone in Greater Bridgeport AGO's future history.

Current Greater Bridgeport AGO Leadership

Co-Dean: Chris Muller

Co-Dean: RoseAnne Homola

Sub-Dean: Frank R. Zilinyi

Secretary: Laurie Birch

Treasurer: Dr. Frank A. Martignetti

Members at Large—

Barbara DeBiase (2024)

Michael Alderman (2025)

Illana Ofgang (2026)

Chaplain: Rev. Meg B. Williams

Marketing, Social Media & Communications: RoseAnne L. Homola

Nominating: Dorothy Cameron , Frank R. Zilinyi

Scholarship Program Director/Treasurer & Chapter Webmaster: John J. Polo

Scholarship Judges: Galen Tate, Dr. Stephen Rapp, Dr. Alice Caldwell Kevin Bailey

Technical/Video: Michael Alderman



Chris Muller



RoseAnne Homola

M. Louise Miller—Paul E. Knox Scholarship

For 20 years and counting, the Greater Bridgeport AGO chapter is extremely proud to be able to conduct an annual organ competition with \$2,500 scholarship prize to an undergraduate student pursuing study at an American college, conservatory, or university, leading toward a career in organ performance and church music. This is a nationwide competition with candidates being submitted from 75 organ programs across the USA. Generous donations at chapter events like Pipescreams and when the scholarship winners perform in Connecticut, make this scholarship possible.

Learn more at www.greaterbridgeportago.org