The summer is coming to a close; I hope you’ve all had a wonderful summer. I’ve stayed busy non-stop with AGO matters, family matters, camping, gardening, home remodeling, and a trip to the beach.

June brought the West Region Convention right here to Salt Lake City. It turned out to be an amazing event! Alex Oldroyd and his team did an awesome job. I wish more of you could have attended. Be sure to read all about it in the convention report and see photos.

Have you enjoyed a break from practicing this summer? It’s time to dust off your organ shoes and look toward fall.

We are ready to start a new and exciting year. This past spring, my program committee worked really hard to put together our 2017-2018 events. Be sure to put the events on your calendar.

I look forward to serving you this next year. If you have any great ideas, concerns, questions or just want to say hi, please email or call me.

Thanks!

Becky Ázera
Dean
becky@slcago.org

Opening Social 9/10

Be sure to save the date for our 2017-2018 opening social on Sunday September 10 at 6 pm. Join us in the fellowship hall at the Cathedral Church of St. Mark, and bring something to share as we continue with our tradition of having a potluck social before the opening of the Eccles Organ Festival.

Following dinner, we’ll head to the Cathedral of the Madeleine for the opening concert of the Eccles Organ Festival by Richard Elliott.
New & Renewed Members

Members of the Salt Lake Chapter who have current memberships or have recently joined are listed below.

Membership is the primary source of funding for the Salt Lake Chapter, so strong membership is crucial to putting on strong programs and events each year.

Thank you to all the individuals who have renewed their membership or joined our chapter. Missing your name on this list? Check that your membership hasn’t expired and let us know if you have any questions.

Be sure to look out for new members at our events and welcome them.

Heidi Alley
Lorelea Anderson
Tyler Anderson
Becky Azera
Tyler Ballou
Nicholas Banks
Sarah Barney
Mary Beck
Rebecca Bennion
Ronnie Bishop
Charles Black
Ronald Boss
Larry Bowen
Barbara Brunker
Letitia Buroker
Eila Cagle
Millie Camire
Mary Canfield
Loren Carle
Kathy Chandler
Ian Christensen
Clay Christiansen
Teressa Clawson
Jared Cook
Kristin Cook
Clarissa Coombs
Harry Cross
Laura Cutler
Allan Darlington
Richard Elliott
James Felt
Bryce Ferguson
Kathy Fisher
Aaron Flood
Janet Folster
Bonnie Goodliffe
Amanda Graf
Julie Hales
Jim Harland
Steve Hart
Ann Herron
Nora Hess
William Hesterman
Gary Jackson
Susanna Karrington
Alan Layton
Merlyn Leetham
Douglas Lemmon
Carin Liniker
John Longhurst
Marilyn Manwill
Linda Margetts
Deidre Marlowe
Sarah Maxfield
Jeffery McBride
Valerie McDougal
Levente Medveczky
Beverly Merrill
Scott Mills
Haruhito Miyagi
Jennifer Morgan
Jessie Morris
Vincent Natividad
Ryan North
Alex Oldroyd
Tally Oliver
Alicia Otteson
Michael Olson
Eve Orr
Myron Patterson
Dan Pitcher
Nathan Prodromides
Tamara Putnam
John Rice
Rockie Ricks
Dwight Rimmasch
Stephanie Ross-Lee
Cheryl Rytting
Ronald Schouman
Janine Scott
Michael Shelton
Kathleen Stanford
Gary Starr
Joyce Stay
Catherine Stoneman
Tan Summers

Leslie Taylor
Terry Thatcher
Lynn Thomas
Sharee Thompson
Kenneth Udy
Andrew Unsworth
Ann Vorwaller
Max Walker
Sharmel Walker
Kimball Whitaker
William White
Charlene Whitaker
Christopher Wootton

Membership Renewal

It’s time for several of our members to renew their memberships. Remember that AGO membership is no longer based on a July-June cycle, but is determined on an annual basis from the month you joined or renewed. If your membership lapsed in the past and you later renewed, your dues cycle may have changed, and YOU could be one of these people!

Membership is important! Your dues support the chapter and all the events it puts on. You’ll have access to member-only events, such as the opportunity to play the organ in the Ogden Tabernacle this past March, and opportunities coming up in the future.

In addition, members receive special rates for AGO events such as the 2018 National Convention in Kansas City!

We’ll send notices by email to members who have recently lapsed to let you know. Don’t worry: renewing is EASY!

Go to agohq.org/oncard-login and sign in to your account. From there, you’ll have an option to renew your dues.

Don’t feel comfortable with online renewal? You can renew anytime by calling the national office (212.870.2310) with a credit card.

You can request us to email your invoice to you if you don’t currently have it.

For future renewals, a renewal notice is sent by email. Make sure your email is up to date in the ONCARD system by clicking “update personal information.”
Get Certified

In June 2015, the Chapter outlined the goal of having every Chapter member hold at least one AGO certification. Since that time, many members have begun the process of obtaining certifications, and several have completed them. Congratulations to new members below who passed their exams!

Requirements for certifications are listed in the July issue of The American Organist, or on-line at agohq.org/certification.

Chapter Members with Certifications

Fellow (FAGO)

Dr. Richard Elliott
Bonnie Goodliffe
Dr. John Longhurst
Dr. Linda Margetts

Associate (AAGO)

Ronnie Bishop
Teresa Clawson
Ryan North
Dr. Andrew Unsworth

You can also opt to have national mail you a dues invoice via USPS in the future.

There are also instructional videos on the national web site, accessed from the right side of the ONCARD log in page.

Help the Chapter by Recruiting Members

Do you know somebody who should be involved in the Salt Lake Chapter? Perhaps that someone is you? Organists and choral musicians of all levels, and those who enjoy the music are invited to join the Salt Lake Chapter. The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ.

The AGO is the national professional association serving the organ and choral music fields. There are approximately 16,000 members in more than 300 chapters throughout the United States and abroad.

Join as a chapter member by visiting agohq.org, or for more info, contact info@slcago.org.

Chapter Members with Certifications

Fellow (FAGO)

Dr. Richard Elliott
Bonnie Goodliffe
Dr. John Longhurst
Dr. Linda Margetts

Associate (AAGO)

Ronnie Bishop
Teresa Clawson
Ryan North
Dr. Andrew Unsworth

Colleague (CA60)

Heidi Alley
Lorelea Anderson
Ian Christensen
Jan Clayton
Laura Cutler
Janet Griffin
Nora Hess
Valerie McDougal
Jennifer Morgan
Ryan North
Kathleen Stanford
Tan Summers

Service Playing (SPC)

Janet Folster
Julie Hales

Choirmaster (ChM)

Ryan North
Dr. Myron Patterson

The listings above are current according to AGO records. If your name is not listed, or is listed incorrectly, please let us know at newsletter@slcago.org.

Eccles Organ Festival

24th season

The Eccles Organ Festival is an internationally recognized organ recital series in Salt Lake City. Each year, the Festival presents engaging performances by some of the world’s most acclaimed organists. The Festival also creates educational opportunities by offering master classes and public lectures.

Thanks to generous grants from Sponsors and Friends of the Festival, all these events are offered free of charge.

Performances are Sunday evenings at 8 pm at the Cathedral of the Madeleine.

*Performance at Libby Gardner Concert Hall
Upcoming Events

Opening Social: Potluck Dinner & Eccles Organ Festival
Join us in the fellowship hall at the Cathedral Church of St. Mark, and bring something to share as we continue with our tradition of having a potluck social before the opening of the Eccles Organ Festival.

Opening Social: Potluck Dinner & Eccles Organ Festival
6 pm - Opening Social
Cathedral Church of St. Mark
231 E 100 S, SLC

Following dinner, we’ll head to the Cathedral of the Madeleine for the opening concert of the Eccles Organ Festival by Richard Elliott.

Eccles Organ Festival: Richard Elliott
Dr. Richard Elliott will perform the opening concert of the 24th annual Eccles Organ Festival on Sunday September 10 at 8 pm in the Cathedral of the Madeleine. All concerts on the Eccles Organ Festival series are offered free of charge to the public thanks to sponsors and friends of the Festival.

Opening Social: Potluck Dinner & Eccles Organ Festival
8 pm - Eccles Organ Festival: Richard Elliott
Cathedral of the Madeleine
331 E. South Temple, SLC

“Music and the Spoken Word.” Dr. Elliott has performed extensively as a recitalist in the United States and Europe, and was assistant organist at John Wanamaker Department Store in Philadelphia (now Macy’s) on the world’s largest playing pipe organ.

The King of Instruments: Andrew Unsworth with the Timpanogos Symphony Orchestra
Andrew Unsworth will perform with the Timpanogos Symphony Orchestra in 2 concerts September 15-16 at Timberline Middle School. Repertoire featured includes Symphony Concertante by Joseph Jongen, The Swan on Tuonela by Jean Sibelius, and Also Sprach Zarathustra by Richard Strauss. More information and tickets are available online at https://thetso.org

Recital: David Chamberlin & Friends
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church is hosting a recital entitled “David and Friends” to honor David Chamberlin’s thirty years of service there. A free will offering will help raise funds for the organ improvement project, currently underway, to be carried out by Bigelow & Co.

sat 9/23
7:00 pm - David & Friends Recital
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
1070 Foothill Dr., SLC

Walter Whipple Recital
The Music Ministry of First United Methodist Church (FUMC) of SLC is pleased to announce that Dr. Walter Whipple will perform an organ recital at First United Methodist Church on The Wesleyan Heritage Organ. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Eccles Organ Festival: Richard Elliott
The King of Instruments: Andrew Unsworth with the Timpanogos Symphony Orchestra
Recital: David Chamberlin & Friends
Dr. Whipple was taught by Tabernacle Organist - Dr. Alexander Schreiner while in high school and then studied with Ruth Barrus while attending Ricks College. During his LDS mission, he performed over 50 recitals in Germany and Switzerland. He subsequently finished at Ricks College and then completed his BA and Mmus degrees at BYU under the tutelage of Professor J.J. Keeler. He received his DMA at USC with Dr. Irene Robertson. Dr. Whipple was on the music faculty at Rockford College in Illinois for 16...
years. Several times each year he appears as a guest organist for the noon recitals on Temple Square. In addition to being an organist, Walter is also a cellist, currently a member of the Utah Valley Symphony.

Eccles Organ Festival: Thomas Ospital

Thomas Ospital will perform as part of the 24th annual Eccles Organ Festival at the Cathedral of the Madeleine. All concerts on the Eccles Organ Festival series are offered free of charge to the public thanks to sponsors and friends of the Festival.

8 pm - Eccles Organ Festival: Thomas Ospital
Cathedral of the Madeleine
331 E. South Temple, SLC

Internationally acclaimed organ virtuoso Thomas Heywood enjoys an outstanding reputation as one of the world’s finest concert organists. As the only professional concert organist in Australian history, Heywood is celebrated as “an acknowledged master” for his unique ability to make the greatest music of all time come alive on the King of Instruments, with an ever-growing repertoire of over 5,000 works. Heywood has also become one of the world’s most prolific organ recording artists, with over twenty popular sellout recordings receiving extraordinary critical acclaim.

2017 National AGO Pedagogy Conference

The National AGO Pedagogy Conference will be held October 18-21 at the University of Kansas. The conference focuses on organ improvisation and study in the French Conservatory System. Michel Bouvard, Vincent Dubois, Philippe Lefebvre, Aurélie Decourt, Olivier Latry, Shin-Young Lee, Lynne Davis, James Higdon, and Norma Stevlingson are among the faculty of the conference.

To register, and for more information, visit agopedagogyconference.music.ku.edu

Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza

Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza is a half-day event focused in introducing children and youth to the pipe organ. This will be the third consecutive year the Salt Lake Chapter has offered this program, which has grown to be very popular. Ages 8-30 are welcome to attend to have an introduction to the organ, have a chance to play three of the organs on Temple Square, hear an organ recital in the Tabernacle, and have a pizza lunch provided by the Chapter.

Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza
Cathedral of the Madeleine
331 E. South Temple, SLC

Frank Asper 125th Anniversary Concert

2017 marks the 125th anniversary of the birth of Frank Asper.

Frank Asper 125th Anniversary Concert
Salt Lake Tabernacle
Temple Square, SLC

Widely remembered for his career as a Tabernacle Organist from 1924-1965, Dr. Asper was also organist at First
United Methodist Church and was the founding Dean of the Utah Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (later renamed the Salt Lake Chapter).

A concert featuring several local organists and a life sketch will take place in the Tabernacle on Temple Square on Saturday November 10. More details will be announced soon.

**Eccles Organ Festival: David Baskeyfield**

David Baskeyfield will perform as part of the 24th annual Eccles Organ Festival at the Cathedral of the Madeleine. All concerts on the Eccles Organ Festival series are offered free of charge to the public thanks to sponsors and friends of the Festival.

**sun 1/14**

8 pm - Eccles Organ Festival: Martin Baker

Cathedral of the Madeleine
331 E. South Temple, SLC

Baker is Master of Music at Westminster Cathedral in London UK where he directs the Cathedral’s world-famous choir of men and boys and leads the music program there. As an organ soloist he won first prize in the Improvisation Competition at the St Albans International Organ Festival in 1997, and he performs solo recitals regularly throughout the UK as well as in Europe, the USA, and Russia.

**The Liturgical Calendar**

Explore the church year with Haruhito Miyagi. Whether or not you play in a liturgical church, this event will help you help you gain a better understanding of the liturgical calendar and its relation to music.

**sat 1/27**

7 pm - The Liturgical Calendar
Rowland Hall Chapel
970 E 800 S, SLC

Winner of the 2014 Canadian International Organ Competition, British organist David Baskeyfield has performed numerous concerts in Great Britain and Europe, has appeared at major organ festivals in the U. S. and Canada, and has been heard on the NPR radio program “Pipedreams”. Mr. Baskeyfield specializes in the music of the French composers of the 19th and 20th centuries; this is complemented by research interests in organ improvisation as taught by the succession of teachers and students at the Paris Conservatoire.

**sun 11/12**

8 pm - Eccles Organ Festival: David Baskeyfield
Cathedral of the Madeleine
331 E. South Temple, SLC

**A Celebration of Mendelssohn**

SLCAGO member Loren Carle and others will present a special program featuring the music of Felix Mendelssohn.

**Eccles Organ Festival: Martin Baker**

Martin Baker will perform as part of the 24th annual Eccles Organ Festival at the Cathedral of the Madeleine. All concerts on the Eccles Organ Festival series are offered free of charge to the public thanks to sponsors and friends of the Festival.

**sun 2/11**

8 pm - Eccles Organ Festival: Dexter Kennedy
Cathedral of the Madeleine
331 E. South Temple, SLC

Dexter Kennedy will perform as part of the 24th annual Eccles Organ Festival at the Cathedral of the Madeleine. All concerts on the Eccles Organ Festival series are offered free of charge to the public thanks to sponsors and friends of the Festival.

**Eccles Organ Festival: David Baskeyfield**

Winner of the 2014 Canadian International Organ Competition, British organist David Baskeyfield has performed numerous concerts in Great Britain and Europe, has appeared at major organ festivals in the U. S. and Canada, and has been heard on the NPR radio program “Pipedreams”. Mr. Baskeyfield specializes in the music of the French composers of the 19th and 20th centuries; this is complemented by research interests in organ improvisation as taught by the succession of teachers and students at the Paris Conservatoire.

**Eccles Organ Festival: Martin Baker**

Martin Baker will perform as part of the 24th annual Eccles Organ Festival at the Cathedral of the Madeleine. All concerts on the Eccles Organ Festival series are offered free of charge to the public thanks to sponsors and friends of the Festival.

**Eccles Organ Festival: Dexter Kennedy**

Dexter Kennedy will perform as part of the 24th annual Eccles Organ Festival at the Cathedral of the Madeleine. All concerts on the Eccles Organ Festival series are offered free of charge to the public thanks to sponsors and friends of the Festival.
Easter Literature

Get ready for Easter (Easter Sunday is April 1) with new repertoire ideas from Dr. Kenneth Udy. Dr. Udy has extensive knowledge of useful repertoire as a longtime church organist, and will present useful works for all ability levels and denominations.

**Easter Repertoire**

**Fri 3/1**

7 pm - Easter Repertoire w/ Kenneth Udy
Wasatch Presbyterian Church
1626 S 1700 E, SLC

**SLCAGO Member Recital**

Take advantage of an opportunity to share what you’ve been working on with your fellow chapter members, family, and friends by participating in our member recital at St. Ambrose Catholic Church on their III/50 Bigelow & Co. organ.

**Wed 4/18**

7 pm - Member Recital
St. Ambrose Catholic Church
2315 Redondo Ave., SLC

**Eccles Organ Festival: Crista Miller**

Crista Miller will perform the final concert of the 24th annual Eccles Organ Festival. This concert will be held at Libby Gardner Concert Hall at the University of Utah. All concerts on the Eccles Organ Festival series are offered free of charge to the public thanks to sponsors and friends of the Festival.

**Sun 3/11**

8 pm - Eccles Organ Festival: Crista Miller
Libby Gardner Concert Hall
1375 E. President’s Circle, SLC

Crista Miller is Director of Music and Organist at Houston’s Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, where she chairs the organ committee for Martin Pasi’s pipe organ. She leads a growing Cathedral music organization, with the Schola Cantorum in high demand for large-scale, festive liturgies, including those prepared for the National Catholic Education Association, Church Music Association of America, and others. As a solo performer, Dr. Miller has performed in France, Spain, Italy, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Sweden, and Canada. She has won prizes in national and international playing competitions.

**Closing Social / OrgelKids Organ**

Join us for a fun closing social barbecue event at Heidi Alley’s home in Bountiful. Along with the company of fellow chapter members, staff from BYU will bring the University’s OrgelKids pipe organ kit, which is a great hands-on tool for young people to experience the organ and organ building.

OrgelKids demonstrated their organ kit (pictured assembled) in an exhibition booth and a workshop at the West Region Convention this summer in Salt Lake City.

**Fri 5/4**

6:30 pm - Closing Social BBQ / OrgelKids Organ
Heidi Alley’s home
3779 S 400 E, Bountiful

2018 AGO National Convention: Kansas City, Missouri

At the 2018 AGO Convention in Kansas City, you will see and hear incredible performances by world-class organists and choirs; hear new music by some of the world’s best modern composers; be able to check out dozens of workshops and seminars; and enjoy creative worship services in some of the most beautiful and historic organ venues in the country. The organists of Kansas City look forward to sharing the grandeur of the city’s organs and performance venues with the rest of the world from July 2 – 6, 2018.

**Performers**

Ben Sheen  
Jim Higdon  
Chelsea Chen  
Kimberly Marshall  
Christopher Houlihan  
Marie Rubis Bauer  
Damin Spritzer  
Nicole Keller  
Dave Wickerham  
Thierry Eschaich  
Doug Cleveland  
Todd Wilson  
Hector Olivera  
Vincent Dubois  
Jennifer Pascual

**Composers**

Pamela Decker 2018 Distinguished Composer  
James MacMillan  
Forrest Pierce  
Chen Yi  
Emma Lou Diemer  
Frank Ferko  
Tarik O’Regan  
Jean-Baptiste Robin  
and more

70+ workshops

Experience varied worship services, including an Opening Celebration celebrating the end of World War I, a Hymn Festival, Bach Vespers, and an Arts Service.

Visit agokc2018.org for more information.
THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS &
THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF MUSIC
DIVISION OF ORGAN AND CHURCH MUSIC

ANNOUNCE

THE 2017 NATIONAL
AGO PEDIAGOGY CONFERENCE
ORGAN AND IMPROVISATION STUDY
IN THE FRENCH CONSERVATORY SYSTEM

Recitals - Lectures - Panel Discussions - Masterclasses

In memory of Polly Bales

MICHEL BOUVARD

VINCENT DUBOIS

PHILIPPE LEFEVBRE

AURÉLIE DECOURT

OLIVIER LATRY

SHIN-YOUNG LEE

Additional American Artists:
LYNNE DAVIS, JAMES HIGDON,
NORMA STEVLENGSON

OCTOBER 18-21, 2017 - BALES ORGAN RECITAL HALL
The University of Kansas - Lawrence, Kansas

for further information, visit
agopedagogyconference.music.ku.edu

The University of Kansas offers BM, MM, and DMA degrees
in Organ and in Church Music, see: www.music.ku.edu/organ.
Organ Teachers

Chapter members who have indicated they are available for teaching private or group lessons are listed alphabetically by last name below. If you’d like to be included on this list, please email your information to newsletter@slcago.org

Listings are free and available to current paid members (or dual members) of the Salt Lake Chapter.

Ronnie Bishop
AAGO
ronniepipes@gmail.com

Jan Clayton
jani@me.com

Valerie McDougal
valmcdougal@gmail.com

Jennifer Morgan
CAGO
musicalmom@gmail.com

Alex Oldroyd
alex@oldroyds.com

Dr. Myron Patterson
DSM, ARCO (CM), ATCL, LTCL
rhmp@xmission.com

Kathleen Stanford
SPC
stanfords@gmail.com

Need a Sub?

Chapter members who have indicated they are available service substitute or other work are listed alphabetically by last name below. If you’d like to be included on this list, please email your information to newsletter@slcago.org

Listings are free and available to current paid members (or dual members) of the Salt Lake Chapter.

Ronnie Bishop
AAGO, BM, MA
ronniepipes@gmail.com

Nora Hess
nora.hess@gmail.com

Susanna Karrington
Susanna.karrington@utah.edu

Haruhito Miyagi
MM
haruhito_miyagi@yahoo.com

Jennifer Morgan
CAGO
musicalmom@gmail.com

Alex Oldroyd
alex@oldroyds.com

Sheri Peterson
BM
sheri.peterson@gmail.com

Michael Shelton
BA
doug45rpm@hotmail.com

Kathleen Stanford
SPC
stanfords@gmail.com

Chad Staten
BA
chadstaten@hotmail.com

Sharee Thompson
mail.sharee@gmail.com
Tabernacle Organ Recitals

Thirty-minute recitals are given daily by Tabernacle organ staff and guest organists on Temple Square. Doors open 10 minutes before recitals.

Recitals are held Monday-Saturday at noon, and Sunday at 2pm. All recitals are in the Tabernacle, unless otherwise noted. At the Tabernacle, enter at door 11, located on the east end of the building, near the flagpole. For Conference Center recitals, enter at door 15 on the south side of the building across the crosswalk to Temple Square.

SEPTEMBER 2017
1 Andrew Unsworth
2 Bonnie Goodliffe
3 James Drake
4 Kimberly Moody
5 Clay Christiansen
6 Richard Elliott
7 Richard Elliott
8 Clay Christiansen
9 Andrew Unsworth
10 Ikuko Weller
11 Clay Christiansen
12 Andrew Unsworth
13 Andrew Unsworth
14 Clay Christiansen
15 Richard Elliott
16 Linda Margetts
17 Sharee Thompson
18 Richard Elliott
19 Andrew Unsworth
20 Richard Elliott
21 Andrew Unsworth
22 Bonnie Goodliffe
23 Clay Christiansen
24 Dan Kerr
25 Linda Margetts
26 Andrew Unsworth
27 Bonnie Goodliffe
28 Clay Christiansen
29 Richard Elliott
30 GENERAL CONFERENCE (no recital)

Performers are subject to change. Visit https://www.mormontabernaclechoir.org/events/organ-recitals.html for up-to-date performer and program information.

Members: Advertise Your Events

Have a concert, recital, special service, or other event coming up? Let us know so we can put it on the calendar and advertise it to our members.

Additionally, be sure to let us know of events that our members may find interesting.

Send event information to newsletter@sicago.org
Salt Lake City was an auspicious locale for the West Region Convention. The city is home to several world-renowned venues such as the Tabernacle, the Conference Center, and the Cathedral of the Madeleine, as well as an active and supportive arts community which benefits from more than 450 organ performances every year. Although some were concerned (and later assuaged) about the availability of their morning cup of coffee, afternoon tea, or something a bit stronger, that didn’t stop more than 300 organists from descending upon Salt Lake City for the West Region’s convention. Regional participation was strong with representation from every state in the region (including Alaska and Hawaii). Quite a few members from outside the region came as well: in all, attendees hailed from 32 different states, three Canadian provinces, and Australia.

Additionally, more than 30 attendees qualified for the reduced “Under 30” convention rate, which offered a significant registration discount for young organists.

Nine performance venues were spread across three main locales: Temple Square, the downtown churches, all of which are contained in a 4-block radius (The Cathedral of the Madeleine (RC), First Presbyterian Church, the Cathedral Church of St. Mark (Episcopal), and First United Methodist Church), and the University of Utah. The Madeleine was a stunning space, quite different from the others in terms of style, and saturated with color. Historic Temple Square was striking in its own way: pristinely clean and meticulously manicured. Pedestrians enjoyed lovely gardens as they walked between the Tabernacle, Assembly Hall, and Conference Center. The worship services were surprisingly traditional: Mass followed by Solemn Vespers sung in Latin by the Choir of the Cathedral of the Madeleine, Th’ Kirkin’ o’th Tartan at First Presbyterian Church, an Evensong Service led by Michael Kleinschmidt from the organ at St. Mark’s, and prayers preceding each of the concerts at Temple Square. In an age of ever-increasing ecumenism, these unapologetically denominational rites were a refreshing change of pace.

Concerts given by Salt Lake City locals, and others from the West Region, showcased the immense pool of talent from which the region may draw. This was immediately evident during the concert of Dr. Kenneth Udy, Organ Area Head at the University of Utah, who performed on the University’s Lively Fulcher organ in Libby Gardner Concert Hall. Dr. Udy’s program primarily featured works by West Region composers, with several of those individuals in attendance. Highlights of the evening were Dorothy Young Riess’ boogie arrangement of What a Friend We Have in Jesus, and the timely North American premiere of Symphony No. 3 “Reformation” by Daniel Gawthrop.

In 2017, the Tabernacle and its organ celebrate 150 years. As part of this cel-
ebration, the Convention program featured seven distinct performances in the Tabernacle. Dr. Clay Christiansen, Tabernacle Organist since 1982, gave bookend concerts: a stunning Saturday pre-convention evening program in the Tabernacle, and the concluding recital Thursday in the Conference Center. Dr. Christiansen put the Tabernacle organ through its paces in a virtuosic program which included three of the artist’s own hymn-based compositions.

Dr. Kimberly Marshall addresses the convention attendees at her concert at the Cathedral of the Madeleine.

Following the ethereal Vespers Sunday evening, Kimberly Marshall gave a spectacular opening concert with repertoire spanning nearly 500 years. Recitals by a diverse roster of artists such as James Welch, Neil Harmon, Pamela Decker, Jaebon Hwang, Daniel Kerr, Linda Margetts, Andrew Unsworth, Bonnie Goodliffe, Sheri Peterson, and Sharee Thompson demonstrated the capabilities of many of Salt Lake’s finest instruments.

Gabriele Terrone joined Andrew Unsworth for a duet performance of “Overture to T’Italiana in Algeri” by Rossini.

Halden Toy performed a harpsichord recital, and Don Cook gave a recital on the carillon at BYU. And one can’t discuss concerts and talent without mentioning the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, whose 360 members delivered a tour de force concert conducted by Mack Wilberg and Ryan Murphy, programmed exclusively for the convention. In addition to performing with the choir, Richard Elliott and the Orchestra at Temple Square performed Guilmant’s Symphony No. 2 for Organ and Orchestra. Stephen Tharp delivered the final evening concert entirely of transcriptions in the Conference Center. Earlier in the day Jack Bethards, President of Schoenstein and John Longhurst, Emeritus Tabernacle Organist, discussed and demonstrated this instrument in a workshop for more than 150 convention attendees. Stephen’s dazzling technique and impeccable musicianship allowed the Schoenstein organ to really shine.

Dr. Jane Fjeldsted led a workshop on working with choirs.

Nearly two-dozen workshops offered something for everyone, from choral reading and technique workshops, to hand bell choirs, and a 4-part improvisation course. Other less-standard fare included a look at the music of Louis Vierne and a mind-blowing look at numerology in the music of J.S. Bach. Pamela Decker and James Welch led two performance master classes on the music of the twentieth century and French Romantic period, respectively.

On Saturday June 10, four outstanding young organists competed in the Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists. Dominic Pang won the competition, and will represent the West Region as a Rising Star competitor at the 2018 national AGO Convention in Kansas City. As Dominic had to return to school, Sarah Maxfield, the second-prize winner performed the recital in the Assembly Hall.

In addition to all the musical experiences, attendees socialized at receptions following each evening’s concert, and a banquet meal with a keynote address by James Thoma-shower on Monday evening.

Convention attendees enjoy a banquet meal at the Salt Lake Sheraton Hotel.

The 2017 West Region Convention in Salt Lake City is one that won’t soon be...
forgotten, and has proved re-energizing and refreshing for organists of all backgrounds. And whether Mormon, Protestant, Catholic, or unaffiliated, every attendee left with “Come, Come Ye Saints” stuck in their head.

About the Authors

Meaghan King recently concluded two terms as Chair of the West Division for Young Organists, and served as a Member-at-Large of the Los Angeles Chapter. She graduated in 2017 with a DMA in organ from University of Southern California where she studied with Cherry Rhodes. Dr. King was appointed Director of Sacred Music at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Corpus Christi, TX beginning Sept. 1, 2017.

Alex Oldroyd served as Coordinator for the 2017 West Region Convention. Prior to the convention, he served as Dean and sub-Dean of the Salt Lake Chapter. Alex is Assistant Director of Music and Organist at Cottonwood Presbyterian Church in Salt Lake City, and organist for the Mapleton Chorale. In addition to musical pursuits, Alex owns Droydworks Marketing.

Bonita Cross, Andrew Unsworth, and Ron Jarrett participate in a discussion panel on The Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

Gabriele Terrone led a 4-part course on organ improvisation.

Bill Hesterman demonstrates the Tabernacle organ during a tour for convention attendees.

L-R: Roger Roszell, Ryan Murphy, Alex Oldroyd pose following the banquet dinner.