

AGO Southern Plains Chapter October 2010 Newsletter

A Note From the Dean:

Welcome to the first newsletter for the newly formed Southern Plains chapter of the American Guild of Organists! It is truly an honor to be part of a group of individuals who have such enthusiasm and an exciting vision for the endless number of opportunities this chapter will provide for the southern part of Oklahoma. The guild is, and should be, for all types of organ enthusiasts...from those who play pipe organs to those who play electronic instruments, those who serve in large churches to those who share their gifts with smaller congregations, and those with degrees in music to those who have not had the good fortune to do so. We pledge to keep everyone in mind as we move forward.

As you look over our schedule for the upcoming year, please help us spread the word about these events. And, if you have events in your local community and churches that you would like to publicize, please let us know. We will be happy to list those in our upcoming newsletters. In addition, we will have a chapter website and a list-serve that will allow us the opportunity to share questions and concerns with each other. Look elsewhere in the website for the links for these sites.

And so...it begins. The Southern Plains chapter of the AGO is off and running. As with all new things, I am sure that there will be some growing pains along the way. But, I am confident that this chapter will be successful. After all, we have the spirit of many who have come before us helping us along. And, with the backing of the guild, and its mission statement to guide us, we can't fail. The journey to get to this place has not been easy. As an anonymous author has said, "So many of our dreams at first seem impossible, then they seem improbable, and then, when we summon the will, they soon become inevitable." The dream to share our love of music has become a reality. We thank you for sharing in this dream with us.

Peace,

Vicki J. Schaeffer, DM
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Learn more about the AGO and it's friends in the area:

Purpose statement—

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.

Online resources—

<http://www.Agohq.org>

<http://aoi.ou.edu>

<http://www.okcago.org/convention2011.htm>

American Guild of Organists Launches New Online Career Center

—More than 150 Job Listings Posted for Organists and Conductors as Well as Two Openings at THE AMERICAN ORGANIST Magazine

NEW YORK CITY — The AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS (AGO), the world's largest organization of organists and choral conductors and the leading advocate for equitable employment practices for church musicians, has partnered with JobTarget to provide a new career center for AGO members. The service is accessed through the AGO home page www.agohq.org.

Job seekers can search for positions available online using a wide array of search and sorting tools. Individuals can also upload résumés to be viewed by job recruiters and potential employers and sign up for job alerts when a new position is posted. Employers pay a modest fee to advertise positions available with JobTarget and to review résumés.

Powering more than 1,200 job sites, JobTarget is a leading operator of online job postings. "The AGO is delighted to announce that it has partnered with JobTarget to create a powerful and multi-functional new career center for all AGO members," declared AGO Executive Director James Thomashower. "Endorsed by the AGO Committee on Career Development and Support, JobTarget is a premier provider of online career services for professional membership organizations. By harnessing the power of the Internet, we are now able to offer five times as many listings as before, along with an array of new career services including the ability to search for jobs by key word, state, and zip code; receive job alerts when new jobs are posted in accordance with parameters set by the job seeker; create and save résumés that potential employers can review; and access a wide variety of new tools, search aids, and resources designed especially for job seekers."

In addition to more than 150 job listings for organists and conductors, the new AGO career center also includes two listings for openings on the AGO National Headquarters

staff: an Editor and an Advertising/Marketing Manager for THE AMERICAN ORGANIST Magazine, the most widely read journal devoted to organ and choral music in the world, and the official journal of the AGO and the Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America. Complete job information can be found online at www.agohq.org.

Calendar

- September 3 **Christoph Grohmann**, Organist. OU Gothic Hall, 8:00 p.m.
September 25 **Hymn Festival**. St. Mark the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church, Norman. 2:00 p.m. Free to public.
- October 21 **Roland Digital Organ Demonstration with Hector Olivera**. St. Michael's, Norman, 7:00p.m.
- October 29 **Spooktacular!** McFarlin UMC, Norman. 7:00 p.m. Free to public.
- November 5 **Nathan Laube**, Organist. OU Gothic Hall, 8:00 p.m. (Pre-concert dinner for AGO members)
- November 20 **Organ maintenance 101 or "The F key is out."** Hands-on workshop presented by and at the American Organ Institute Shop 10:00 a.m. to noon.
- December 10 **"Holiday Pipes,"** John D. Schwandt, Organist. OU Gothic Hall, 8:00 p.m. (Pre-concert dinner for AGO members)
- January 21 **Social event, Ardmore**. More information TBA.
- February 5 **Hymn Festival**. First Baptist Church, Lawton, 2:00 p.m. Free to public.
- February 26 **Simon Gledhill**, Organist. OU Sharp Hall, 8:00 p.m.
- March 26 **Organ music exchange/Repertoire Workshop/Church Music panel discussion**. First Christian Church, Norman, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- April 29 **Wilma Jenson**, Organist. Westminister Presbyterian Church, OKC. Joint pre-concert dinner with Oklahoma City AGO Chapter.
- May 7 **Hymn Festival**, McAlester, 3:00 p.m. Free to public.
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Coming up next...

Spooktacular

7:00 p.m. October 29 at McFarlin UMC in Norman

This year's theme is "Disorder in the Court." At this family oriented, community-wide program of "spooky" organ music Dracula, Godzilla and other Halloween Characters will stand trial before a judge and jury of their scary peers. Everyone will have an opportunity to sing some Spook Songs before the program begins so don a costume and join us! The program promises to be entertaining both for people who enjoy organ music and for those who don't yet know that they enjoy organ music. Free to the public.

From I-35 in Norman take Main Street East 2.5 miles to University Blvd. Make a right and go four blocks. The church will be on your left. You may also visit <http://mcfarlinumc.org/map> for a map.

Calling all
SUBS

Starting with our next newsletter we will publish a list of members who are looking for work as a substitute. Contact the newsletter editor (Rachel Foster, Rachel.J.Foster-1@ou.edu) if you would like to be included on the list.

The Board:

Dean:	Dr. Vicki Schaeffer	405-366-7679	vschaeffer@ou.edu
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David Conley
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