



Lorain County Chapter American Guild of Organists

www.lcago.org

Newsletter for January 2012

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From the Dean

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all! I hope that you are all enjoying a well-deserved break after a busy and rewarding holiday season.

As promised, this month's newsletter includes a (brief) survey. Please do take five or ten minutes to fill this out. You can fill out the survey either on paper (attached to this email or inside this page if you receive the newsletter on paper) or electronically at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZGDX2HD> (there's a link on our website). If you'd like to talk more about the issues addressed in the survey, please contact one of our executive board members. Thanks!

Chapter News

"Marty" Gras on February 19

Our next chapter event will be a pre-Lenten gathering at Lorain Lighthouse United Methodist Church (3015 Meister Road in Lorain), hosted by Marty Bruner. This pot-luck supper will take place on Sunday, February 19, at 5:00 (ending by 8). Bring an appetizer or dessert to share; dishes and beverages will be provided. Please RSVP to Marty at hurst@bright.net or 440-322-9749 by February 12.

Oberlin Events

January 18, 8:15, Finney

The Cleveland Orchestra

Artist Recital Series. Music of Smetana, Saariaho, and Shostakovich.

January 19, 8:00, Finney

Jeremy Denk, Piano

Artist Recital Series. Music of Bach, Beethoven, and Ligeti.

January 20, 8:00, Finney

Apollo's Fire

"Vivaldi and Rameau do Battle With Nature." Artist Recital Series.

AGO National News

January Jubilee

The AGO, through the Committee on Musicians in Part-Time Employment, is presenting its second annual January Jubilee, a day-long conference on Saturday, January 28, 2012, at First Presbyterian Church, Albuquerque, N.Mex. The nondenominational musicians' conference will be a festival of workshops that will focus on organ and choral repertoire, transitioning piano to organ, service planning and playing, the digital organ, and public and pastoral relations—all designed to improve the skills of organists working in part-time church positions. Generous support for the conference is provided by Rodgers Instruments Corporation.

The cost to attend the conference is \$15, which includes a box lunch. All who are working in part-time positions are encouraged to attend: students, new organists, members of the AGO or denominational music organizations—all are welcome. Membership in the AGO is not required in order to attend. A complimentary six-month membership in the Guild will be offered to non-members as an added benefit for their participation. More information is [available online](#). The conference registration deadline is January 24, 2012.

AGO Awarded Grant from NEA

The AGO has been awarded a grant by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to support the 2012 AGO National Convention in Nashville, Tenn., July 1–6, 2012. The \$15,000 NEA "Art Works" grant is directed to new music, workshops, and performances, and carries a mandate that it be matched dollar for dollar from other funding sources. The 2012 AGO National Convention is the third consecutive AGO National Convention that has garnered funding from the arts endowment.

The NEA will award 863 grants, totaling \$22.5 million. "Art Works is the guiding principle at the NEA," said Agency Chairman Landesman. "And I'm pleased to see that principle represented through the Art Works-funded projects that demonstrate the imaginative and innovative capacities of artists and arts organizations to enhance the quality of life in their communities." The AGO's grant will support the commission of new compositions from Diana Burrell, David Conte, Eleanor Daley, Craig Phillips, Rosephanye Dunn Powell, and Roberto Sierra, which will be premiered at the National Convention.

AGO Mission 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.

Job Opening

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Elyria, seeks a talented musician to fill the part-time position of **Organist/Minister of Music**. Lead worship on a great instrument in a multi-generational faith community that appreciates the creative blending of styles from many Christian traditions. The [full job description](#) is on the church's website.

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Please email any newsletter information to the Dean by the 20th of the month.