



The Coupler

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2022

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***Deadline for the
November/December
2022 Newsletter is
October 15, 2022***



NOTES FROM THE DEAN



Dear Friends,

I've been thinking a lot lately about how solitary it can be to be a young musician, and how much teamwork or partnership can add to the learning process. When I was a junior in high school, my piano teacher had the brilliant idea of pairing me with Jeffrey, a new student to her, a freshman in high school, already a great pianist, and an all-around nice guy. I was becoming more and more enamored of the organ, so my interest in the piano had been flagging for a while. Jeff and I committed to a two-hour time frame each week- a half hour each alone with our teacher and an hour together.

Well!! ... suddenly I started throwing myself into my piano lessons again...scales, arpeggios, and had renewed energy for new repertoire. Even though we were friends, a gentle, not quite subliminal competition was set up between the two of us, spurring us both on to keep on reaching for more. I knew Jeff at school and at church too, and we both were kept busy accompanying for various choirs, small ensemble groups, and church services. Those of us who have ever run a children's choir program know that gentle competition can be a great tool for learning (what interval is this? who can sing a perfect fourth from this note? what does andante mean?) and even for promoting good attendance. How can we all apply this concept to our own situations? Just to close the circle, Jeffrey went to college as a piano major, and enjoyed a wonderful career as a pianist, vocal coach, and conductor of Music Theater, both here in the US and in Toronto. We are still Facebook friends and reminisce from time to time about growing up with music all around us in Glenview, Illinois.

Blessings to all, and I'll see you **ALL** at our first program on **October 8!** Invite your choirs!

Nancy Granert (Dean)

USEFUL CHAPTER EMAILS

Dean: Nancy Granert – dean@agoabq.org

Sub-Dean/Program Coordinator: Pauleta Hendrickson – program@agoabq.org

Treasurer: John Homko – treasurer@agoabq.org

Newsletter/Webmaster: Evelyn Henson – editor@agoabq.org

UPCOMING PROGRAM EVENTS

Our 2022-2023 programs will focus on our well-being as musicians and musical leaders. As we venture into the new normal, whatever that is, we are facing some challenges. The singers in our choirs are a bit rusty, after all we are a bit rusty too. Many of us have mature voices in our choirs that did not continue musical exercise and are now both a bit more mature and a bit more rusty. We are still dealing with fears of performing in a world where COVID is now endemic. So, we've decided to sponsor programs to help us grow and improve while we merge back into our musical traffic lanes.

But first, we are having an informal gathering at **B2B Garden Brewery** (8338 Comanche Rd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111) on **Sunday afternoon, September 18, 2-4 pm** on their patio. Meals and drinks are on your own. Most of us haven't seen each other in-person since that wonderful Christmas Party hosted by Maxine Thevenot and Edmund Connelly, way back in 2019. So, we really need to reconnect, and this is the first step toward post-pandemic recovery!

To lead us further down the road, in October, **Olga Perez Flora** will lead a session on maturing voices. (*Vocal Health For Choirs* – see below.) In early spring, **Ingela Onstead** will lead a session on dealing with and overcoming performance anxiety. We encourage you to share both of these with your choirs and other organizations. Finally, drumroll please, we are hosting a recital of our members. Yes, that means YOU! We are having a Members' Recital in the spring of 2023. This will give you lots of time to prepare and use the skills taught by Olga and Ingela! Stay tuned for specific dates and more information.

Pauleta Hendrickson, Sub-Dean

VOCAL HEALTH FOR CHOIRS

Saturday, October 8, 10:00-11:30a.m.

St. Luke Lutheran Church

9100 Menaul NE (*enter via the glass doors facing Northeastern Blvd.*)



The incomparable **Olga Perez Flora** will present a workshop on **Vocal Health for Choirs** on **Saturday, October 8 at 10am**. In this workshop, vocal exercises, including semi-occluded exercises, laryngeal massage, and vocalises specifically geared toward your vocal success, will be demonstrated and explored. Olga is a Professor of Voice at UNM; in addition, she has a flourishing career as a mezzo-soprano. She has recently directed Britten's *Albert Herring* at UNM and Lori Laitman's new

children's opera, *The Three Feathers*, presented in August by Opera Steamboat in Colorado.

Do come one and all! We want directors and choir singers of any age. I need to keep track of how many will attend in order to know if we will fit with spacing in the choir loft or in the sanctuary. Please let me know how many will attend from your church by October 1st. (nbgranert@gmail.com)

Nancy Granert, Dean

NEW JOB OPENING - LOS ALAMOS

Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church is seeking a **part-time Organist/Choir Director**. TOTH is a welcoming Christian Church community with a love of music and its beautiful impact on enhancing our spiritual journey.

The position (s) available by **September 1, 2022**, are salaried and part-time with negotiable hours. The position requires on site worship services primarily Sunday mornings and one evening a week for choir practice. Other responsibilities can be scheduled at the discretion of the Organist/Choir Director. Preferred skills include a wide variety of musical styles from traditional to contemporary. Experience leading a choir or vocal group is desired.

Interested applicants should mail or email a letter of interest, a resume and the names and contact information of three references to:

Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church
3900 Trinity Drive
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544
Attn: Organist/Music Director Committee
www.latoth.org / andy linda67@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

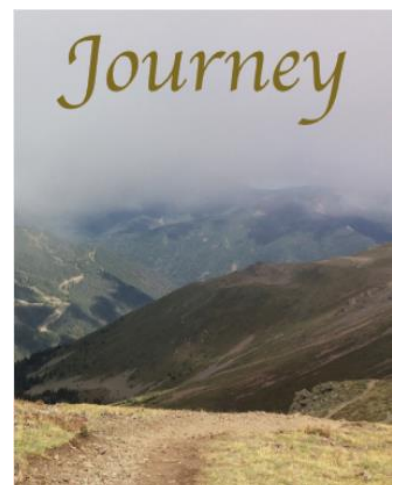
Sangre de Cristo Chorale

Journey will feature works that explore the idea of movement through space and time, including those that reference religious pilgrimage, passage through nature, and travel through life. We're thrilled to include flutist Bonnie Schmader as our artistic partner for this program.

St. Bede's Episcopal Church in Santa Fe
Saturday, October 1, 2022 at 4 PM

TICKETS SOON AT: <http://sdcchorale.tix.com/>

Further info: <https://sdcchorale.org/>



FRIENDS OF CATHEDRAL MUSIC

Our next concert for Friends of Cathedral Music is Sunday, October 2 at 3:00pm with Seraph Brass

(<http://www.seraphbrass.com/>)

Our FCMAHQ.org website is down currently for maintenance and updates, so here is the group's website address and here is the link to purchase tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/seraph-brass-tickets-167347560057>



 FRIENDS OF CATHEDRAL MUSIC

October 2, 2022 | 3:00 PM

SERAPH BRASS

America's Top Female Brass Players



Seraph Brass is a dynamic brass ensemble drawing from a roster of America's top female brass players. Committed to engaging audiences with captivating programming, Seraph Brass presents a diverse body of repertoire that includes original transcriptions, newly commissioned works, and well-known classics.

Visit www.fcmaq.org for more information & to reserve tickets.

TGIF CONCERTS – FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SANTA FE

These concerts have now resumed in person – *masks and proof of vaccination required at the door*. Whether you're ending your week or starting your weekend, every Friday evening at 5:30pm, First Presbyterian Church invites our Santa Fe neighbors and visitors from all over the world to our sanctuary to enjoy a half hour of music and reflection.

September

- 2 — Melissa Colgin Abeln, flute, and David Solem, piano
- 9 — Sin Nombre Brass Quintet
- 16 — Greg Dufford, clarinet, and Peggy Lyon, piano
- 23 — David Solem, piano
- 30 — tba

October

- 7 — Black Mesa Brass Quintet
- 14 — eternal Summer String Orchestra (eSSO)
- 21 — High Desert Saxophone Quartet
- 28 — David Solem, piano

NEW MEMBER BIO (*young organist*)

Margaret-Mary Sauppé (née Owens) is a DMA candidate in Organ Performance and Literature at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, having moved to Los Alamos in July with her new husband.

She graduated from the studio of Prof. Nathan Laube with her Master of Music in Organ Performance and Literature (2019) after having received her Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance at The Florida State University (2016), where she studied organ and harpsichord with Dr. Iain Quinn. In November 2020, she received a research grant from the Organ Historical Society to conduct research and publish her findings on the keyboard works of Sir William Herschel.

Margaret has participated in masterclasses led by Raul Prieto-Ramirez, Michel Bouvard, Arvid Gast, Renée Anne Louprette, Pamela Ruitter-Feenstra, Iain Quinn, James Kibbie, and William Porter. From 2011-2013, she maintained a private piano studio, and since 2013, she has held multiple positions on the boards of both the Tallahassee and Rochester AGO chapters. While at Eastman, she assisted in the production of the Rochester Celebrity Organ Recital Series (RCORS), the Third Thursdays with Eastman's Italian Baroque Organ at the Memorial Art Gallery concert series, founded her own monthly concert series called First Fridays at St. Mary's, and she was director of the 2020 and 2021 Eastman Summer Organ Academy.

When not studying, Margaret enjoys hiking, home improvement projects, tending to her houseplants, and playing the accordion.

NOTE: Retired organist has organ music, books, etc. that she would give free to anyone who might want them, but they are in Tucumcari. Most are church hymns, funeral music, wedding music, etc. **Contact:** June Greenfield: wjunegreen@gmail.com, or call: 575-461-1867 – you collect the music.



HAVE YOU USED THE CHAPTER WEBSITE LATELY?

The whole year's calendar is on the Calendar page (use Agenda tab). Please notify the webmaster (editor@agoabq.org) of events you would like to have advertised. Also, paid "[Positions Vacant](#)" or requests for volunteer musicians and singers can be advertised free of charge. Our website gets about 400 views per month. **NOTE:** our Facebook page has over 220 followers and can be used for posting notices about events, vacancies, etc. If you "Like" our page, you will receive new postings in your own News Feed.

Contact Us

AGO Albuquerque Chapter

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Email: editor@agoabq.org
Website: agoabq.org
Facebook: [agoabq](https://www.facebook.com/agoabq)



The deadline for submissions for the next newsletter due to be published for November and December 2022, will be **October 15, 2022**. Please email news, articles, or photos, upcoming (Christmas?) events or reports, plus any other website items to the Editor, Evelyn Henson, at editor@agoabq.org

AGO ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER

Secretary: 14400 Soula Dr. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87123