



NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2023



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Deadline for the January / February 2024 Newsletter is December 15, 2023

NOTES FROM THE DEAN

Dear Friends,

I posed a question in the Executive Committee Meeting the other day, asking if we were all still buying new music, and, more importantly, learning new music. I was heartened by the enthusiastic yeses that I received from everyone present. We are going to reinstitute an old Albuquerque tradition of a used music sale this year. It will be held shortly after Christmas, perhaps an Epiphany Music Sale, and will also include social time. Stay tuned for more details...venue and date have not been decided yet. Think about bringing your students to see what will be on offer. Proceeds will benefit the chapter. People will drop off music after Christmas and will be asked to take back what doesn't sell. Bargains will abound!! We haven't had such a sale in quite a few years, so, it's time!

Other programs still on the drawing board include a Workshop/ Reception/Worship Service Event and another Members' Recital in the Spring. In addition, we are going to start monthly casual get-togethers, just to talk and to have fellowship and social time together. I'm sorry not to have more specifics at this time. Due to my own schedule, we are a bit late in getting started this year.

On Monday, **February 26**, our Regional Councillor, Sheryl Sebo, will be in Albuquerque to meet with members of our Chapter. It will likely be a late lunch event. Sheryl is looking forward to meeting us and will present to us some changes being instituted at National Headquarters, and thoughts on the future. Please mark your calendars!

I would like to take a moment to wish you all a very happy Holiday Season, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year, and everything in between. I like to keep in mind that there are many faith groups

celebrating holidays at this time of year. Día de Los Muertos , All Saints and All Souls(11/1-2), Bon om Touk (Cambodian, 11/26-28), Día de la Tradición (Argentina, 11/10), Native American Heritage Day (11/24), St. Nicholas Day (12/6), Hanukkah (Jewish Faith, 12/6'7-15), St. Lucia (Sweden, 12/13), Las Posadas (Mexico, Central America,12/16-24), Boxing Day (Great Britain, 12/26), Kwanzaa (African, African American, 12/26-1/1), and Omisoka (Japan,12/31). *Many blessings, Nancy*

USEFUL CHAPTER EMAILS

Dean: Nancy Granert – dean@agoabq.org

Sub-Dean/Program Coordinator: TBD program@agoabq.org

Treasurer: John Homko – treasurer@agoabq.org

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

MEMBER NEWS

Member Dr. James Yeager is performing a concert of his own works in Mountainair, as follows. Please join him in this celebration of his compositions.

COMPOSERS OF MOUNTAINAIR

November 5, 2023, at 2 o'clock

Manzano Mountain Arts Council Building

101 E. Broadway in Mountainair, NM 87036

<https://manzanomountainartscouncil.org>

James Albert Yeager ~ Compositions

Musicians

Hyorim Kim – Flute

Natalia Tikhovidova – Piano

Lee Harvey – Violin 1

Eric Sewell – Violin 2

Grant Hanner – Viola

Lisa Donald – Cello

Sweet Christina Theme Plus Variation for Flute & Piano (film score 1977)

Fugue for Piano & Chamber Orchestra “Mystical Desert” (2023)*

Sonatina for Flute & Piano (2023)

1. Moderato

2. Slowly, gently

3. Majestic with vigour

Passacaglia & Fugue for Organ & Orchestra “Antares in Scorpius” (2023)*

Sonata for Piano Quintet (2023)

1. Moderately fast

2. Slowly

3. Quick and spirited

**Concert supported in part by Manzano Mountain Arts Council, New Mexico Arts,
National Endowment for the Arts, and the New Mexico Commission.**

*Recording by Ravel Virtual Studios (www.ravel-vs.com)

Program Notes

Sweet Christina Theme—I composed this when I was a grad student in Boulder, Colorado. A student film maker asked me to compose a film score. This waltz accompanies a ballet scene of the film character, Christina, as her theme music. The story depicts a struggling young painter striving for his creative breakthrough at any cost. His girlfriend and lover, Christina, is an aspiring dancer. As the plot evolves, the narcissistic young man asks Christina to forsake her dance career for him and his art. The dance theme Variation portrays her mixed and hesitant emotions.

Fugue for Piano and Chamber Orchestra—I first composed this Fugue¹ for flute, oboe, bassoon, and piano as a master's degree thesis composition. It sufficed at the time (I graduated). I revised, expanded, and rewrote it adding a larger orchestration while here in New Mexico. The orchestral colors reflect my love of our desert land, at times serene and yet very animated.

Sonatina for Flute and Piano—This piece was an unfinished sketch in 1977; I reworked and finished it a month ago. Although movements one and two came from the early sketches, the third movement "*Majestic with vigour*" is wholly new and springs from two children's songs or rounds from 1934. The English composer, Benjamin Britten, composed his tune to the nursery rhyme "Old Abram Brown."² The charming melody is theme one. After a grand entrance, come two variations: a "game of tag" and "hide and seek." The second melody or theme two appears. The Australian composer, Marion Sinclair, wrote "Kookaburra Sits on the Old Gum Tree"³ which I use as a partner tune to "Old Abram Brown." The piece finishes with a rollicking fugue: the fugue theme and the two tunes play together.

Passacaglia & Fugue—I was inspired by Johann Sebastian Bach who wrote a singular piece with the same name. My version began as a solo organ piece (just like Bach). I expanded the organ piece to include an orchestra with percussion, timpani, and piano. I added a fugue as a grand finish. In the center of the 18-minute work comes an interlude for solo organ called a "cadenza." With the subtitle to the constellation Scorpius, I show my admiration for this striking star group visible in New Mexico summer skies.

Sonata for Piano Quintet—This piece is a string quartet plus piano. My composition lives in a tradition pioneered by music giants, Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Dvořák, and Shostakovich. The three movements share a four-note theme. The challenge was to avoid the monotony of a short theme. But the richness of piano, violins, viola, and cello, with their wide range of sounds gives the piece acoustical space to grow and flourish. The piano offers harmonic atmosphere, and the strings provide bowed and plucked resonances.

1 Fugue is a texture of music usually with a short vibrant theme from which grows a more complex musical webwork, called counterpoint.

2 "Old Abram Brown is dead and gone, you'll never see him more. He used to wear a long brown coat that button'd down before." From Tom Tiddler's Ground

3 "Kookaburra sits on the old Gum tree, merry merry King of the woodland he. Laugh Kookaburra, laugh Kookaburra, gay your life must be.

Happy Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa



REPORT FROM ORGAN RECITAL AT ST. LUKE LUTHERAN

Carson Cooman played a superb organ recital on Sunday, October 29, at St. Luke Lutheran in Albuquerque. The program included works by B. E. Boykin, Carlotta Ferrari, Carson Cooman, Yuitiro Kato, Karen Beaumont, Thomas Åberg, and a world premiere by Albuquerque's own Frederick Frahm. Such a treat to hear this music played so masterfully on the beautiful Casavant organ by the incomparable Carson Cooman!



Carson Cooman and our Dean, Nancy Granert, at the organ of St. Luke Lutheran Church, Albuquerque.



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

We're currently trying to fill various chapel Musician positions for Kirtland Airforce Base, NM. Please take a look at the job descriptions on the AGOABQ website for more details. The schedules are as follows:

Catholic Parish Music Director:

Schedule: Roman Catholic Sunday Mass at 9:00 AM

Catholic Parish Musician:

Schedule: Roman Catholic Sunday Mass at 9:00 AM

Parish Music Director for Protestant Service:

Schedule: Sunday Worship 11:00 AM

Parish Musician for Protestant Service:

Schedule: Sunday Worship 11:00 AM

Any interested musicians may contact us directly for the pay rates - these may be negotiable, depending on the musician's experience. We will be forwarding any interested musician's resumes to the base Chaplain for review and approval. Afterwards, they may be called in for an interview and/or audition.

Please feel free to share this job information, along with my contact info:

Michael Aldeguer

Work Cell: (407) 602-7780 (If calling, use extension 1)

Email: info@sawyerglobal.com

CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN, ALBUQUERQUE



Saturday, December 23, 2023

6:30pm | Choral Prelude

7:00pm | Service

Christmas Eve: Sunday, December 24, 2023

3:00 PM | Christmas Pageant

5:00 PM | Bilingual Mass

8:00 PM | 7:30 PM Choral Prelude

11:00 PM | 10:30 PM Instrumental Prelude

Join us for three special services to celebrate the coming of Christ, with choral & instrumental preludes preceding the 8:00 PM & 11:00 PM services featuring harpist, Emily Levin.

Christmas Day: Monday, December 25, 2023

11:00am | Service

Friends of Cathedral Music Presents



December 23-25, 2023

CHRISTMAS *at* THE CATHEDRAL

Christmas Lessons & Carols

Saturday, December 23

6:30 PM Choral Prelude | 7:00 PM Service

A Ceremony of Carols by Benjamin Britten: a special choral prelude sung by the upper voices of the Cathedral Choir and Cathedral Choristers with Emily Levin, harpist for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, followed by a Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in the tradition made world-renowned by King's College, Cambridge.



Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24, 2023

- 4:00 PM | Christmas Pageant with the Cathedral Cherubs and Choristers
- 7:30 PM | Choral Prelude with Emily Levin, harpist
- 8:00 PM | Festal Eucharist
- 10:30 PM | Organ Prelude with Emily Levin, harpist
- 11:00 PM | Festal Eucharist

Christmas Day

Monday, December 25, 2023

11:00 AM Service

Visit www.fcmaq.org & stjohnsabq.org for more information.



8th Annual Children's *Messiah*

Join choirs from Rio Rancho, Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Tijeras, and beyond, along with the Polyphony orchestra members under the direction of Dr. Maxine Thévenot for this 45-minute educational event for children of all ages.

* FREE - please consider bringing two non-perishable food items for the Cathedral's food pantry



**Saturday,
December 16th, 2023
10:30am
The Episcopal Cathedral of
St. John is located at
3rd and Silver Ave SW**

URGENT - NEW HQ DUES POLICY. DON'T BE LATE IN PAYING! (REMINDER)

The AGO national office has implemented a new policy concerning dues payment and their due date. As of now, there is **NO GRACE PERIOD** after the due date of your renewal. Memberships renew at the beginning of each month of the year, based on the member's date of joining the AGO or on July 1st, if the member was a member in 2014, when the ONCARD database system became effective.

The new policy DOES NOT provide for any grace period of paying dues beyond the renewal date. So, if you have a renewal date of July 1st and do not make your payment by that date, your membership will be cancelled approximately two weeks later. This pattern of processing will occur with every renewal date during the year. The AGO accepts payments by both credit cards and personal check.

You can pay your dues by credit card in two ways. First, you can go online into your ONCARD account, select RENEW DUES AND SUBSCRIPTION, and follow the prompts (you will be asked to confirm / update your membership profile). You can print a copy of the invoice and/or receipt (after the payment is processed). Second, you can call the AGO office at 1-212-870-2310 and pay your dues with a credit card over the phone. AGO staff can also help you with any ONCARD problem. There will be a new computer system soon which requires all members to have an email address.

TGIF CONCERTS – FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SANTA FE

Thank Goodness It's Friday! (*Masks are optional.*)

Whether you're ending your week or starting your weekend, every Friday evening First Presbyterian Church invites our Santa Fe neighbors and visitors from all over the world to our sanctuary to enjoy a short concert (30-45 minutes) of music: organ, voice and piano, choral, chamber music, solo instrumental, jazz, and more.

If you would like to perform on the TGIF Concert Series, [please see our program submission requirements](#).

November

- 3 — Chenxing Huang, piano
- 10 — Michael Tortorella, piano
- 17 — Gioioso! String Quartet
- 24 — David Solem, piano

December

- 1 — High Desert Harp Ensemble
- 8 — First Presbyterian Church Bell Choir
- 15 — eternal Summer Symphony Orchestra
- 22 — Travis Bregier, baritone, and David Beatty, piano
- 29 — Luke Ruffanti, piano

MEMBER REMINDERS

Please check your contact info in the **Chapter Directory** on the website and let me know if it needs changing, including new job info as well as telephone and email info.



Contact Us

AGO Albuquerque Chapter

14400 Soula Dr. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87123

Find us online at:

Email: editor@agoabq.org

Website: agoabq.org

Facebook: [agoabq](https://www.facebook.com/agoabq)

AGO ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER

Secretary: 14400 Soula Dr. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87123

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.



The deadline for submissions for the next newsletter due to be published for January and February 2024, will be **December 15, 2023**. Please email news, articles, or photos, upcoming events or reports, plus any other website items to the Editor, Evelyn Henson, at editor@agoabq.org by December 15, 2023.

