



# VOX OCEANA

APR 2019

## RI CHAPTER OFFICERS AND APPOINTMENTS 2018-2019

Dean, Stephen P. Kirby  
401-246-0039  
loftynotes@aol.com

Sub Dean, Gigi Mitchell-Velasco

Secretary, David Cranmer  
401-447-9848  
dcranmer45@cox.net

Treasurer, Doris Alberg  
401-365-7273  
dalberg1@cox.net

Publicity, Stephen T. Martorella  
401-885-0623  
steve.fbc@verizon.net

Newsletter, Althea Allard  
401-728-4431  
altheaallard@gmail.com

Historian, N. Peter LaMoria  
401-723-6974  
npeterlam@aol.com

Placement: Julie Tagen 401-885-7438

Membership: Christopher Souza  
401-368-2758

Auditors:  
Denise Petrucci, Jackie Gourd

Reg. Councillor: Leslie Smith  
northeastago@gmail.com

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2019  
Gina Vecchio 401-354-2366  
Lawrence E. Wilson 860-857-5493  
lewilson3rd@gmail.com

2020  
Jonathan Babbit

2021  
Fred Jodry  
Philip Martorella

[www.riago.org](http://www.riago.org)

## FROM THE SUB DEAN

Dear friends and colleagues,

I hope you have enjoyed this year's programming. We have one more event this season, the annual Members' Recital, *Women in Music* (with **Louise Mundinger, Dean of Boston AGO**, and **oboist Jane Murray** as our guests), followed by a potluck dinner and our Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 2nd at 4:00 p.m. at Central Congregational Church in Providence.

The potluck dinner and meeting are members-only events, but the Members' Recital is open to the public. I encourage you to invite your music-loving friends and colleagues. This special event is a veritable WIMfest South. When Louise Mundinger was Sub-Dean of Boston AGO (now Dean), that chapter started hosting Women in Music Festivals. Last year, one of our own members wondered why we didn't have more women participate in these events. So this year, we planned a season to honor women musicians and clergy. Our **RIAGO Chaplain, Jamie Washam**, opened the year at the First Baptist Church in America, followed last month by international concert artist **Katelyn Emerson's** Solo Organ Recital. We wrap up the year in June with WIMfest Members' Recital of women composers performed by women from among our membership. I hope you have enjoyed this season and will join us for the finale.

I love hearing from you, and although I cannot guarantee that we can implement all your suggestions, I welcome your feedback and ideas and find inspiration in reading them! Keep them coming!

*Gigi Mitchell-Velasco, Sub Dean*

*See the enclosed flyer for list of composers and performers to be presented at the Members' Recital  
June 2, 2019, at 4:00pm  
Central Congregational Church,  
Providence*

# KATELYN EMERSON TAKES THE CAKE



Hearty congratulations go to the Rhode Island chapter of the American Guild of Organists for their efforts in presenting international concert organist **Katelyn Emerson** recently at S. Stephen's Church in Providence. The large enthusiastic crowd was treated to a varied program from Sweelinck to Sowerby. A large screen afforded a birds-eye view of the organ console which would have been otherwise completely invisible as it is sitting below floor level behind the rood. From time to time, Emerson would step up onto the bench and climb out of the console to speak to the audience and give anecdotes and informative notes about each piece or section.

Registrations to scale down the sizeable three-manual, 76-rank Austin organ for the Vivaldi/Bach Concerto were simple and tasteful with string imitative articulations. A judicious choice of colorful voices allowed the Est-ce mars variations of Sweelinck to buzz and sparkle, appropriate to the period.

In the Howells Rhapsody III, appropriately dark and brooding, we could observe onscreen the effortless registration changes, sometimes several per bar, which allowed orchestral-type crescendos and shadings for a dramatic reading. The Franck Prière followed. Although a deeply affecting work, it served as a tonic and safe passage from the violent intensity of the Howells. Careful pacing and care of the solo voices allowed the Wagnerian influence and chromaticism its fullest impact.

The last third of the program, which Emerson characterized as "lighthearted," offered Boëly's Allegretto as "a palate cleanser" as she put it, which was followed immediately by the romping and ebullient Parker Allegretto. The virtuosic Sowerby Pageant which calls for mad skills on the pedal board, brought the 100+ audience to its feet! They were treated to a generous encore of an angular Langlais trio played at a fast, heart-stopping tempo which brought yet again a thundering applause and standing ovation.

We ended the triumphant evening with wine, pastries, strawberries and a cake with Katelyn's picture on it. Yes, she took the cake that evening! Literally and figuratively!

Thanks to **Dr. James Busby** at S. Stephen's for hosting this program, affording us an elegant venue and wonderful instrument, to **Joseph Rotella**, organ curator, who did a brilliant job preparing the organ for the evening.

Thanks also to **RIAGO Dean**, **Stephen Kirby**, and to **Dan Lemieux** and **Melissa Burbank** of Meta Organworks for allowing us to use their screen and equipment. Thanks especially to my husband, **Noel Velasco**, who, although not a member of the Guild, did everything from creating publicity materials and program lay-out, to serving as artist-liaison and setting up the massive screen so integral to audience appreciation of the "behind the scenes" gymnastics.

## PLACEMENT LISTINGS

Contact Julie Tagen (401-225-9594) to list

Emmanuel Episcopal Church 2/19  
120 Nate Whipple Highway, Cumberland, RI 019864  
The Rev. Joan Testin, 401-658-1506  
Allen \$200/wk O/D

St. Mark's Episcopal Church 11/18  
111 East Shore Rd., Warwick, RI 02889  
The Rev. Susan Wrathall day 401-737-3127 eve 401-617-0380  
Steere & Turner \$16,000 O/D

The First Universalist Church of Providence 4/18  
250 Washington St., Providence, RI 02903  
The Rev. W. Scott Axford 401-751-0821 401-454-1636  
\$150/service pipe organ Organist/Director

First Baptist Church of Bristol 10/18  
250 High St., Bristol, RI 02809  
Rev. Jake McGuire pastorjakemcguire@gmail.com  
Patsy Sanford patstuff@fullchannel.net  
\$11,000 Brennan & Gleason Minister of Music

St. Patrick Catholic Church 3/19  
2068 Cranston St., Cranston, RI 02920  
Fr. Roger Durand, 401-944-0001(day) 401-499-1076(eve)  
Rodgers \$16,000 3 weekend Masses O/D

## CONVENTION-BUFFALO

The Buffalo convention (July 1-4, Hyatt Regency) includes performances by Chelsea Chen, Katelyn Emerson, Michael Hey, David Higgs, Nathan Laube, Bruce Neswick, and Joshua Stafford. The opening service will feature a commissioned anthem by Carson Cooman, in St. Louis Church on a 1902 Kimball organ. A number of other historic organs will be highlighted in churches throughout the area. You will tour Frank Lloyd Wright's Darwin Martin House and enjoy Olmstead parks. Registration includes ALL transportation, daily lunches and evening receptions, making this regional convention very affordable. To register, go to <https://www.buffalo2019.org/>

### SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: 20th of each month. SUBMISSIONS: Send Word or Text files to [altheaallard@gmail.com](mailto:altheaallard@gmail.com) or to Althea Allard, 166 Suffolk Ave., Pawtucket, RI 02861. ADVERTISING: Word doc, PDF (print ready), JPG (high resolution), or TIFF. All files should be grayscale at 300 dpi resolution. Email to [altheaallard@gmail.com](mailto:altheaallard@gmail.com)

## FINAL RIAGO EVENT 2018-2019

Sunday, June 2, at 4:00 pm: **WOMEN IN MUSIC RECITAL.** Annual meeting and dinner follow. **Central Congregational Church, Providence.** See flyer.

## EVENT

**Sunday, April 28 at 3:00pm:** *Songs of Peace*, music by **Will Todd**: Newman Church Choir under director **Geoffrey Greene**, with soloists **Becky Bass, Barbara Youmans, Matt Kleyla, Jonne Gomes**. Suggested donation: \$10 to benefit Church music program. Reception follows. For sponsorship, tickets: 401.434.4742x10.

## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Full Tuition Organ Scholarship offered to Organ Scholar in Fall, 2019. Renewable for 4 years to applicant for Assumption's Class of 2023 majoring in music, meeting academic and campus ministry expectations. Contact Dr. Michelle Graveline: [mgraveli@assumption.edu](mailto:mgraveli@assumption.edu)

## SUBSTITUTE LISTINGS

Contact Julie Tagen (401-225-9594) with changes.

### AVAILABLE SUNDAYS & WEEKDAYS

Babbitt, Jonathan 401-864-9009  
Casteel, Eden: 401-932-5589  
Clarke, Margaret: 401-726-4128 (all)  
Higgins, Stephen: 401-441-2270 (comfortable with any keyboard situation)  
Jones, William: 401-848-4327 (all)  
MacCubbin, Jay: 401-521-0698  
Nicholson, Nancy: 401-521-9097 (all)  
Norton-Jackson, Diana 401-714-2700 interim, sub, no weddings  
Tagen, Julia L.: 401-225-9594 (all, weddings/funerals/interim)  
Taylor, Terry: 401-253-9030 ([tutti@fullchannel.net](mailto:tutti@fullchannel.net))  
Vecchio, Gina: 401-954-2163  
Vinson, Duncan: 781-888-3848  
Westhaver, Verna: 401-683-2636 (substitute/interim)  
Wilson, Lawrence: 860-857-5493 Organ; Sacred Jazz Composer/Arranger

### AVAILABLE WEEKDAYS ONLY

Black, John: 401-737-1230 (all, available Saturdays & weekdays)  
Castellani, Roger: 917-621-6530  
Cranmer, David: 401-447-9848  
Martorella, Philip: 401-615-0769 (no Sun. a.m.)  
Sobaje, Martha: 401-626-0099 (weddings, funerals)

### ADVERTISING RATES

1/4-page ad (3.5"W x 5"H): \$18 -or- 1/8-page ad (3.5"W x 2.5"H): \$10  
Flyers provided electronically for inclusion with newsletter (for RIAGO members): \$10. Make checks out to RIAGO and mail to Althea Allard by the 20th. \$25 non-members.