



VOX OCEANA

FEB 2018

NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS | VOLUME LI, NO. 2

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2018
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2019
Gina Vecchio 401-354-2366
Lawrence E. Wilson 860-857-5493

2020
Gigi Mitchell-Velasco,
Jonathan Babbit

www.riago.org

FROM THE DEAN

Dear Members of the RIAGO,

Happy New Year to all my fellow AGO Members. As February begins, many of us turn our thoughts to Lent and Easter. Lent begins on February 14th, Valentine's Day, with Ash Wednesday. Easter falls on April 1st. What an interesting set of dates. Everyone will be quite busy, I am sure.

In March, as you will see in this newsletter, Patrick and Gigi will be offering a wonderful workshop on March 17th, St. Patrick's Day, on leading choirs from the bench and vocal development. We are so lucky to have them as a strong part of our Chapter. The session begins at 10AM at Central Congregational Church. Please try to attend.

Also, we are in the planning stages of the Members' Recital in June. This will be held at The First Unitarian Church on Benefit Street, followed by a pot luck dinner. Fred Jodry will be our host.

Also, a gentle reminder that due to rolling enrollment, some members have not renewed their National AGO Membership. Please try to do this as soon as you are able.

Have a great winter and spring season.

Stephen Kirby, Dean
loftynotes@aol.com

Note: To receive messages from the Dean, email him to have him add your address to his list.

AGO NATIONAL CONVENTION NEWS: JULY 2-6

Registration for the 2018 AGO National Convention in Kansas City has begun! Due to the size of some venues, participation is limited to 500 people, so take advantage of the lowest rates offered and secure your spot now. Register online at www.agokc2018.com.

PLACEMENT LISTINGS

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

Original Congregational Church UCC 7/17
1 East Street, Wrentham, MA 02093
Lesley Whittemore 508-954-6460 whitluce@comcast.net
Austin \$18,000-22,000 O/D

St. Barnabas Episcopal 8/17
3257 Post Rod, Warwick, RI 02886
Scott Lee day 401-737-4141 evening 806-640-4708
fatherscottboy@gmail.com
Allen \$15,000 O/D

St Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church
390 Thames Street, Newport, RI 02840
Zoe Adamedes. 401-441-0456
Adams & Son \$3,000-4,000. O/D

EVENTS

Sunday, February 25 at 2:00pm: Hyperion Knight Piano Recital: J. S. Bach transcriptions including *Little Fugue in g*, BWV 578, Beethoven's *Waldstein* Sonata, and Gershwin: Suite from *Porgy and Bess*. The First Baptist Church in America, 75 North Main Street, Providence. Free.

Sunday, February 25, at 4:00pm: Mozart: *Litaniae de Venerabili Altaris Sacramento*, K 243; Pärt: *Da pacem Domine*. Choir with orchestra; **Patrick Aiken**, Choirmaster and Organist. Central Congregational Church, 296 Angell Street, Providence; Free-will offering.

Saturday, March 17 at 10:00am: RIAGO event led by **Patrick Aiken** and **Gigi Mitchell-Velasco**: *Conducting from the "Counsel" - the Choral Component*. Central Congregational Church, 296 Angell Street, Providence. (See Flyer)

SUBSTITUTE LISTINGS

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

AVAILABLE SUNDAYS & WEEKDAYS

Babbitt, Jonathan 401-864-9009
Casteel, Eden: 401-932-5589
Castellani, Roger: 917-621-6530 Available after Sept., 2016
Clarke, Margaret: 401-726-4128 (all)
Higgins, Stephen: 401-441-2270 (comfortable with any keyboard situation)
Johnson, Winfred: 401-847-8548 (interim)
Jones, William: 401-848-4327 (all)
Karen Kohl: 401-787-2695 Please Inquire
MacCubbin, Jay: 401-521-0698
Norton-Jackson, Diana: 401-714-2700 (no weddings)
Phelps, Howard: 508-224-8475 (please inquire)
Tagen, Julia L.: 401-225-9594 (all, weddings/funerals/interim)
Taylor, Terry: 401-253-9030 (tutti@fullchannel.net)
Vecchio, Gina: 401-954-2163
Westhaver, Verna: 401-683-2636 (substitute/interim)

AVAILABLE WEEKDAYS ONLY

Allard, Althea: 401-728-4431
Black, John: 401-737-1230 (all, available Saturdays & weekdays)
Cranmer, David: 401-447-9848
Martorella, Philip: 401-615-0769 (no Sun. a.m.)
Nicholson, Nancy: 401-521-9097 (all)
Sobaje, Martha: 401-626-0099 (weddings, funerals)
Vinson, Duncan: 781-888-3848 (Sunday, Monday)

VOX OCEANA ONLINE

Just a reminder that you can see past newsletters as well as the current letter online at riago.org. You can also receive the newsletter via email (and save your chapter printing and postage costs) by contacting editor Althea Allard at altheaallard@gmail.com. Flyers are posted online, and items that featured color are *in color!* Why not make the change today!

SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: 20th of each month. SUBMISSIONS: Send Word or Text files to 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

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 you provide (for RIAGO members): \$10. Make checks out to RIAGO and mail to Althea Allard by the 20th.

RIAGO Workshop

Date: Saturday, March 17, 2018

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Venue: Central Congregation Church, 296 Angell Street, Providence

Conducting from the “Counsel” - the Choral Component

We conduct and counsel our singers in teaching, conducting, and accompanying.

As organists, we deal with more than just playing the organ: there is the *Choral Component*. This workshop, guided by **Patrick Aiken & Gigi Mitchell-Velasco** will address vocal health, good breath and vocal production, group vocal technique and sound production as well as choral preparation, accompanying and conducting from the console.

The goal of this workshop is to improve vocal technique and conducting from the console. Certain examples from anthems will be presented, as well as one full anthem which participants may take home. The workshop will go from teaching the notes and working on technique, to accompanying the singers and presenting the anthem from the console as organist/conductor.



Patrick Aiken is the Organist and Choir Director of Providence’s Central Congregational Church and is Organist and Choirmaster at Middletown’s St. George’s School. A master’s graduate of Manhattan School of Music, his teachers have included John Walker, Donald Sutherland and Raymond Ocock. Frequently in demand as a freelance organist, he has performed throughout New England and at the Riverside Church and St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City. He has also traveled abroad as an accompanist on choir tours where he has performed at Winchester Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and St.

Paul’s Cathedral in London. He also serves two Roman Catholic parishes as well as two synagogues. A licensed private pilot, he also enjoys learning foreign languages and travel.



Gigi Mitchell-Velasco enjoyed a 20-year international singing career to great acclaim in the U.S., Europe and South America, and has directed her singing experience towards choral conducting, studying choral techniques and participating in the conducting institutes of Westminster Choir College, UMass Amherst and Chorus America. She holds a bachelor’s degree in flute from the Curtis Institute of Music and was for eight seasons the principal flute of the Opera Company of Boston. Gigi then became the protégée of the world famous German mezzo-soprano Christa Ludwig, and just last year graduated with a master’s in organ performance from Boston University’s College of Fine Arts, where her teacher was Peter Sykes. Gigi

is Music Director, Organist and Choirmaster of Natick’s St. Paul’s Episcopal Church.

Pastries and coffee will be available at 9:30 a.m. in the main hall



photo credit Rick McKay

Hyperion Knight

Piano Recital

Program:

J.S. Bach: Transcriptions
including the “Little Fugue” in g, BWV 578

Ludwig van Beethoven: Sonata no. 21 in C,
op. 53 “Waldstein”

George Gershwin: Suite from *Porgy and Bess*

The First Baptist Church in America
75 North Main Street, Providence
Sunday, February 25, 2018, 2:00 PM

Free and open to the public.