

Chiff Chat— January 2018
Happy New Year!

Dean's Letter:

Dear Springfield Chapter AGO Members and Friends:
Yikes, it's cold! Well, it's about 4 degrees as I write this, but maybe by the time you read it a few days from now it will have warmed up into the 20s. Here at South Church Springfield we host the Loaves & Fishes meals and the crowd shows up early and stays in our Parish Hall as long as possible. It's warm there on the first floor where the heat doesn't have so far to travel from the distant boilers. On the second floor, where many outside groups hold meetings and programs, it is a different story. My office is also on the second floor and I've been wearing a scarf and fingerless gloves as I tap away at my computer. In fact, it is so cold up there that...

Hey, wait a minute. Do you hear a story coming on? Maybe it starts "It was so cold in the church when I was practicing the organ on that fateful night that the notes froze in mid-air. I had to grab a handful and wave a hot blow dryer over them so I could hear if I made any mistakes." I know, that's a tall one, but we're looking for entertaining stories for our first ever Story Slam, happening on Saturday, January 27 at 10 a.m. at St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Easthampton. You'll see more details about that elsewhere in this newsletter, including information on how you can participate if you so desire.. Do you have a funny or interesting story about a wedding you played, or a choir rehearsal that just didn't go the way you thought it would? Maybe, like me, you have a sufficient file of individual incidents that could be stitched together to make a

great story, like the rooster that jumped up onto the console with me during a Living Nativity or the wedding where the paper carpet roll ran out of paper halfway down the aisle. (The ushers continued down the aisle smiling, unaware that they were pulling an empty roll. The bridesmaids in their short dresses had to step gingerly over the curled-up end, but the bride's train dragged the entire thing all the way back up to the altar. Up in the organ loft, I had to add a few more stops to cover up the sound of my giggles.) I'm not sure how these two incidents could be joined together with others to form one cohesive tale, but with some imagination...

Anyway, please join us on January 27 for stories and pizza!
Happy New Year!

Larry Picard
Lpicard@sococho.org
413-348-3729



Dean: Larry Picard

Sub Dean: Becky Rosendahl Isaacson

Directors:

Karen Banta
Joseph DiMarino
Karen Ducharme
Roberta Morkin
Joseph Geehern

James Barnes,
Treasurer

Martha Sienkiewicz, Secretary

Rev. William H. Wallis, Chaplain

ORGANISTS' STORY SLAM: THINGS THAT WENT WRONG

WHEN: Saturday, January 27, 2018, 11:00 AM-1:30 PM (snow date: Feb 3)
WHERE: St Philip's Episcopal Church, 128 Main Street, Easthampton

Yup, we've all been faced with music calamities, and they turn into good stories. Come and tell yours!

- ✓ all those weddings (lateness, inappropriate music, payment issues)
- ✓ console disasters
- ✓ your trumpeter/tenor/_____ bails on you
- ✓ misinterpreted gestures from your clergyperson
- ✓ mishaps with children and/or animals
- ✓ playing with injuries

Prepare your story ahead of time, if you can, with a beginning, middle, and end. Just funny, or any lesson learned? About the situation? About yourself? And please don't embarrass anyone identifiable in your tale.

Even though Becky Isaacson said she can fill the whole program with her hilarious stories, we'd like you to share yours, too. Please contact Karen Banta (kdbanta@gmail.com) if you plan to speak, though we also welcome spontaneous stories. Listeners invited—we need an audience!

And there's more:

- ✓ ORGAN/CHORAL MUSIC/CD giveaway (please take home anything left)
- ✓ LUNCH from ANTONIO'S PIZZA (courtesy of our Chapter)
- ✓ complimentary copies of Allan Taylor's legendary article "No Money, No Music!" from the May 1992 Chiff-Chat, and saved in my music file ever since

KAREN BANTA, Chair

Martin Luther King Day—January 15

“As he stood to conclude a meeting in his Atlanta home, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. joined his activist colleagues in song, his eyes closed, rocking back and forth on his heels.”

“There is a balm in Gilead,” they sang, “to make the wounded whole.”

“As the nation pauses Monday (Jan. 15) to mark King’s birthday, those who knew him say hymns, spirituals and other religious songs helped carry him through troubled times.”

Adelle M. Banks

Greetings from Eugene, Oregon, where applications are now open for the Organ Institute at the Oregon Bach Festival. Please share this email with your colleagues and students, the deadline for auditions is **March 21, 2018**.

The OBF Organ Institute, directed by Grammy-award winning organist Paul Jacobs, offers organists the opportunity to immerse themselves in the masterworks of organ repertoire, and to explore technique and interpretation through specialized seminars, master classes, and performance. The gift of a generous grant from The Reed Foundation provides these talented musicians tuition-free access to the six-day course of master classes and performances, with no cost for room and board.

More information, including audition requirements, can be found on our [website](#). Contact us with any questions at obforgan@uoregon.edu. We look forward to seeing you here next summer!

Mark Stevens
Coordinator for Education and Operations
Oregon Bach Festival
(541) 346-1320

oregonbachfestival.com



The flyer for the Oregon Bach Festival Organ Institute features a circular logo with the letters 'OBF' in a stylized font. Below the logo, the text reads 'OREGON BACH FESTIVAL' and 'ORGAN INSTITUTE' in large, bold, blue letters. The dates 'July 6 - 12, 2018' are centered below a horizontal line. The text continues: 'Led by Grammy Award-winning organist Paul Jacobs'. Below this, it lists activities: 'Daily master classes • Seminars on music theory, history, and organ design' and 'Tour of Portland organs • Recital performance in the Festival'. A key benefit is highlighted: 'A generous grant from The Reed Foundation provides free tuition, room, and board for Institute participants.' The deadline for auditions is stated as 'Participant auditions are due by March 21, 2018. Auditors can enroll through June 1.' At the bottom, it provides the website 'oregonbachfestival.com/organ-institute' for more information. To the right of the flyer is a photograph of Paul Jacobs, a man in a blue shirt, playing an organ. He is smiling and looking at the keys. Behind him, three other people (two men and one woman) are watching him play. The University of Oregon logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the photo area.

THE FIRST CHURCH OF DEERFIELD

71 Old Main Street, Deerfield, Massachusetts

presents

“THE BRICK CHURCH” MUSIC SERIES

2017-2018 Season

Sundays at 3:00 p.m.

Suggested Donation \$10-\$15

SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

BERNHARD KLAPPROTT, *organ*



Bernhard Klapprott, concertizes internationally as a keyboard soloist, continuo player, and conductor. Repertoire for this program will include music by J.S. Bach, C.P.E. Bach, Buxtehude, Pachelbel, and Kellner.

OCTOBER 8, 2017

EDITH WIDAYANI, *piano*



Hailed as one of the most promising young pianists in her home country of Indonesia, she is now at Eastman School of Music pursuing her Doctorate in Performance. Music by Debussy, Poulenc, Chopin, and Ananda Sakarlan, an Indonesian composer, will be heard.

FEBRUARY 4, 2018

ECLECTIC ARTS TRIO



Aaron Lakota, *oboe*

Jean Jeffries,
French horn

Clifton J. Noble, Jr.,
piano

Featuring the diverse sounds of oboe, horn, and piano, the trio, all from the Pioneer Valley, will play varied music across the centuries and genres. Interspersed with classical fare will be arrangements from the American Songbook.

The Centerpiece will be Heinrich von Herzogenberg's *Trio for Oboe, Horn and Piano*.

MARCH 4, 2018

MONICA CZAUSZ, *organ*



In 2016, she was recognized as one of the top 20 organists under 30 by *The Diapason Magazine*.

With Bachelor and Master of Music Degrees from Rice University in Texas, she currently is at The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. Her program will span four centuries with music by Schildt, Bach, Weaver, and others.

JEAN PITMAN TURNER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR 413-774-2657

February 4, 2018
Eclectic Arts Trio:



Aaron Lakota, *oboe*
Jean Jeffries,
French horn
Clifton J. Noble, Jr.,
piano

Featuring the diverse sounds of oboe, horn and piano, the Eclectic Arts Trio, all from the Pioneer Valley, will perform varied music across the centuries and genres. Interspersed with classical fare, from Mozart to Milhaud, will be a few of Jerry Noble's charming instrumental arrangements from the American Songbook. The centerpiece of the concert will be Heinrich von Herzogenberg's *Trio for Oboe, Horn and Piano*.

March 4, 2018
Monica Czausz, organ



Monica Czausz, a MA native, is currently at The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, PA, where she is pursuing an Artist Diploma in Organ Performance. She graduated *Summa Cum Laude* in May 2017 from Rice University's Shepherd School of Music in Houston, Texas, where she completed a five-year combined Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degree program in Organ Performance with professor Ken Cowan. In 2016, she was recognized as one of the top 20 organists under 30 by *The Diapason* magazine.

Her program will span four centuries to fully display the colorful and dynamic possibilities of this organ with music by Schildt, Bach, Weaver, and others.

"THE BRICK CHURCH"
MUSIC SERIES
2017 – 2018 Season
ORGAN
and
CHAMBER RECITALS



Sundays at 3:00 p.m.

The First Church of Deerfield
71 Old Main Street
Deerfield, Massachusetts

Email: Office@firstchurchofdeerfield.org
Info: 413-773-5323 or 774-2657
www.firstchurchofdeerfield.org

Suggested Donation at the door: \$10-\$15



The First Church of Deerfield
P. O. Box 276
Deerfield, MA 01342
Return Service Requested

Leonard Bernstein at 100: Looking Ahead to 2018

(December 2014)



August 25, 2018 will mark the 100th birthday of Leonard Bernstein, and events are already being planned worldwide. Celebrations kick off on August 25, 2017 (the start of Bernstein's 100th year), and run through the 2018-19 season.

2018 is an important year for classical music — it is the year the world comes together to celebrate the centennial of Leonard Bernstein (1918–1990). As a composer, conductor, educator, and humanitarian, Bernstein is regarded as a singular figure in American cultural history. Known for his visceral and life-affirming compositions, Bernstein created music that has echoed through generations; his contributions to the orchestral, choral, opera, dance, and chamber music repertoire have been championed by performers from around the globe.

Leonard Bernstein was the most visible personality in classical music during the twentieth century and continues to be one of the most widely performed composers. While incorporating such elements as the rhythmic vitality of jazz and the lyrical intensity of art song, Bernstein managed to consolidate disparate musical roots, creating a diverse and wholly unique body of work.

In addition to beloved, legendary works like *West Side Story*, Bernstein composed numerous pieces for the concert hall. Timeless compositions such as *Chichester Psalms*, *The Age of Anxiety* (Symphony No. 2), *Mass*, and the Concerto for Orchestra ("*Jubilee Games*") highlight only a small fraction of Bernstein's great oeuvre. A number of suites and other arrangements have been constructed from works that involve theatrical elements: the popular Symphonic Dances from *West Side Story* and the Overture to *Candide* have solidified their places in the great canon of orchestral repertoire; two suites from *Dybbuk* and the Three Dance Variations from *Fancy Free* offer Bernstein's ballet music in an alternate concert setting; and the *Meditations* from *Mass* (in several combinations) provide a taste of the composer's immense interpretation of the liturgy of the Eucharist.

As a conductor, Bernstein worked with many of the world's most prestigious organizations. He was the Music Director of the New York Philharmonic from 1958–1969, and, thereafter, Conductor Emeritus—he is widely credited for shaping the orchestra into what it is today. His relationship with the Boston Symphony Orchestra was especially fruitful, having conducted the ensemble during 30 distinct seasons. Bernstein was also a fixture at the Tanglewood Music Center and Festival throughout his career. In addition, his associations with other orchestras such as the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Vienna Philharmonic, National Symphony Orchestra, Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, and London Symphony Orchestra have made lasting impressions on the musical world through performances and recordings.

Bernstein was also recognized in his lifetime as one of the world's most engaging music educators, giving a public image to an artistic discipline many felt at distance from. He introduced the world to classical music through his popular "Young People's Concerts" (a series that continues to this day at the New York Philharmonic), and molded a generation of conductors, with many helming today's top ensembles. Even today Bernstein's educational influence is being felt through his educational reform program, [Artful Learning](#).

Through his inspiring approach to life and music, Leonard Bernstein put his stamp on the world, and 2018 will mark a year of reflection and remembrance of one of the most iconic figures in music history. Boosey & Hawkes is proud to invite musicians from across the globe to celebrate the centennial of Leonard Bernstein.

To learn more about Leonard Bernstein and his works, please visit www.boosey.com/bernstein.

Please let us know of your plans for the Bernstein centennial by emailing your local Boosey & Hawkes office:

composers.us@boosey.com

composers.uk@boosey.com

composers.germany@boosey.com

bastille91



200th Anniversary of Charles Gounod

Gounod: Chants sacrés. 20 Latin Motets

Charles Gounod, the 200th anniversary of whose birth falls in 2018, is known above all for his operas – *Faust*, *Sapho*, *Roméo et Juliette* etc. But throughout his life Gounod was also a very religious man. As winner of the prestigious Prix de Rome in 1839, he spent an extended period in the Holy City and subsequently devoted several years exclusively to writing sacred music. For a time he even thought of becoming a priest and signed his letters “Abbé Ch. Gounod”. As well as several masses – including the famous *St Cecilia Mass* – he composed numerous smaller works for various scorings for use in the liturgy and other church services. This collection contains 20 smaller sacred motets for 4–6-part mixed choir with organ or piano accompaniment, mostly ad libitum.

By Carus

**Springfield, Massachusetts Chapter of the
American Guild of Organists
70th Anniversary**

**Visit our website at www.springfieldago.org & “like” us on
Facebook!**

Dear Members:

**If you have e-mail, please consider receiving the
monthly Chiff Chat at your e-mail address. It is easy to
access. It never gets lost or misplaced and will put
some of your yearly dues to another use. We are very
happy to mail a Chiff Chat to anyone who is not on the
internet and needs a hard copy. You can e-mail Lad
Pfeifer or Elizabeth Zellmer if you wish to change from
snail mail to e-mail.**

Thank you.

**Springfield Chapter American Guild of Organists
Chiff Chat Monthly Newsletter
Elizabeth Zellmer, Editor
601 Northampton Street
Holyoke, MA 01040**