



May 1, 2021

Next deadline: Aug. 17, 2021

AGO Final Meeting for 2020-2021 Season

Topic: Officer Installation and Memorial Service

Time: **Tuesday, May 4, 2021, 7:30 PM** Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://uindy.zoom.us/j/94193729513?pwd=RGlocUVyN0RQNfNGVGdXc0RFQ2NYZz09>

Meeting ID: 941 9372 9513

Passcode: 784751

One tap mobile

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+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

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Meeting ID: 941 9372 9513

Passcode: 784751

Apology for my terrible mistake!

You may have noticed in the May Fanfare that I gave **Shayla Van Hal** credit for winning a competition. Alas, we are thrilled to have Shayla in our chapter and being willing to serve as Sub-Dean, but she did not win the competition. Shayla also performed on the Indianapolis Pipe Organ Festival: Aria on a Chaconne by **Joel Martinson (1960)** and The Aeolian Sonata, II: *Laudate Dominum* by **Dan Locklair (1949)**.

The real winner was another new member: **Katherine (Kat) Jolliff**.

Katherine Jolliff is an 18-year-old organist from Indianapolis, Indiana. She began piano studies at the age of 5, and her piano teachers have included **Kate Boyd** (Butler University) and **TJ Lymenstull** (Interlochen Arts Academy). She has won numerous local piano competitions, including the Hoosier Auditions and the **Mildred Allen** Award from the Indiana Piano Teachers Guild. In the summer of 2018, she attended Interlochen Arts Camp for piano and was awarded the Fine Arts Award in Piano Performance. Katherine started learning the organ in her freshman year of high school from **Marco Petričić**. After completing her first two years of high school at Herron High School, she finished high school studies at Interlochen Arts Academy. She majored in both piano performance and organ performance and studied organ with **Tom Bara**. Graduating with honors and the prestigious Fine Arts Award in Organ Performance, Katherine will be attending Eastman School of Music as an organ performance major in 2021, where she will study with **David Higgs**. Additional musical interests include piano tuning and repair, music history, music production, and theatre organ.

This year Indianapolis hosted a chapter competition on Saturday, February 27, 2021. Indianapolis native **Katherine (Kat) Jolliff** won the \$1000 first prize, which is budgeted for by the Indianapolis chapter every two years. **Kat** is Organ/Piano scholar at Trinity Episcopal Church.

Katherine Jolliff was a **First-Prize winner** in the 15th Annual Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance, held virtually on March 13 at the East Carolina University School of Music in Greenville, North Carolina. She was also awarded the Bach prize and the hymn-playing prize. The adjudicators were **Andres Scanlon** and **Ann Labounsky**. Kat performed on our Virtual Indianapolis Pipe Organ Festival on Feb. 21, 2021. She played Toccata and Fugue in D minor, “Dorian,” BWV 538 by **Johann Sebastian Bach** and Prelude in G Minor, No. 3, from *Trois Préludes et Fugues*, Op. 7 by **Marcel Dupré**. Congratulations, Kat. We are all proud of you!

And again, I apologize for the mistake!
Susan Raccoli



Katherine (Kat) Jolliff

From the Dean's Bench

Dear Chapter Members and Friends,

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as the Dean of this great chapter the past two years. With the help of many volunteers, we continue to be one of the leading chapters in the Midwest. Our membership is growing, including young organists, a group we must continue to reach out to.

I would like to thank my fellow officers and executive committee members for their dedication as well as those who volunteer behind the scenes. One specific volunteer who deserves our gratitude is newsletter editor **Susan Raccoli**. Susan tirelessly promotes the mission of the AGO.

Finally, a big “thank you” to our nominees for agreeing to serve in the coming year in a leadership position. You have our support. Please join us on Zoom on **Tuesday, May 4**, at **7:30 PM** for the installation of officers and memorial service.

Best wishes,

Travis Person



2021-22 AGO Indianapolis Chapter Officers

DEAN	Stephen Price
SUB-DEAN	Shayla Van Hal
SECRETARY	Jordan Lewis
TREASURER	Craig Stoops
REGISTRAR	Nick Fennig
MEMBER AT LARGE, Class of 2021-2024	Michael Bennett Mary Ragna Yetter

Dr. Stephen Price joined the faculty at Ball State University in 2018, where he teaches studies in organ, church music, music appreciation, and music theory. He attended Indiana University for his Master's and Doctoral degrees studying with **Janette Fishell**. Dr. Price has served as Sub-Dean of the Indianapolis AGO throughout 2019-2021 under the support and leadership of the Dean, **Travis Person**. Together with the executive committee, Dr. Price organized virtual programming and guest presenters throughout the past year including a tour of the Goulding & Wood Organ Shop, Indianapolis Orgelkids, Roundtable Discussions, Performance Anxiety, A Virtual Hymn Festival, and other engaging events.



Shayla Van Hal is the organist at John Knox Presbyterian Church in Speedway and a DM Organ Performance candidate at Indiana University. She also serves as an Associate Instructor for the music theory department at the Jacobs School of Music. She earned her BA in music from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. Her two MM degrees in Sacred Music (Organ) and Music Theory are from the University of Kansas.

Shayla studies with **Chris Young** at IU and enjoys researching and performing French organ works of the Romantic and modern eras in particular. While this is her first appointment with a regional chapter, she served on the AGO Young Organists' board for the central region for the 2018-2019 season. Shayla enjoys her life in Bloomington with her husband, **Adam**, and her cat, **Snowboots**. She looks forward to serving the Indianapolis chapter as it enters into the post-pandemic era, as well as drawing closer to the organist community here as she continues in her studies.



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Jordan Lewis started playing piano when he was six years old. Over the years he thought music would be nothing more than a hobby. Five years ago when he was hired by Saint George Lutheran Church, he discovered his passion for organ music. When he met **Jim Dorn**, organist at Chester Presbyterian in Chester Virginia, he realized how beneficial having an instructor would be, so for the past three semesters, with a COVID reprieve, he has been studying with **Dr. Marko Petričić**. “It is a great honor and privilege to serve as secretary for AGO, a group that is so devoted to an instrument that I love,” he said. He is also a realtor with Your Home Team.



Craig Stoops graduated from Indiana University with highest distinction in 1974 with an A.B. in chemistry and French. He earned his MD from Ohio State University College of Medicine in 1977. He has had an exemplary career as an anesthesiologist, but has also shown a very strong interest in music. He started piano in 1960 in Ohio, and then organ in 1964, and trombone in 1963 along with band participation in high school, and a civic band at IU. In Indianapolis he has studied organ with **June Edison, Lee Barlow, and Travis Person**, as well as a master class with **Hector Olivera**. In our AGO chapter he served as chairman of Gifts, Grants & Contributions for the 2015 Great Lakes Region Conference. He has been our AGO treasurer since 2016, and has hosted very pleasant AGO gatherings at his home with his wife, **Carol**.



Nick Fennig is Organist & Accompanist at Plainfield United Methodist Church. He grew up in Indianapolis, where he sang for a decade with the Christ Church Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys, serving as Head Chorister under **Dr. Frederick Burgomaster**. He began his organ studies with **Mary Ellen Burgomaster, Ted Gibboney and Hyeon Jeong**. Nick graduated with a B.M. in Organ Performance and Church Music from Northwestern University, studying with **Douglas Cleveland and Richard Webster**. He continued his music studies with **John Walker** at the Peabody Institute of Johns



Hopkins University. Nick has been an intern, organ scholar, organist and choirmaster at churches in Indiana, New York, Baltimore, and Philadelphia. His other passion is serving Hoosiers living with HIV as a Care Coordinator at Eskenazi Health. In his free time, he enjoys biking, needlepoint, traveling, spending time with his family, and exploring Indy.

Michael Bennett is a music educator, choral director, and keyboard artist. He is the Director of Music & Organist at St. John's Episcopal Church, Lafayette, a post he has held since 2004. In 2017 Michael was appointed Artistic Director of the Lafayette Master Chorale & Children's Choir. He is the choral director at West Lafayette Jr./Sr. High School, where, he directs choirs in grades 7-12 and teaches music theory. From 2008-2019 he taught at Lafayette Jefferson High School. A native of Roanoke, VA, Michael is a graduate of the Indiana University School of Music, where he received his bachelor's and master's degrees in organ performance. His primary instructors there were **Marilyn Keiser** and **Larry Smith**.



Mary Ragna Yetter is Director of Music and Organist at First Presbyterian Church, New Castle, and University Organist at Anderson University. She came to Indiana in 2018 from Kent United Methodist Church in Kent, Ohio. She has held positions as organist and choir director in Illinois, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Ireland, and England. Mary Ragna's degrees are from Texas Christian University; Ft. Worth, Texas, The Royal College of Music, London, England, and the University of Memphis (Master of Music in Organ Performance). At the local level of the American Guild of Organists, she has served as Dean and Sub-Dean in Akron, Ohio, Memphis, Tennessee, and Peoria, Illinois.



Calendar of Events

Sunday, May 2, Choral Evensong Outdoors, **5 PM**, free. Trinity Episcopal Church, 3243 N Meridian St., Indpls, IN 46208. Come, bring a chair, and enjoy music offered by members of Trinity Choir and Choristers. Music of **Healey Willan**, **Orlando Gibbons**, and **Thomas Tallis**. It's been a long year, so treat yourself to some LIVE music-making!

Friday, May 14, 7 PM, Kokomo Zion UMC, **5015 E. 400 N., Kokomo, IN 64901**, ***Make His Praise Glorious, An Evening of Sacred Organ Music.*** Matt Gerhard will present the first in a series of recitals celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Rodgers organ at the church, free-will offering.

Dr. Frederick Burgomaster (“Dr. B”) Indianapolis
By Nicholas & Patrick Fennig

Nick: Could you tell us about some influential mentors, teachers, and educational experiences that you had?

Fred: The most influential teacher I ever had was **Karl Richter** in Munich. I was a Fulbright Scholar and studied there for two years. Probably the music-making in Munich was as good as it was anywhere. There were three opera houses and five symphony orchestras. Richter was incredible. He had come through the Leipzig/Dresden tradition. He had grown up in East Germany in Freiberg and came to Munich when he was very young. He formed the Munich Bach Choir and Orchestra and I sang in that chorus, which was a truly inspirational experience. How amazing to sing a St. Matthew Passion with everyone knowing it by memory because they had done it so many times... even the orchestra! Karl Richter would both play and conduct the Passions without any score. So, he'd run back and forth to the harpsichord and play all the recitatives--with no musical score! That was a real eye/ear-opening experience for me, because I was quite young. I was younger than other Fulbrighters, most of whom had graduate degrees. I had received the Fulbright grant after my undergraduate work. So, it was quite an experience – a truly meaningful and inspiring one for me.



And then at Union Theological Seminary in NYC I studied with **M. Searle Wright** who was at St. Paul's Chapel, Columbia University – a beautiful Harrison-Skinner organ. I had wanted a complete change from what I had been doing in Munich with Karl Richter, and Searle Wright was certainly a complete change. He was a Romantic, who played all the **Rheinberger** sonatas, **Reger**, **Karg-Elert**, etc. I also mentored with **Alec Wyton**, who was at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine and had a very fine men & boys' choir, my first experience with that choral sound. I received my Master's Degree in Sacred Music, an SMM, from Union and then went to California to pursue doctoral studies at the University of Southern California. My undergraduate degree was from Drury College in Springfield, Missouri (now Drury University). It had a very fine music department.

Nick: How did you get connected with Munich and Karl Richter?

Fred: My teacher at Drury advised me to apply for a Fulbright with a specific goal and teacher in mind. I wanted to study **Bach**, and Karl Richter in Munich seemed a good choice. Now, there were other Fulbrighters who were studying at that time with **Helmut Walcha**, who was in Frankfurt. Karl Richter was fairly new on the scene. He had only been at the Hochschule für Musik in Munich for two or three years, coming from Leipzig where he had been the organist at the Thomaskirche.

Nick: If you were to pick some of the highlights of your career in Indianapolis (having arrived in 1977), what would they be?

Fred: I did a major Fest every year. So, a lot of the highlights deal with that fest. I would say that one of the most important and meaningful performances I've done was **Benjamin Britten's** "Curlew River," which is an opera – he called it a Parable for Church Performance. He originally performed it in a little church in Orford which is near Aldeburgh in England. It has a chamber ensemble with positive organ, from which I played and conducted the six players, all of whom were highly skilled solo performers. And we did it with full costumes and staging, including a raked stage which had to be built for the cathedral. So, it was a very challenging (and expensive) undertaking. This is one of the greatest works, I think, in church music history. It's based on Japanese Noh drama, so all of the singers wear masks. It's extremely poignant and moving.

Patrick: Do you remember who the Mad Woman and Ferryman were?

Fred: **Joseph Frank** (Mad Woman) and **Julius Eastman** (Ferryman).

Patrick: Wow! What's your relationship to him?

Fred: Well, Julius Eastman was an incredible talent, as well as a highly interesting character. He was in Buffalo and was a Creative Associate with **Lukas Foss**. At that time I was the Symphony Chorus Conductor in Buffalo, so I knew Lukas Foss. The Creative Associates were an extremely talented group of people, including **David Del Tredici**, **Morton Feldman**, and **Leo Smit**.

Patrick: Wow! Buffalo has this amazing new music scene.

Fred: Oh yes, especially when Foss was there, because that's all he was really interested in. Later I worked with **Michael Tilson Thomas**. But Julius Eastman... what a talent! He sang "Curlew River" with me in Buffalo, and I brought him back to Indianapolis because I thought he was the best Ferryman one could possibly imagine for the role. I then called him (he was basically "down and out," living in terrible circumstances) and said that I wanted to come to New York to see him. So, he said, "I just finished this composition for five orchestras and nine choruses. (He was a brilliant guy!) Do you think you'd be interested in performing it?" And I thought of Christ Church and the size of it! At any rate, he came and sang the role. We had three performances of "Curlew River." And then, another Britten performance – the "War Requiem," which we performed at SS Peter &

Paul cathedral.

Nick: Yes, we were both in the choir for that.

Fred: That required large forces, including the Boys' Choir, the Festival Chorus, and Girls' Choir, as well as two orchestras. **Orcenith Smith** from Depauw U. conducted the 2nd orchestra, and **Stan Irwin** (also Depauw) sang solo bass. A powerful and moving performance. **Stravinsky Fest** – I conducted the “The Rite of Spring” in the Circle Theater and the Men and Boys' Choir sang the “Mass” and the Girls' Choir sang “Cantata” at the Cathedral. We also included a concert at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, which featured Concerto for Two Pianos with two Beethoven Foundation (now the American Pianists Association) pianists. And then the **Elgar Fest** with “The Dream of Gerontius,” **Joseph Frank**, tenor.

Nick: Yeah, I know for me those fests were a highlight. I haven't been able to sing many of those choral works since. Another question: If you can explain your process for choosing challenging pieces and also the new compositions we would do and the commissions.

Fred: Well, let's take commissions first. For me, that was very important. And I think it began in Buffalo when I was starting to get to know some of the Creative Associates, especially Leo Smit – we commissioned him to write a piece, “At the Corner of the Sky” which was based on Native American texts. I felt that it was very important for the church to stay alive and open to new music and not just always to do pieces of the past, which is certainly wonderful repertoire, as you well know. I taught and encouraged all my boys and girls to appreciate and get excited about the music of **Palestrina, Purcell, Howells**, etc. But it was also especially important to encourage young composers to write music for the church. Many of them didn't have any interest in the church, and often they were the most talented ones. It was a welcome challenge to try to get them to channel their talents to compose something for the church. We tried to commission new anthems/service music almost every year. We had that in the music budget. Composers included **James Aikman, David Foley, Ned Rorem, Bradley Nelson**, and a Jazz Mass by **David Baker**, as well as a couple of English composers, **Alan Wilson** and **Kenneth Leighton**. Alan Wilson wrote a work (a Mass) for two organs, synthesizer, men and boys' choir, girls' choir semi-chorus, and congregation, i.e., our resources at Christ Church Cathedral.

Nick: I see the leaders in Church Music are people who grew up in choirs or leading worship and how important that is for the future of the Church.

Fred: I don't think people realize how the constant concentration coupled with music-making can affect and expand the mind. It can be very important for a young child. If you really work at it, then I think it's going to strengthen you for life, both in relationships with other people as well as in becoming a leader. Many of the girls and boys (from the

Cathedral) have gone into leadership positions. I've certainly noticed, in all of my years of working with boys and girls, that the choir experience can be strengthening, enabling, and indeed inspiring as well as spiritually uplifting.

Patrick: Where does Mrs. B. fit in through all of these stories? You've been working side-by-side with her for so many years. I wanted to ask about her influence on you and your influence on her and that partnership.

Fred: Well, we met in Munich as fellow students with Karl Richter. Mary Ellen had a DAAD scholarship, which is the German equivalent of the Fulbright. Then, when I came out to California, she was finishing her M.Mus. (USC) and we were married at All Saints', Beverly Hills. When we were planning our choir tours, especially to Europe, she took care of all the organizational elements and I took care of the musical parts. So, we've always worked together very well.

Addendum - **Fred:** It has always amazed me that boys from such disparate backgrounds, families, and cultural history, could come together and perform great works such as a Bach "St. John Passion" or a Leighton "God's Grandeur." Of course I did not ask, "Do you think you can do this?" but rather expected you to do it, just as I expected it from the choirmen.

Dr. Frederick Burgomaster is Canon Organist & Choirmaster Emeritus of Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis. He has been honored as a Fulbright Scholar, a Winston Churchill Fellow and an Associate of the American Guild of Organists. He served as the Organist & Choirmaster at Christ Church from 1977 to 2009. He founded the Choral Masterworks concert series at Christ Church Cathedral and several performance groups including the Indianapolis Baroque Singers, and the Indianapolis Festival Chorus and Orchestra. Frederick Burgomaster has performed recitals throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe, and his compositions are sung in churches throughout the world. During his tenure, he designed and oversaw the installation of three world-class pipe organs at Christ Church Cathedral. "Dr. B" has nurtured the voices, spiritual development, and overall well-being of generations of boys and girls in his choirs.

Nicholas Fennig (Cathedral Chorister 1990-2000, Head Chorister 1994-1996) is Organist at Plainfield United Methodist Church, Plainfield, IN.

Patrick Fennig (Cathedral Chorister 1993-2004, Head Chorister 1998-2000) is a Gentleman of the Choir, Concert Series Manager and Music Librarian at Saint Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue, New York, NY.

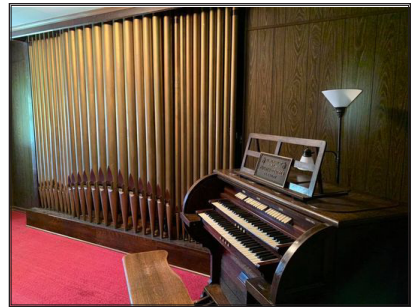
Home Organs of Darrell Bailey Bluefield Organ

In the southwest corner of Virginia, in the heart of Appalachia, one Airbnb holds a surprise for its guests—a 16-rank fully functional pipe organ, housed above a goat barn.

Known as “Blueberry Goat Haven,” this unique property was where I grew up and where my father once had his veterinary practice that included an elaborate—and empty—kennel facility, built on as a second level to the barn.



It was the perfect home for a pipe organ (E.C. Malarkey) that might easily have been destroyed in 1972, when the local Bluefield hospital acquired the First Christian Church building. I was an undergraduate at Oberlin at the time and offered to buy the organ for \$25. Surprisingly, the hospital accepted my offer, with the condition that I remove the entire instrument within 30 days.



I spent breaks and summers rebuilding this 1920s instrument and reinstalling it in the renovated kennel building. **John Leek**, curator of organs at Oberlin, was generous in sharing his time and expertise and even contributed a mixture and trumpet to the organ, increasing its size from 12 to 16 ranks. The specification now includes Principals 8, 4, 2, Mixture II-III, Flutes 16, 8, 8, 8, 4, Salicional 8, Sesquialtera II, Vox Humana 8, and Trumpet 8. A tremolo, full couplers at 16, 8, and 4 with electro-pneumatic action throughout, completes the ensemble. The original 18 chimes are mounted on the opposite wall and hand-played with mallets. Recently, I also added a Zimbelstern. We’ve used the organ for neighborhood concerts and family gatherings—and it’s become a huge hit with the goat herd.

When it’s played, they actually “sing” along, and were featured in a Christmas episode of West Virginia Public Broadcasting’s Inside Appalachia. I invite you to Meet the Appalachian Goats who Sing Along to Christmas Carols. To hear the broadcast, copy/paste the following link into your Internet browser. Then click

“LISTEN” and the audio will load and play. <https://www.wvpublic.org/news/2019-12-19/meet-the-appalachian-goats-who-sing-along-to-christmas-carols>



Positions Available

Position: Organist

Church: Irvington Presbyterian Church

Address: 55 Johnson Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46219

Phone: 317-356-7225

Service: Sunday, 10 AM

Instrument: Pipe organ, Opus 5300 2-manual model built by M. P. Moller in 1928, rebuilt in 1965, renovated by Miller Pipe Organ Company of Louisville, Kentucky in 1999. The organ has 1800 pipes in 21 ranks. It was fully restored in 2018 by Goulding & Wood. Restoration included a new console, new electronic contacts and a complete redesign and rebuilding of the air chests in the organ loft.

Choir: (when meeting): Thursday, 7:30 PM.

Contact: Rev. Robert A. Heimach senior pastor, rheimach@irvpresby.org

Position: part-time organist (or pianist)

Church: Trinity Anglican Church, new church

Address: 518 N. Eastern Ave., Connersville, IN 47331

Instrument: mid-century, 13-rank Wicks pipe organ which has just been serviced and tuned.

Service: Sunday morning, when church opens in the future. We hope to find the right candidate to fill our church with the glorious sound of worship.

Contact: Rev. Richard Ross Tarsitano, Vicar, trinityanglican.connersville@gmail.com



Fanfare Newsletter for the
American Guild of Organists,
Indianapolis Chapter

Next deadline: Aug. 17

Send submissions to Susan

Raccoli: raccolisusan@gmail.com

Cell phone: 317-910-1903

Local AGO website:

<http://www.indyago.org>

National AGO website:

<https://www.agohq.org/>

American Guild of Organists
Indianapolis Chapter
Fanfare Newsletter
Editor: Susan Raccoli
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Indianapolis, IN 46220

Be sure to tune in to Zoom on Tuesday,
May 4, (see page 1) for our final AGO
event this season with installation of
officers and our annual memorial
service. We hope to meet in person
before too much longer!