

AGO Chapter Message

November, 2022



Dear members of Sarasota-Manatee,

We were so glad to hold a live, in-person event recently featuring the latest in Lenten choral music from Hal Leonard and Concordia and the Simon Johnson concert on October 23rd. Looking ahead, we want to draw your attention to the February, 2023 choral festival with Michael Burkhardt, to be held at St. Boniface Episcopal Church on Siesta Key.

An internationally renowned clinician, recitalist, and hymn festival leader, Michael Burkhardt is in high demand for his inspiring, innovative hymn festivals. Remembering the great success of the last choral festival in this Chapter in 2020, one of the last live music events before the pandemic, we hope you'll make plans to join us in February 2023.

Be sure to mark your calendars for that. If you missed the recent reading session, you can read a writeup from John Behnke for *The American Organist* below!

Peace,
Amy Cerniglia, Dean



On Saturday October 15th, 17 days after Hurricane Ian went through our area, the chapter decided to get back to “normal” and held a choral reading session led by Dr. John Behnke, director, and Sam Nelson, accompanist, with new Lenten and Easter music from Concordia Publishing House and Hal Leonard. This event was graciously hosted by Christ Church of Longboat Key, FL (Bryan Cordell and Susan Crumpler, musicians).

—John Behnke for *The American Organist*

2023 Upcoming Chapter Events

February 3-5, 2023

Choral Festival with Michael Burkhardt

St. Boniface (5615 Midnight Pass Rd, Sarasota, FL 34242)

February 3, 7:00 pm: Workshop with Michael Burkhardt

February 4, 9:00 - 11:00 am: Rehearsal for choral festival

February 5, 3:00 pm: Choral festival

March 4-5, 2023

Master class and concert with Felix Hell

March 4, 1:00 pm: Master class for organists in all walks of life, from student to retirement and beyond.

March 5, 6:00 pm: concert

May 15, 2023

Annual meeting and officer installation at St. Boniface.

In addition to the Chapter events for this year, many of our local churches have wonderful programs available for your enjoyment and worship. Our calendar for these events can be found on our website. Please take a moment to go to this link below and see what is happening.

AGOSM.ORG/Calendar

As a member, your events can be listed for FREE. If you would like to have them appear on this calendar you need to send the events to me to type in, yes, one at a time. See how much I appreciate you?

If you want a brochure of your events put on line the fee is only \$80 for the Entire year.

Susan Crumpler
Chapter Administrator



Musica Sacra of Sarasota opens its 2022-23 Season with "A Ceremony of Carols", an All-English event featuring Benjamin Britten's much loved A Ceremony of Carols, John Rutter's Dancing Day, and Gustav Holst's Four English Carols and Christmas Day.

Founded in 2010, Musica Sacra is the region's only choral ensemble dedicated solely to the performance and presentation of sacred choral music in its many forms.

Guest conductor for the event is Dr. Ann Stephenson-Moe. Harpist Giuseppina Ciarla will be featured in the Britten and Rutter works, with organist Virginia Bray adding her artistry to the two Holst works.

Dr. Ann Stephenson-Moe is a major musical force in the region as an organist, harpsichordist, conductor, and accompanist. Ms. Carla has served as Sarasota Opera's Principal Harpist since 2002, and Ms. Bray is on the faculty of New College - Florida, teaching all aspects of piano performance at the college since 1985.

A Ceremony of Carols will be presented on Monday evening, November 28th at 7 pm at First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota, 2050 Oak Street, Sarasota. Tickets are \$35 and are available through the Musica Sacra website: www.MusicaSacraSarasota.org or by phone at 941-374-0940.

—Bob Parrish