Who We are

The American Guild of Organists is the national professional association serving the organ and choral music fields. Founded in 1896 as both an educational and service organization, the AGO sets and maintains high musical standards and promotes understanding and appreciation of all aspects of organ and choral music. The Guild currently serves approximately 16,000 members in more than 300 local chapters throughout the United States and abroad. Membership is open to all and includes working professionals—organists, choral conductors, teachers, organbuilders, technicians, and suppliers to the field—as well as students, clergy, amateur musicians, and dedicated supporters.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music.

To achieve this, we:

- Encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music;
- Inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors;
- Provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support;
- Nurture future generations of organists;
- Promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and
- Engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

Membership Benefits

AGO members enjoy a wealth of benefits and services under the guidance of the National Officers; National Councillors for Education, Membership, Competitions and New Music, Conventions, and Finance and Development; Regional Councillors; and all other volunteer leaders of the Guild.

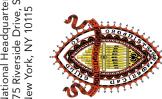
PUBLICATIONS

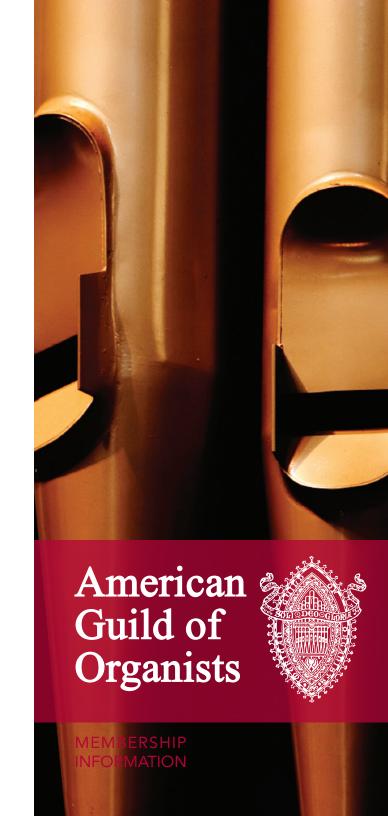
- THE AMERICAN ORGANIST Magazine (monthly)
- Chapter newsletters and membership directories
- Books, monographs, pamphlets, CDs, and DVDs

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Chapter placement services; National job postings
- Assistance with denominational relations
- Support for musical education of clergy
- Management and planning for church musicians

American Guild of Organists National Headquarters 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260 New York, NY 10115





A comprehensive series of examinations for professional certification provides respected credentials for members and standards of excellence recognized by churches, synagogues, schools, and other employers.

- Service Playing Certificate (SPC) Colleague (CAGO)
- Associate (AAGO) Fellow (FAGO) Choir Master (ChM)

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- National and Regional Conventions
- Pedagogy Conferences
- Chapter events: recitals, workshops, meetings, and seminars
- Competitions in organ performance, organ improvisation, and organ and choral composition
- Pipe Organ Encounters for teens and adults
- PipeWorks for elementary school children
- January Jubilees for musicians in part-time employment

OTHER BENEFITS

- Discounts on AGO convention registration fees and educational resources
- Liability insurance for chapter events
- Competitively priced, high-quality insurance plans
- Social and professional networking
- Facebook and Twitter
- Opportunities to meet with colleagues at local and national meetings

WEBSITE - WWW.AGOHQ.ORG

- Job postings (available to members only), contact information for chapter and national leaders, policy and program updates
- Comprehensive list of academic institutions offering organ instruction
- Educational resources and signature items available on-line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Links to more than 250 organ-related Web sites
- TAO (available to members only)



The easiest and fastest way to become a member of the guild is to join online at www.agohg.org. Use the membership tab to choose "Join the Guild" and become a member today.

In addition to receiving benefits from the national organization, the majority of AGO members join a chapter in their community at no additional charge. You may choose to become a member of your local chapter or any of the 300 AGO chapters across the country. You may also join additional chapters by becoming a Dual member of each at a discounted rate. The AGO offers Independent Membership for those who wish to join the Guild as voting members with all national benefits but without local chapter affiliation.

Non-voting memberships are also available which consist of a subscription to The American Organist Magazine.

JOIN BY MAIL

You can still join the AGO by mail by returning the righthand column of this brochure with your payment (check or credit card) to:

AGO National Headquarters 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260 New York, NY 10115 members@agohq.org | www.agohq.org Tel. 212-870-2310 | Fax 212-870-2163



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