

The Newsletter of the Northern NJ Chapter American Guild of Organists August 2020

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Dear Chapter Members:

I am very much looking forward to beginning my new Dean position for the Northern NJ Chapter of the AGO. We have an energetic and devoted Executive Board and a wonderful Program Committee with which I am thrilled to work.

On Sept. 14, 2020 we will have our first "fall" Zoom meeting at 7:30 pm. We will have Installation of Officers followed by guest speaker Elizabeth George from National AGO. After her speech, we will hold a question and answer period. This will be an exciting meeting and we are looking to our members for a huge turnout.

I am excited to work with all of you in the next year to continue to bring more first quality programs that we have enjoyed in the past. Please join us on Sept. 14, 2020 for our first event of the new season! Thank you.

June Marano-Murray, Dean



There are a number of wonderful resources on agohq.org website. One is a link for "Chapter Leadership News" from Elizabeth George:

https://www.agohq.org/ago-webinars-and-supporting-documents/

Just scroll down and find the archives of the newsletters. Her August newsletter is PACKED with up-to-date information that we, as church music professionals can use, including on-line programming for chapters and other resources. Take time to see how our National Offices are working to get us through this "virtual" fog!

Another link from the National website (type in AGOHQ.ORG) is accessed by clicking on the **Education** tab, and then click on the **Upcoming Webinars, Recitals and Workshops.** You can see options that will be presented by the Committee on Continuing Professional Education (CCPE) as well as access past webinars.

Dues Assistance Offered by our Chapter !

Because the NNJ chapter is in a secure financial position, the Executive Board has expressed a desire to aid those members who find it difficult to pay their AGO dues. Members of the Northern NJ chapter may request a one-time payment of their dues for the coming year (2020-2021). If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity, you must contact David Macfarlane by email davidmacfarlane58 @gmail.com (preferred) or by phone 201-424-0463. Of course all members of the Executive Board are available to answer your questions.

Northern New Jersey Chapter of The American Guild of Organists

Presents

Welcome Back, Members!

Monday, September 14, 2020 • 7:30 P.M. • Via Zoom

Join us as we begin our new program year with a Virtual Ceremony to officially install our newly elected Chapter Officers.

We are delighted to welcome **Elizabeth George** as our Guest Speaker. In her presentation titled **"What's Ahead for the AGO? Fostering Sustainable Chapters and Engaged Members,"** Elizabeth will open by taking us on a tour of all the resources on National's website at <u>www.agohq.org</u>, lead us in lively discussion of what Chapters may look like in the future, and end with a Q&A session.

Since this is a Guild of Organists, our own Chapter Treasurer **David Macfarlane** will open and close the program with music from the console — always a treat!

If you plan to join us, please contact **Claudia Smith**, **NNJAGO Sub Dean**, at **musiclady1647@gmail.com** with your preferred contact information. Zoom credentials will be emailed to members prior to the presentation. **The meeting will open at 7:15 to give us time to gather and to address any technical difficulties. The Program will begin promptly at 7:30 P.M.**



Elizabeth George, CMM , Guest Speaker

Elizabeth serves as Director of Member Engagement and Chapter Development for the American Guild of Organists. She studied voice at Indiana University and the Juilliard School and has performed professionally with regional opera companies, in musical theater tours and has sung in many church choirs. She has worked as a director of membership for the US Tour Operators Association, Shop Environments Association and Meeting Professionals International, implementing strategies to recruit and retain members, as well as developing key markets for global expansion. In addition to her certification in meeting management, Elizabeth works as a trainer and facilitator regarding strategic planning.

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OTHER CHAPTER MEETINGS PLANNED:

- Tuesday, September 8 at 1pm: Program Committee Meeting on Zoom
- Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 7:00 pm: Executive Committee Meeting on Zoom
- Sunday, October 25 at 3pm: The recital by Michael Caraher, the Rodland Scholarship recipient at St. Olaf College, is still scheduled but as of this date, nothing can be confirmed because of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. Stay tuned!