



Central Hudson Valley Chapter
of the
**American Guild of
Organists**

Newsletter – February 2023

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Chapter Web Site

www.chvago.org

Letter from the Dean

Greetings to all members and friends of CHVAGO!

The month of February is known for more than one thing. Of course, probably the most “prominent” one is Valentine's Day (just go look in your local grocery or drug store if you doubt me on that score)! But the one I wish to focus on in this letter is Black History month. My reasons are simple – the more examples of MUSIC that I have heard in recent years from composers of color, the more I have been utterly ASTOUNDED at the quality and craftsmanship that has gone into creating them! It is a shame we are only now becoming more aware of this – but better late than never!

Our chapter is going to do its part as well with our upcoming Members' Recital this Sunday at 3:00 PM at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in downtown Poughkeepsie, when all of the repertoire to be performed will be by black composers! I urge all of you to join me in attending because it will be a very rich experience for all of us! Composers include David Hurd of New York City (now the resident musician at St. Mary the Virgin ... sometimes also known as “smokey Mary's”), Adolphus Hailstork (don't you just LOVE to say that name?),

as well as Carl Haywood, Ruth Norman, George Walker, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, and Florence B. Price.

I have to admit my own personal admiration for Florence Price, though, because of one simple fact – she and I share the same home city of Little Rock, Arkansas! So having her receive so much exposure now that such a large amount of her compositions have been discovered in a former home in suburban Chicago has been very exciting for me, and for SO many others who have come to appreciate the amazing diversity and quality of everything she crafted! The entire collection is now being housed and curated at The University of Arkansas where I spent one semester but studying architecture ... before I “saw the light” and thankfully switched back to music!

ALL of this music promises to be revealing, though, so how fortunate we are that our sub-dean Laura Russell has been able to put this outstanding program together. And this is going to be the FIRST of two programs, actually, with the second one following in March (see the calendar for details) at St. George's Episcopal Church in downtown Newburgh, where all of the repertoire will be women composers! Since both parishes share the same rector, Mary Barber, we are doubly blessed!

And speaking of Newburgh – I hope everyone has been able to read the OUSTANDING front page article in the most recent issue of *The American Organist* about the restored instrument in Calvary Presbyterian Church there. This remarkable vintage Aeolian-Skinner organ was almost lost to the disastrous fire there about two years ago, but the church has now “come back from the ashes.” A very interesting fact about the instrument is that some ranks of pipes found there actually were stamped with the name “Washington Cathedral,” since the two organs were being built at the same time! A little swapping here and there, you know, was apparently not all that uncommon a practice within the Skinner shop! Hopefully we will at some future time be able to feature a visit there in one of our monthly meetings. SO much richness to share both this month and next ... and down the road an organ crawl to visit the new Schoenstein organ in Garrison. Aren't you glad YOU live in the Hudson Valley?

Everyone be well and best wishes to those who will be starting the Lenten observance with Ash Wednesday in only a few more weeks.



Benjamin T. Vise, MM, Dean
Central Hudson Valley Chapter of AGO

Membership News

Thanks to Margaret Small, who first brought our attention to the cover photo and article about the organ at Calvary Presbyterian Church in Newburgh. As she wrote, “Exciting to see on TAO–FEB cover – Our own CALVARY PRESBY ORGAN IN NEWBURGH, NY ! AND a 4-page Article with Photos & History, as well ! Usually we see Organs in Other States, Towns, Countries Abroad, etc. but this time.....right in Newburgh, NY !! Blessings from Margaret Small, now in Bangor, Maine (30 yrs in Cornwall-Hudson, NY)

List of Organ Substitutes

The following chapter members have indicated on their membership application that they will serve as substitute organists. Please contact them directly if you would like more information. Please note that only CHVAGO members in good standing are eligible to be included in this list, unless otherwise approved by the Board. More information about each substitute is provided on our web site at www.chvago.org. If you would like your name listed, or if you need to update your information, please contact the editor using the information above.

Meredith Baker	845-565-3321	Eric Hepp	845-489-2625
Joe Bertolozzi	845-337-1216	Wesley Joseph	845-849-0104
Luca Cantone	703-554-5906	Maris Kristapsons	845-635-0411
Greg Citarella	845-559-4013	Janet Nickerson	845-294-8138
Richard C. Ehlenberg	845-687-6013	Michael Oosterhout	301-910-5307
James Fitzwilliam	845-849-3606	Edward Palange	914-213-3460
Justan Foster	518-965-2389	Joanne Reed	845-361-3474
Carl J. Geiselhart	845-457-4830	Nancy Vanderlee	845-266-3858
Susan Guse	845-242-1478	Benjamin Vise	330-327-0895
Larry Hazard	845-452-0119	Christopher Wynkoop	845-926-7389

List of Organ Teachers

The following chapter members have indicated on their membership application that they are accepting new organ students. Please note that only CHVAGO members in good standing are eligible to be included in this list. More information about each teacher is provided on our web site at www.chvago.org. If you would like your name listed, please contact the editor using the information above.

Meredith Baker	914-261-0028	Janet Nelson Nickerson	845-294-8138
Gregory Citarella	845-559-4013	Michael Oosterhout	301-910-5307
Justan Foster	518-965-2389	Benjamin Vise	330-327-0895
Larry Hazard	845-452-0119		

Deadline for Next Newsletter

We are always glad to receive input for the chapter newsletter in the form of calendar items, reviews of recent concerts and events, biographies, letters, photographs, etc. In order to make sure these submissions can be processed in a timely fashion, please make sure they are received by the 23rd of each month. However, material such as calendar items may be submitted at any time; even if the material may not make it into the printed newsletter, it can be quickly posted on our web site at www.chvago.org. You may submit newsletter or web site material by mail, e-mail, fax or phone. Just contact the editor, Susan LaGrande, using the information given above. Remember, the deadline for the next printed newsletter, to be available the first week in March 2023, is February 23.

Editor's Corner

This newsletter is published by the Central Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The editor is:

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Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

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Position Openings

Editor's Note - Hiring institutions are encouraged to check references from applicants' previous employers. It should not be assumed that applicants who learn of position openings via these listings are endorsed by the Central Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Position openings are listed without charge for three months unless an extension is requested. If you would like to place a listing, please contact the editor, Susan LaGrande at 845-226-6496 or email chvagoboard@gmail.com.

Editor's Note – Because there are so many new position openings this month, we are choosing not to list all of them in their entirety. If you have questions about a position, please contact the prospective employer directly using the information provided in the complete listing online at http://www.chvago.org/CHVAGO_Positions.php. If you need help accessing the online information, please call Susan LaGrande at 845-226-6496.

MUSIC LEADER - (Part-Time)

CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - WOODSTOCK, NY

11/28/2022

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - NEWBURGH, NY

11/28/2022

MUSIC DIRECTOR - (Part Time)

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - CORNWALL, NY

10/22/2022

VOCAL/BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR, MUSIC DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)

COBLESKILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - COBLESKILL, NY

10/22/2022

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH - KENT, CT

10/15/2022

CHORAL DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH - POUGHKEEPSIE, NY

10/9/2022

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC - (Full-Time)
ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST - GOSHEN, NY
Filled 12/2022

PROFESSOR AND DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC - (Full-Time)
ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY - DUNWOODIE (YONKERS, NY)
9/17/2022

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SPRING VALLEY - SPRING VALLEY, NY
Filled 12/16/2022

ORGANIST AND MUSIC DIRECTOR (Part-time)
OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH - FISHKILL, NY
5/27/2022

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST - Part-Time
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - MIDDLETOWN, NY
3/28/2022

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST - Part-Time
**THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-ST.JOSEPH AND OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL -
POUGHKEEPSIE, NY**
3/12/2022

Calendar of Events

If you are interested in having an event posted on this calendar, please contact the web site administrator, [Susan LaGrande](#). Events are selected for inclusion based on their relevance and interest to the members of the Central Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The chapter reserves the right to decline or withdraw listings at any time.

Sunday, February 12, 2023 3:00 PM NOTE REVISED DATE	Members' Recital, Part One This year we will divide up our Members' Recital into two concerts, both focused on music written by under-represented composers. On February 12th we will feature organ music written by people of color. Eight members of our Chapter will play works including "Passacaglia and Fugue" written by Florence B. Price (1887-1953) and "Improvisation on We Shall Overcome" written by living composer Carl Haywood (b. 1942). Click here for a printable flyer. The concert is free, and there will be a freewill donation to support the ongoing work of the Catharine Street Center, which works with children and families in the City of Poughkeepsie. St. Paul's Episcopal Church , 161 Mansion Street, Poughkeepsie. Info: 845-232-8601
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Saturday, March 25, 2023

3:00 PM

NOTE REVISED DATE

Members' Recital, Part Two

This year we will divide up our Members' Recital into two concerts, both focused on music written by under-represented composers. In March we will feature music written by women. The program will primarily feature organ works, but there will be several choral pieces as well. Knowing that many of us are not necessarily familiar with the wealth of music written by female composer at all levels of difficulty, we will send out an email to our members with links to suggested organ works. Look for an email about this, and for the list to appear on our website as well. Free will donation to benefit *Fearless!*, an organization in Newburgh that provides shelter and assistance to victims of interpersonal violence through prevention, advocacy and education. [St. George's Episcopal Church](#), 105 Grand Street, Newburgh Info: 845-561-5355.

Central Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
presents

A Concert of Organ Music composed by African Americans

In honor of Black History Month

performed by organists from CHVAGO

Sunday, February 12th 2023 at 3:00pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 161 Mansion St. Poughkeepsie, NY



David Hurd



Adolphus Hailstork



Carl Haywood



Ruth Norman



George Walker



Samuel Coleridge-Taylor



Florence B. Price

Free-will Donations will benefit The Catharine Street Center

“serving and empowering children and families since 1922”



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Soli Deo Gloria