

A Letter From the Dean

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the AGO,

I'm sure I speak for all of us when I say a heartfelt thank you to our past dean, Rhonda Edgington for her multiple years of service. That was a long stint and especially challenging toward the end with the circumstances of the last year. We know you are one of the busiest people around, Rhonda, and we appreciate the time you have devoted to the chapter.

So I'm "back in the saddle again" after fifteen years since I last served as dean of the Flint Chapter. It is a pleasure to work with the fine board that we have. We have met twice this summer, and hope you will be as enthused as we are about the programs we have set up for the year. You will notice that there are opportunities for participation.

I believe strongly in the guild. It offers inspiration, education, and fellowship. Of course, as you all know, in order to get your money's worth, you need to be present. Please mark the dates of our meetings on your calendar. We are looking to expand our membership, and you can help us with this by inviting folks who may be unaware of what we have to offer. Although I had been in the Southwest Michigan and Muskegon chapters, I got started in the Flint chapter because a neighboring organist called and offered me a ride to a meeting. Please consider doing this, maybe for someone who is already a member. Our chapter will be only as strong as our bonds with each other.

I will be looking forward to seeing you at Christ Memorial on Monday, Sept. 27, 6 p.m. with a potluck and member recital. See below for full details. This is a sharing time more than a recital. We will be happy with less than perfection.

Keep your spirits up in these challenging times by coming to AGO!

With warm wishes and high hopes for a great year,

Julia Colingsworth

September Meeting – Potluck and "New Music Suitable for Worship" Recital

We will open our 2021-2022 program year on Monday, September 27 at Christ Memorial Church, and we'd love to have you play at the meeting.

It will start at 6:00 P.M. with a potluck dinner in the CMC Gathering Area. Bring your favorite potluck dish and your own table service, and bring a guest if at all possible. The church will be open for us at 5:00 to set stops and/or run through piece(s). Alex Cross (CMC organist) said that he could arrange other times for practice if necessary. You'd just have to contact him to set up a time (alexander.cross@hope.edu).

The music portion will start about 7:00 P.M. in the sanctuary. Organists who are playing are being asked to play no more than 5 minutes of music (1 piece or possibly 2 very short pieces). The theme is "New Music Suitable for Worship". We were thinking that it would be nice to have the majority of the performers playing Advent/Christmas music suitable for worship, but it's not limited to that season. The music should be at a level accessible to the average church organist - easy to medium difficult. Nothing too hard.

Rick Van Oss has lined up a few players and is looking for more, so please let him know as soon as possible if you are willing to participate. You can let him know what you will be playing at least a week before the meeting. We'd like to include as much information in the program about the pieces as possible - title, composer/arranger, publisher, name of book the piece is in, catalogue number of the piece/book, and copyright date.

Thanks for considering doing this. Rick's contact information is

Rick Van Oss
616-212-7272
rvanoss@hotmail.com

AGO Year of the Young Organist Complimentary Membership

The AGO National Council is committed to membership recruitment, retention, and growth within our organization. During the **Year of the Young Organist**, July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022, any individual under the age of 30 can become a member or renew her/his membership for free as part of this program. Events and new initiatives will be held throughout the year. [Click here](#) for more information.

2021-2022 Calendar		
Mon Sep 20, 7:30 p.m.	Hope College Annual Donia Organ Recital - Nicole Keller	Hope College Miller Concert Hall, Holland
Mon Sep 27, 6:00 p.m.	Potluck and members recital	Christ Memorial Church, Holland
Mon Oct 25, 7:30 p.m.	Aging Voices - Linda Dykstra, retired Hope College voice professor	Third Reformed Church, Holland
Mon Nov 22, 7:30 p.m.	Brenda Portman – Significant 20 th and 21 st Century Composers for the Organ	Hope Church, Holland
Mon Jan 10, 6:00 p.m.	Annual Epiphany party	Linda Fulton's house
Mon Feb 21, 7:30 p.m.	South side Holland organ crawl, ending up at the First Reformed Church's music library	Starting location TBA
Mon Mar 21, 7:30 p.m.	Larry Visser's Music	2 nd Reformed Church, Zeeland
Mon Apr 25, 7:30 p.m.	Music for organ with other instruments	TBA
Mon Jun 20, 6:00	Annual members picnic	Judy Koeman's house

Chapter Officers for 2021-2022

Dean – Julia Colingsworth

Sub-Dean - Linda Fulton

Secretary - Karen Howells

Treasurer - Gordon Bruns

Board Member - Rick Van Oss

Student Board Member - Alex Cross

Newsletter Editor - Paul Dalman

Website – hollandareaago.org