



*American Guild of*  
**ORGANISTS**  
Central Arkansas Chapter

# THE CLARION

## *April 2024*

[www.cacago.org](http://www.cacago.org)

### **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.

### **2023-2024 Officers**

Jason Saugey, *dean*  
Beau Baldwin, *sub-dean*  
Jess Anthony, *treasurer*  
James Stanley, *secretary*

### **Executive Committee**

Colin MacKnight (2024)  
John Alec Briggs (2025)  
Patrick Jennings (2026)

## **From the Dean**

Greetings, Friends!

I hope you and your choirs all enjoyed a successful week of music throughout the past days, including a glorious and festive Easter Day. I don't need to tell you that these celebrations and observances require a tremendous amount of work and stamina, not only in the shaping and preparation, but also in offering. But what satisfying work that is! Those whom you serve not only on these days, but every week through the year are grateful for your efforts. Now, I hope that you make time for yourself this week to relax a bit and to recover as we look ahead through Paschaltide toward the culmination of the year on the Day of Pentecost.

April is a busy month for us in the CACAGO. On April 11, we will gather at the Cathedral of St. Andrew in Little Rock to hear an exciting concert played honoring the legacy shared by several of our colleagues and friends in Central Arkansas, that of organ pedagogy giant Robert Ellis. Then, on Saturday, April 27, St. Peter's Episcopal Church and First United Methodist Church, Conway will co-host a Pedals, Pipes, & Pizza event beginning at 10:00 a.m. at FUMC. This is an educational program designed to introduce young people to the pipe organ and to organ playing. Through organ demonstrations, presentations, and multiple opportunities to sit at the organ themselves and try it out, we hope to inspire some to take a closer look at

the instrument some day to be counted among the next generation of organists and organ enthusiasts. As much as we seasoned organists love to attend concerts, the future of the Guild—especially post-pandemic—lies less in printing programs, but more in offering hands-on opportunities for education and outreach such as the PPP event, masterclasses, and choral and organ repertoire reading sessions.

If you have a piano studio, encourage your students to attend PPP on April 27 in Conway. If you have friends who are piano teachers, pass along the word to them. Be watching the CACAGO Facebook page for further information regarding Pedals, Pipes, & Pizza, our schedule, and ways to register. The event is free and will include a pizza lunch for all participants and adult helpers.

Our election nominations committee have done their work in producing a slate for the 2024 ballot. As usual, members will have the option to vote by mail or in person at the final meeting of the year in May. Be looking for your mail-in ballot in the latter half of the month, as we approach our May meeting. After the tallying of votes at that meeting, we will announce the officers for 2024/25.

I hope to see you all April 11. And, be sure to bring a guest (or two!).

Christ's Peace,  
Jason Saugey, CAGO

## **Upcoming CACAGO Programs**

**Thursday, April 11, 7:30 P.M.**  
**The Twentieth Annual Concert**  
**Celebrating the Life of**  
**Robert Young Ellis**  
**Adam Chlebek, organist**  
Cathedral of Saint Andrew  
617 S. Louisiana St.  
Little Rock, Arkansas

**Saturday, April 27, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza**  
First United Methodist Church  
St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
Conway, Arkansas

## APRIL MEETING

The Twentieth Annual Concert  
Celebrating the Life of Robert Young Ellis  
Adam Chlebek, *organist*

🕒 **Thursday, April 11, 2024**

6:00 P.M. – Punchbowl

6:30 P.M. – Dinner & Meeting

7:30 P.M. – Concert

📍 **Cathedral of Saint Andrew**

617 S. Louisiana St.

Little Rock, Arkansas

**DINNER RESERVATIONS:** The cost for dinner is \$20.00. For dinner reservations, contact James Stanley via e-mail ([dinner@cacago.org](mailto:dinner@cacago.org)), or voice/text (229) 561-1177, or complete the dinner reservation form on the chapter website.

**Dinner reservations are due by  
noon, Tuesday, April 9!**

### Upcoming Newsletter

The May 2024 *Clarion* will be published Monday, April 29. If you have any items to submit (news, events, announcements, job postings, personal ads, opinion pieces, prayer requests) please send them to [adam@cacago.org](mailto:adam@cacago.org). The deadline is Friday, April 26.

### Organ Substitutes Needed!

We all need subs regularly—at least those of us who need to be away on vacation from time to time or for whatever reason. There're also those instances when others might contact us for leads on someone we know who might be available to play a wedding or a funeral. Often when those calls come, it's difficult to brainstorm names on the spot. In the past, the Chapter has maintained a current listing of colleagues willing to serve as subs or play weddings and funerals at various other venues others than one's own. We're currently in the process of revitalizing this list. If you are available as a Sunday sub, a holy day sub, or just for weddings and funerals, please contact John Alec Briggs, who will be compiling the list. You may contact him by email: [jbriggs@stmargaretschurch.org](mailto:jbriggs@stmargaretschurch.org).

### Organ Recital: Jess Anthony, organist

Friday, May 17 • 7:00 P.M.

First Presbyterian Church  
800 Scott St  
Little Rock, AR 72201-4614

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the installation of the Nichols & Simpson, Inc. organ.

## Biography of Adam Chlebek

Adam Chlebek is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, where he studied with Jonathan Moyer. A Polish-American from Chicago, IL, he earned second prize at the 2022 Taylor Organ Competition and has performed throughout the United States and Poland. Chlebek has participated in masterclasses with organists Janette Fishell, William Porter, and Arvid Gast. In 2022, he served as the Sacred Music Intern at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

At Oberlin, he also focused on choral singing and conducting. He sang in the Oberlin Musical Union, under

the direction of Gregory Ristow, and Collegium Musicum, under the direction of Steven Plank and has studied choral conducting with Jodi Kerchner and Ben Johns.

Adam is an avid jazz pianist; he has participated in Oberlin’s Performance and Improvisation Ensemble, where he has performed with Jamey Haddad, Jay Ashby, and Becca Stevens. He is also the keyboardist for The Surrealists, a psych-rock band based in Evanston, IL.

Adam is currently pursuing a Master of Music degree at the Eastman School of Music, where he studies with Nathan Laube.

## Treasurer’s Report

INCOME		EXPENSES	
<b>REVENUE</b>		<b>ADMINISTRATIVE</b>	
Dues	\$2,780.00	Dues to National	
Ad Sales		Catering/Reception	\$1,838.56
Meals	\$1,345.00	Marketing/Public Relations	
Carry Over (FY23)	\$4,614.91	Remaining Expenses	\$176.00
Other/Mail			\$2,014.56
	<u>\$8,739.91</u>		
<b>SUPPORT</b>		<b>ARTISTIC</b>	
Individuals	\$2,650.00	Artist Fees/Housing	\$7,544.11
Corporate/Church	\$3,905.20	Remaining Expenses (ACH)	
Endowment	\$1,304.03	Tech/Production	\$1,102.10
	<u>\$7,859.23</u>		<u>\$8,646.21</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	\$16,599.14	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$10,660.77
		<b>BALANCE</b>	\$5,938.37

## Arts Calendar

**Saturday, April 6 – 7:30 P.M.**

ASO Masterworks: The Planets  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Sunday, April 7 – 3:00 P.M.**

ASO Masterworks: The Planets  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Thursday, April 11 – 7:30 P.M.**

CACAGO: Adam Chlebek, organist  
Cathedral of Saint Andrew the Apostle  
Little Rock, AR

**Tuesday, April 16 – 7:00 P.M.**

ASO Chamber: Larsen & Moszkowski  
Clinton Presidential Center  
Little Rock, AR

**Thursday, April 25 – 7:30 P.M.**

CMSLR: Ariana Kim, violin  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
Little Rock, AR

**Thursday, April 25 – 7:30 P.M.**

LR Winds: Gershwin, Porgy, and More  
Second Presbyterian Church  
Little Rock, AR

**Friday, April 26 – 7:30 P.M.**

Arkansas Chamber Singers  
First Presbyterian Church  
Little Rock, AR

**Sunday, April 28 – 3:00 P.M.**

Arkansas Chamber Singers  
First Presbyterian Church  
Little Rock, AR

**Saturday, May 4 – 7:30 P.M.**

ASO Masterworks: Brahms Symphony 4  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Sunday, May 5 – 3:00 P.M.**

ASO Masterworks: Brahms Symphony 4  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Tuesday, May 7 – 7:00 P.M.**

ASO Chamber: Koetsier & Dvorak  
Clinton Presidential Center  
Little Rock, AR

**Saturday, May 11 – 7:30 P.M.**

ASO Pops: Arkansas Talent  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Sunday, May 12 – 3:00 P.M.**

ASO Pops: Arkansas Talent  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Friday, May 17 – 7:00 P.M.**

Organ Concert: Jess Anthony, organist  
First Presbyterian Church  
Little Rock, AR

**Sunday, June 9 – 7:00 P.M.**

LR Winds: A Star Spangled Salute!  
MacArthur Park  
Little Rock, AR