

WorcAGO Aggregated Newsletters mid March-April 2016

Coming up:

Monday **May 2** 7PM – Open Console at First Church, Sterling – **Ronna Davis**, host person

Sunday **May 15** 3PM **WorcAGO Composers' Concert**, Wesley Methodist, Worc.

Monday **May 23** 7PM – **Scholarship Recital** – First Unitarian– wait'll you hear their repertoire!

ANNUAL MEETING 6:30PM

Wednesday **Aug 3** Noon - **Sean Redrow**, organist - Mechanics Hall - FREE

Wednesday **Aug 10** Noon - **Brett Maguire**, organist - Mechanics Hall - FREE

Wednesday **Nov 30** Noon - All That (Holiday) Jazz (organ + jazz orchestra) - Mech Hall - FREE

Lois Toepfner Sends Greetings

Lois is recovering a little ahead of schedule from her fall at Mechanics Hall. She is at Fairlawn Rehab, but goes home on Monday. She is taking a leave of absence from her church job during May and June. We wish her continued speed with her recovery.

2016-17 WorcAGO Scholarship Recipients Announced

Congratulations all!

Isabelle Zhao

Isabelle is 9 years old and is a 4th grader at Floral Street School in Shrewsbury MA.

She is currently studying the piano with Mr. **Malcolm Halliday**. Isabelle enjoys listening to classical music and making her own little pieces of music. She played selections (such as "Andante from Sonata in C Major, K.545, W.A.Mozart", "Allegro con spirito from Sonata Op.36, No 6, Muzio Clementi", "Ave Maria, Burgmuller" and "Be Thou My Vision, Duet") for Sunday Services at the FCC in Shrewsbury since 2014. She would love to continue playing for services more and more, and singing in the Training Choir from time to time at church. While listening and watching Mr. Halliday playing the pipe organ at Sunday Services, Isabelle was inspired to learn how to play the organ and even tried playing the organ after piano lessons with Mr. Halliday. She is looking forward to a new opportunity to learn the organ with Mr. Halliday.

Lauren Engquist

Lauren Engquist has been taking organ lessons with **William Ness** for nearly two years, beginning when she was 11. She hopes to become a church organist. Lauren especially enjoys learning pieces by Bach and other Baroque composers. She has played piano for six years, and is currently a student of Inna Muravnik's at the Pakachoag Music School. This year, Lauren was selected to serve as the keyboardist for the band at Forest Grove Middle School in Worcester. Still, the organ is her great passion, and she hopes to spend the rest of her life studying, playing, and later, teaching this majestic instrument.

Christopher Lobo

Christopher Lobo is a pianist and has been studying music for eight years. He is currently studying piano at Pakachoag Music School with Mr. Vladimir Odinkikh.

Christopher is actively involved in the Music Ministry and plays the piano at St. George Catholic Church in Worcester. He has been substituting for the church organist when required and also plays for special church events. In addition to studying the piano, Christopher is currently studying the Saxophone and plans on studying Jazz music.

He is studying organ with Mr. **Malcolm Halliday** and his long term plans are to study music during his high school and college years and to get a church musician position and teach music to younger children.

Mengyuan Tang

Chinese Pianist Mengyuan Tang studied piano since 5, after her won the top prize in the Piano Competition when she was 6 years old, so far she had received numerous awards in national and international competitions including XINGHAI Piano Competition, TOYAMA Piano Competition, National “Kawai” Piano Competition, Hong Kong Piano Open Competition, etc. And she performed her first recital when she was 9 years old.

Mengyuan received a Bachelor of Music degree from China Conservatory of Music, where she chosen piano performance and education as her undergraduate major and got the highest scholarship and the top national scholarship. After the undergraduate study, she earned her Master’s Degree in Piano Performance from the Frost School of Music, University of Miami as a scholarship recipient under the tutelage of world’s renowned pianist and educator Santiago Rodriguez. Again, she was an outstanding student, had excellent academic honors during the school years and played many wonderful recitals in FL area.

Aside from being a piano performer, with her extensive experience as a teaching assistant taught at the University of Miami as well as many private students outside the university and in her native China. She also has lots of teaching experience from private lessons, trainer of piano competition, etc. She continues to enjoy a very active teaching and performing career teaches exclusively through MA area. piano performance link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOk_8cqxMBz9Qp5zoW1AwXw/videos

She will be studying organ with **Malcolm Halliday**.

Theresa Baleno

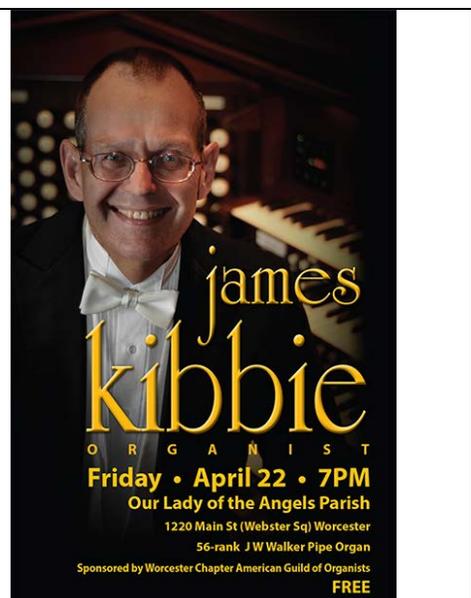
Theresa has taken piano lessons for 8 years, with local teachers and at the Boston Conservatory's Autism Higher Education program. She has also taken voice lessons for 4 years, and is a member of her church choir and the Greater Gardner Community Choir. She has perfect pitch and loves to improvise on songs and transpose them. She really enjoys learning all about music.

Theresa studies organ with **Marjorie Ness**, recently retired from Fitchburg State University and freelance organist and teacher.

Dr James Kibbie in Concert at Our Lady of the Angels, Worcester FREE

Reception/food & social networking in parish hall afterward

The organ was tuned on Monday, and the acoustics are always spectacular!

 <p>James Kibbie ORGANIST Friday • April 22 • 7PM Our Lady of the Angels Parish 1220 Main St (Webster Sq) Worcester 56-rank J W Walker Pipe Organ Sponsored by Worcester Chapter American Guild of Organists FREE</p>	<p>Program Announced:</p> <p>Pièce d’Orgue, BWV 572 Johann Sebastian Bach Trio in C Minor, BWV 21/1a J.S. Bach Fantasia and Fugue in A Minor, BWV 561 J.S. Bach Four Chorale Preludes on “Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her” Ernst Pepping Postlude for the Office of Compline Jehan Alain Litanies Alain Improvisation on “Te Deum” Charles Tournemire Adagio from <i>Symphony VI</i>, Op. 42/2 Charles-Marie Widor Sweet Sixteenths (A Concert Rag for Organ) Wm Albright Variations on “Victimæ Paschali Laudes” Jiří Ropek</p>
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April Worcester Organ Music Scene is Filled with Excitement

Catch up on the happenings at recent concerts . . .



Last Sunday, the WPI Brass Ensemble joined local organists at Mechanics Hall for “*Hooked on Brass*” celebrating Mechanics Hall’s Hook Pipe Organ and collaborations with WPI over the last 152 years of both institutions. A bountiful audience of 250 enjoyed the variety-filled program in the grand setting of the Great Hall, followed by a reception.



Organists Leonardo Ciampa, Will Sherwood, Malcolm Halliday, Sean Redrow, Lucia Clemente Falco and (front row) Lois Toeppner (seated and in pain) performed solo, duet, and collaborations with brass and percussion.



Unfortunately, as she was exiting the organ console platform area, Lois Toepfner tripped and fell and fractured her tibia – altho she’s not a theater pipe organist, she’s sad that her *Tibia* rank just isn’t working properly! Shown above are the EMT folks carrying her down the stage steps after the concert. She will be in rehab for several weeks. We’ll update you on her status. We wish her a speedy recovery!

... Earlier in the week ...



William Ness delighted a noontime audience with a fun filled and virtuoso concert of great organ music – *Rare Gems from the 19th Century*. The extreme technique that was required to perform this repertoire (especially on a heavy-action tracker!) was incredible, and it put the Hook through a workout. In the course of the concert, one stopknob came unglued (pictured above), and one stop action tracker broke in the chamber where it was attached to the swell chest slider. The concert paused while Will Sherwood ran into the chambers to find and disable the errant rank. Due to the now unusable swell reeds, William had to re-register the last (and most complex) piece WHILE he was performing.

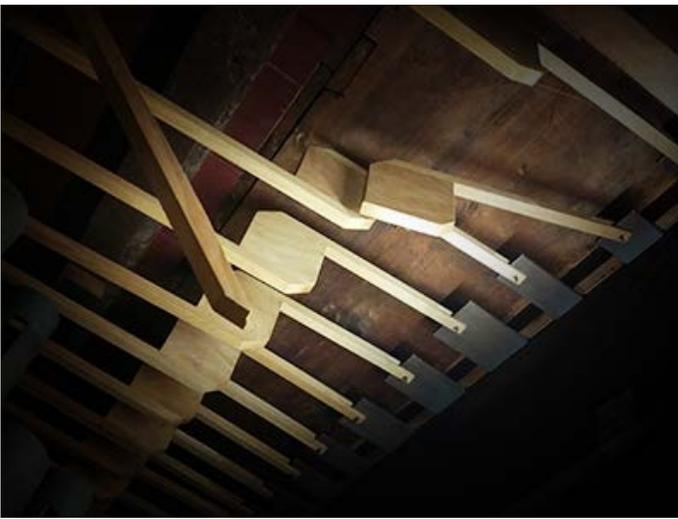
It really was **Variations** on Star Spangled Banner (Dudley Buck), more variants than he had planned.

But still after all the challenges, he masterfully delivered an astounding performance where no one would have ever known he was re-registering (including manual changes).

The Hook (and William!) were versatile enough to still play the involved repertoire!

Congratulations, William!

(The following day, Stefan Maier repaired the two items and they were perfect for Sunday’s concert)



A hanging stop action tracker, adjacent to its properly connected neighbors.

Meanwhile still earlier in the week . . .



Abe Ross played his senior recital at Holy Cross, the culmination of his four-year journey as Organ Scholar. The concert of Lubeck, Bruhns, Bach, Hindemith, and Ritter was masterfully and musically performed. There was one mishap with the ordering of pages in the score, but Abe must have had it memorized, because the Bach Toccata, complex as it was, did not drop a note and was perfect! Congratulations Abe, and best wishes for your continued studies at Oberlin

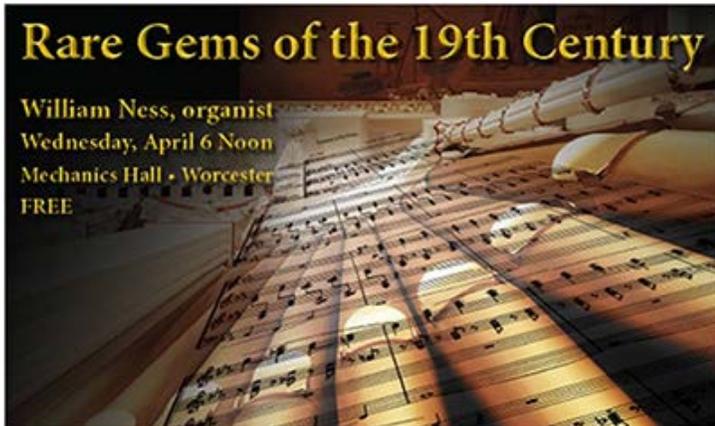
Coming up Across Town . . . Mark your calendars:

WorcAGO Chapter Program Friday 4/22 FREE

James Kibbie is Professor of Organ at the University of Michigan and maintains a full schedule of concert, recording, and festival engagements throughout North America and Europe. Dr. Kibbie is internationally renowned as an authority on the organ music of Johann Sebastian Bach. He has performed the complete cycle of Bach organ works in a series of eighteen recitals and is in constant demand as a Bach recitalist and clinician. His recent recordings of the complete Bach works on historic baroque organs in Germany have been welcomed with enthusiastic critical and audience acclaim. Thanks to generous support from Dr. Barbara Furin Sloat in honor of J. Barry Sloat, the University of Michigan is offering Dr. Kibbie's recordings of all 270 Bach works as free internet downloads at www.BlockMRecords.org/bach.

NESS AT MECHANICS HALL – What Great Repertoire!

Joined by Krisjon Imperio for a 4-feet pedal duet!



Program Announced:

Toccata	Leo Sowerby
Legende	Marco Enrico Bossi
Fantasy in Eb Major	Camille Saint-Saens
The Squirrel	Powell Weaver
Adagio	Roger Nyquist
Intermezzo	Joseph Callaerts
Coronation March from Le Prophete	Giacomo Meyerbeer
Bombardo-Carillon for four feet	Charles-Valentin Alkan
Variations on The Star Spangled Banner	Dudley Buck

Vermont Celebrates Easter with “New” Hook – A Success Story

[A David Moore](#) Co. refurbishes a silent Boston Hook transported to a Bangor ME Congregational Church



On Easter Sunday, for the first time in 50 years, the voices of the faithful inside the [Hammond Street Congregational Church](#) in Bangor will be joined by the intonations of a new pipe organ.

After decades of electronics, Bangor church has pipe organ again

You've probably heard (WorcAGO Newsletter 7/29/14) about the unusual bequest left by a parishioner who had disagreed with the installation of an electronic instrument.

When the first note is played Sunday on the 155-year-old instrument, it will signal the end to a **decades-long grudge from a late congregant**, who split from the church when its original pipe organ was silenced a half-century ago. That man, [Waldo Libbey](#), vehemently disagreed with the church's decision to replace its pipe organ with an electronic one.

According to the Rev. Mark Doty, the original organ, built in the mid-19th century, was discarded in the mid-1960s — except for its case and facade pipes. Libbey died in 2009, and in his will, he left the church **\$183,000 for the sole purpose of installing a new pipe organ**. If one could not be found within 10 years, the money would go to other charities. >>> [Read the article](#)

Member Directory

Our membership is always searchable online, but from time to time we update a PDF that has the complete information with pictures.

If you haven't already, please upload your headshot picture for our member directory.

Your dean especially is getting on in years, and likes to remember faces to be able to say hello at music events.

We have posted **for a short time** the latest **WorcAGO member directory** – download a copy to have on your computer or to print.

worcestera.go.org/members/Worcester%20AGO%20Member%20Directory%20March%202016.pdf

Read past newsletters online – see the aggregated emails formatted into PDF files.

<http://worcestera.go.org/Newsletters/directory.php>

TAX TIPS FOR MUSICIANS

Consider deducting . . .

(a summary/overview from the links below that may relate more to local church-music employment)

This is informational and brainstorming only, always consult your tax preparer for your specific legal and financial situation

- Instruments/maintenance/tuning, equipment/accessories/shoes/"uniforms"(robes, etc), depreciation for instruments/tools/library
- Office Supplies, scores/books, CDs, online subscriptions/access
- Subscriptions/dues, arts-related/museum/etc fees/dues/memberships [Note: *get your church to pay for your AGO & denominational dues!*]
- Travel expenses, travel between "jobs", business meals (or per-diem), Business-related gifts
- Utilities, phone/cell/internet, practice time/associated costs, camera, web-related
- Computer-related expenses, software (music and supporting tools)
- Lessons, coaching, consulting, medical related to performing (chiropractic/massage/therapy to compensate for issues related to performing)
- Losses from theft
- Be flexible in how you separate expenses associated with salaried tasks vs. income from other sources.

Here are some good resources that go into great detail, explanations, and brainstorming:

- www.musicbizacademy.com/knab/articles/taxtips.htm
- [www.peterirvinelaw.com/pdf/Tax for Musicians.pdf](http://www.peterirvinelaw.com/pdf/Tax%20for%20Musicians.pdf)
- blog.sonicbids.com/taxes-101-what-self-employed-musicians-need-to-know
- (*less helpful for local-only church musicians ...*) www.local802afm.org/2013/02/all-tax-tips-for-musicians/

Music Score Binding/Spine Mini-Clinic at the Next First Monday 4/7 Lunch

Bring a few scores where you need the binding taped – and we'll supply a limited amount of 2" and 1.5" and 1" binding tape to **keep your spine from falling apart**. A sort of chiropractic for your volumes.

St Paul's Console Was Open for Your Playing – Monday 3/7 - What a glorious sound!



[Specs and history](#) Cathedral of St Paul – corners of Chatham & High Streets (near Main and Austin)

Joe Policelli was our historic guide to this revitalized instrument.

See how wonderfully the various builders' work throughout the years (Johnson, Casavant, Wicks, Russell) has been reworked to create an extraordinary sound in the Cathedral space.

A rare hands-on opportunity!

Thursday Lunches Continue to be a Big Hit for Networking & Local News



Hope to see you next month at Peppercorns – Thursday 4/7 Noon. We think that the renovated Tweeds (now called Oak Barrel) will be ready for May or June.

Mark Your Calendars

Sunday April 3, 2016 3:00 PM

Holy Cross Chapel Artists Series

St. Joseph Memorial Chapel, College of the Holy Cross, One College Street

Cost: Free

Performing: **Abraham Ross, organist**

Details: Abraham Ross, Holy Cross Organ Scholar of the class of 2016 - free admission - program: to be announced

No additional information has been released.