

James E. Thomashower, CAE
Biographical Sketch

James Thomashower serves as executive director of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), a position he has held since January, 1998. Overseeing a budget of \$2 million and a staff of 10, he is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Guild's national headquarters in New York, including cultivation and acquisition of major gifts and grants, the content of the Guild's web site, and providing support for the National Council, its committees and task forces.

Mr. Thomashower entered the field of association management in 1983 when he joined the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as its manager of research and communications. He served as NASBA's executive director from 1988-1994, and then as Executive Vice President of the National Society of Accountants from 1995-1997 before joining the AGO as its chief executive in 1998. Mr. Thomashower also has served as president of the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards, chairman of the New York Sierra Club Photography Committee, and on the boards of directors of the National Music Council and the Cold Spring/Garrison Area Chamber of Commerce, among other organizations. He currently serves as president of the Philipstown Reform Synagogue.

A 1973 graduate of Columbia University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English, Mr. Thomashower was awarded the Certified Association Executive (CAE) designation from the American Society of Association Executives in 2000. He resides in Garrison, N.Y., with his wife and daughter.

Media Contacts:

Bill Krenn
The Phelps Group for AGO
Santa Monica, CA 90401
310-752-4400, x116
bkrenn@thephelpsgroup.com

Kristina Irwin
The Phelps Group for AGO
Santa Monica, CA 90401
310-752-4400, x209
kristina_irwin@thephelpsgoup.com

James Thomashower
America Guild of Organists
New York, NY 10115
(212) 870-2311 x.4300
jet@agohq.org

Margaret R. Evans
Biographical Sketch

Dr. Margaret Evans is professor emerita of Music and University Organist at Southern Oregon University and music director at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Medford, OR. She currently serves as national vice president of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), where her duties include chairing the Professional Networking and Public Relations Committee.

In addition, she is responsible for coordinating a year-long celebration of the organ, designated as the International Year of the Organ (July, 2008 - June, 2009). The showcase event of that celebration will be an Organ Spectacular, which is being held on October 19, 2008 and will feature premieres of an original commissioned work by Stephen Paulus.

A veteran of many organ recitals throughout the United States, Dr. Evans has performed at regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists and the Summer Organ Festival in Balboa Park, San Diego. She also served as convention coordinator for the northwest regional convention of the American Guild of Organists held in southern Oregon in 1997.

Dr. Evans holds degrees from Chatham College, the University of Michigan, and the Eastman School of Music. She also earned the Performer's Certificate in Organ from Eastman.

The author of numerous articles for *The American Organist* and *The Diapason*, Dr. Evans is a member of the American Guild of Organists, the Association of Anglican Musicians, the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, the American Choral Directors Association, and Phi Beta Kappa.

Media Contacts:

Bill Krenn
The Phelps Group for AGO
Santa Monica, CA 90401
310-752-4400, x116
bkrenn@thephelpsgroup.com

Kristina Irwin
The Phelps Group for AGO
Santa Monica, CA 90401
310-752-4400, x209
kristina_irwin@thephelpsgoup.com

James Thomashower
America Guild of Organists
New York, NY 10115
(212) 870-2311 x.4300
jet@agohq.org