



# American Guild of Organists

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND THE AMERICAN ORGANIST MAGAZINE  
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## **AGO PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTERS PROVIDE YOUTH AND ADULTS WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTENSIVE STUDY OF THE KING OF INSTRUMENTS**



**Nine Summer Programs for Teenagers and Adults Will Be Supported with Generous Funding from the Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America, the American Institute of Organbuilders, and the Jordan Organ Endowment**



NEW YORK CITY—The **American Guild of Organists (AGO)** is proud to announce seven **PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTERS (POEs)** for students aged 13–18, one **POE (Advanced)** for students entering grades 9–12; and one **POE+** for adults in 2016. Complete contact information for each Pipe Organ Encounter can be found in **THE AMERICAN ORGANIST** Magazine and online at [Agohq.org](http://Agohq.org). The summer schedule follows:

**POE** for ages 13–18

June 26–July 1 Waverly, Iowa  
July 10–15 Northhampton, Mass.  
July 17–22 Lexington, Ky.  
July 24–29 Baltimore, Md.  
July 24–29 Atlanta, Ga.  
July 25–30 Salt Lake City, Utah  
August 7–13 Palo Alto, Calif.

**POE (Advanced)** for grades 9–12

July 10–15 Cincinnati, Ohio

**POE+** for adults

July 10–14 Grantham, Pa.

The **PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTER (POE)** is an introduction to the pipe organ through instruction in organ playing, repertoire, history, design, and construction. These regional summer music institutes for teenage students provide private and group instruction in service playing and solo repertoire, opportunities to learn about the musical heritage of various religious denominations, and a chance for young musicians to meet others with similar interests. Piano or organ proficiency ranging from intermediate to advanced is required. Scholarship assistance is available.

— More —

The **POE (Advanced)** provides intermediate to advanced classes in areas such as organ literature, history, pipe organ construction and design, music theory, improvisation, conducting, and service playing for students who have achieved a high level of success in organ study. Scholarship assistance is available.

The **POE+** is a summer program filled with practical information and instruction for adult keyboard musicians interested in improving their service-playing skills. Participants will be introduced to basic organ skills through private instruction and classes. The weeklong experience will lead to greater confidence and competence at the organ.

Generous funding from the **Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America (APOBA)**, the **American Institute of Organbuilders (AIO)**, and the **Jordan Organ Endowment** will support the summer programs from coast to coast. “The AGO and APOBA have enjoyed a mutually beneficial relationship since 1975,” declared AGO Executive Director James Thomashower. “Likewise, the AIO has been active in supporting the Guild’s educational programs, beginning with their partnership in *Pulling Out All the Stops*, a video produced jointly by the AGO, AIO, APOBA, the Organ Historical Society, and the American Theater Organ Society in 1996. Collectively, APOBA and the AIO have contributed more than a half million dollars in support of the AGO’s educational programs during our long association. In addition, we are delighted to have received a ten-year commitment of support from the Jordan Organ Endowment at Columbus State University for our POE program. For all this committed generosity in supporting the Guild’s mission—to enrich lives through organ and choral music—we are deeply grateful.” ■

**POE site locations are selected by the AGO Committee on the New Organist and approved by the AGO National Council after application by AGO host chapters. Applications are available from AGO National Headquarters. The application deadline is April 15.**

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The **AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS** is the national professional association serving the organ and choral music fields. Founded in 1896 as both an educational and service organization, it sets and maintains high musical standards and promotes the understanding and appreciation of all aspects of organ and choral music. The mission of the AGO is to enrich lives through organ and choral music. The Guild currently serves approximately 16,000 members in more than 300 local chapters throughout the United States and abroad. *THE AMERICAN ORGANIST* Magazine, the official journal of the AGO and the Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America, reaches an audience of more than 20,000 each month. Visit the AGO online at [Agohq.org](http://Agohq.org).