



# 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**



**Eight 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, the Jordan Organ Endowment, and the NEA**



NEW YORK CITY—The **American Guild of Organists (AGO)** is proud to announce four **PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTERS (POEs)** for students aged 13–18, two **POE (Advanced)** for students entering grades 9–12; one **POE (Technical)** for students aged 16–23; and one **POE+** for adults in 2017. Complete contact information for each weeklong Pipe Organ Encounter can be found in **THE AMERICAN ORGANIST Magazine** and online at [Agohq.org/education/poe](http://Agohq.org/education/poe). The summer schedule follows:

**POE** for ages 13–18

June 11–16     Sioux Center, Iowa  
July 16–22     San Diego, Calif.  
July 16–21     Hartford, Conn.  
July 23–27     Winchester, Va.

**POE (Advanced)** for grades 9–12

June 25–30     Birmingham, Ala.  
July 23–28     Seattle, Wash.

**POE (Technical)** for ages 16–23

July 9–14     Berkeley Lake, Ga.

**POE+** for adults

June 25–30     San Antonio, Tex.

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 (Technical)** is a program designed for students who are interested in learning the art and craft of organ building. The event is hosted in the workshop of an organ builder working in cooperation with a local AGO chapter.

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)**, the **Jordan Organ Endowment**, and the **National Endowment for the Arts** 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. In addition, we are delighted to have received support from the Jordan Organ Endowment at Columbus State University for our POE program, as well as a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts supporting our educational activities this year.” ■

**POE site locations are selected by the AGO Committee on Pipe Organ Encounters and approved by the AGO National Council. Applications are available from AGO National Headquarters and online at [Agohq.org](http://Agohq.org). The application deadline is February 1, 2017, for 2018 Pipe Organ Encounters.**

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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 American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ. The Guild currently serves approximately 15,000 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).