
Finding Aid of the American Guild of Organists records 0019

Finding aid prepared by Rebecca Hirsch

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USC Libraries Special Collections

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Title: American Guild of Organists records

Collection number: 0019

Contributing Institution: USC Libraries Special Collections

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 32.66 Linear feet33 boxes

Date (bulk): Bulk, 1950-2000

Date (inclusive): 1908-2004

Abstract: Established in 1908, the Southern California Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is a local chapter of the national professional association serving the organ and choral music fields. This collection contains the records of the Los Angeles and Pasadena chapters of the American Guild of Organists, including administrative files, publications, and annual scrapbooks.

creator: American Guild of Organists. Los Angeles Chapter.

creator: American Guild of Organists. Pasadena Chapter.

creator: American Guild of Organists. Southern California Chapter.

Historical Note

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) is the national professional association serving the organ and choral music fields. The Guild serves approximately 20,000 members throughout the United States, Asia, Australia, and Europe. Founded in 1896 as both an educational and service organization, the Guild, headquartered in New York City, seeks to set and maintain high musical standards and to promote the understanding and appreciation of all aspects of organ and choral music. Each AGO year runs from October 1 to September 30. In any given year, a chapter may host concerts, educational events and social gatherings, have regular monthly meetings, and participate in either a regional or a national convention.

The Association of Organists of Southern California was established in 1908 and in 1910, it became the Southern California Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. As other chapters were founded around California, the chapter changed its name to the Los Angeles Chapter. In 1936, the Pasadena Chapter split off from the Los Angeles one; in 1999, they recombined.

Conditions Governing Access

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE. Advance notice required for access.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

[Box/folder# or item name], American Guild of Organists records, Collection no. 0019, Special Collections, USC Libraries, University of Southern California.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of the records of the Los Angeles and Pasadena chapters of the American Guild of Organists, including the chapters' administrative files, publications, scrapbooks and a few audio and visual recordings. Most of the material present is from the Los Angeles Chapter. Please see the Scope and Content notes of individual series for more information.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

American Guild of Organists. -- Archives

Contracts

Correspondence

Financial records

Magnetic tapes

Minutes

Music--Performance--Societies, etc.--Archival resources

Organists--Societies, etc.--Archival resources

Periodicals

Photographs
Programs (documents)
Scrapbooks
Yearbooks

Administrative Files

Scope and Content

This series consists of the administrative files of the Southern California, Los Angeles, and Pasadena Chapters of the American Guild of Organists. These records include membership registers, minutes, general correspondence, financial records, correspondence and contracts pertaining to concerts given by the Guild, submissions to competitions run by the Guild, programs for concerts, and newsletters.

Arrangement

This series is arranged chronologically, with the exception of minutes and financial records from the Los Angeles Chapter. These are arranged separately in chronological order at the end of the Los Angeles Chapter sub-series.

Box 30, Box 1,
Box 28, Box 29,
Box 25, Box 27

Southern California Chapter

Box 20-24,
Box 1-5

Los Angeles Chapter

Box 23-24, Box 5

Pasadena Chapter

Box 18-19, Box 26

Other Chapters/National Organization 1970s-2004

Scope and Content

This series consists of annual convention programs and related materials.

Publications

Scope and Content

This series contains issues of the *American Organist*, the national magazine of the American Guild of Organists, the *California Organist*, published by the Los Angeles Chapter, and yearbooks published by the Los Angeles and Pasadena Chapters.

Box 20, Box 6

***The American Organist* 1987, 1997, 2004**

Scope and Content

Selected issues.

Box 6

The California Organist

Box 6

Los Angeles Chapter Yearbooks

Box 6 **Pasadena Chapter Yearbooks**

Box 6 **Choral Conductors Guild Yearbooks**

Scrapbooks

Scope and Content

This series contains scrapbooks from the Los Angeles and Pasadena Chapters. Scrapbooks contain programs, calendars, photographs, and correspondence pertaining to Guild activities.

Box 31-33,
Box 7-8 **Los Angeles Chapter 1930-1993**

Box 9-12 **Pasadena Chapter 1962-1991**

Box 16, Box 15,
Box 14, Box 17,
Box 13 **Sound and Video Recordings**

Scope and Content

Series contains recordings of performances on Ampex Magnetic reels, audiocassette tapes, video (VHS) tapes, and DAT tapes (boxes 13, 15); David Fay's recordings of concerts, primarily on 10" reel to reel tapes (boxes 16, 17); AGO instructional cassettes (box 14).