

RELEASE DATE: March 19, 2024

2024–25 Organ Scholar named in partnership with American Guild of Organists and St. George's Episcopal Church, Nashville, TN

Nashville, TN, March 2024—St. George's Episcopal Church and the American Guild of Organists (AGO) are pleased to announce the appointment of **Kateri Andress** as the recipient of the 2024-25 Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Organ Scholar Program.

Ms. Kateri Andress will begin her work as Organ Scholar in August 2024 for 10 months at St. George's Episcopal Church in Nashville. Ms. Andress is currently earning her Master of Music in Organ Performance and Literature at the Eastman School of Music in the studio of David Higgs. She is a graduate of Ave Maria University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Music with a double concentration in organ performance and sacred music. She currently serves as the Organist at the United Church of Canandaigua in Canandaigua, New York. Ms. Andress will be mentored by Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Woosug Kang, in the working details of leading a nationally recognized music ministry, including choral accompaniment, service playing, conducting, coaching adult and youth choristers, and related administrative skills.



Continuing the vision to mentor and nurture future leaders in the sacred music field, this will be the fourth Organ Scholar at St. George's, and the first partnership with the American Guild of Organists. The AGO represents approximately 12,000 member organists and choral conductors, and they have been actively growing their initiatives to foster and nurture young organists to develop skills in the sacred music field. The AGO's National Council recently approved an ongoing partnership with varying churches for this very purpose, naming the Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Organ Scholar Program. St. George's is proud to partner with the AGO following a successful partnership with the Association of Anglican Musicians in 2023-24, mentoring Gerre Hancock Intern, Mr. Abraham Wallace.

Kateri writes:

Firstly, I would like to express a heartfelt thank you to the AGO and to St. George's for this amazing opportunity. As an organist whose goal has always been to work in church music, this organ scholar position is indeed a dream come true. So many of the skills a church musician needs can only be developed through actual hands-on experience. At St. George's, I will have the chance to put what I have learned in the classroom into practice under the mentorship and guidance of Dr. Woosug Kang and Gerry Senechal, who have both the education and the experience to fine-tune my skills and take them to the next level. I am very much looking forward to a fruitful ten months of their feedback, as well as thrilled to participate in a church music program that puts forth such beautiful music in worship of God.