NPM 2.0:
Shaping Our Future!

A new initiative was announced at the NPM conference in North Carolina this summer that includes the following goals:

1. Chapters: a national network of local chapters united in our mission
2. Programming: providing skills and formation training on line and in person
3. Communications: connecting with the Church and each other
4. Governance: Catholic, non-profit, diverse and led by our members
5. Membership: preparing effective musical and liturgical leaders

For more information please consult the website, npm.org.

Members Recital

Two years ago Peter Gonciarz and Our Lady of Pompeii Church hosted a wonderful members recital. You will not want to miss this event again. The program will begin at 4 PM on Sunday, September 29 and the church is located at 158 Laverack Avenue in Lancaster.

At the time of this printing, Peter and Maria Chomicka will perform on the organ. Veteran Robert Winkler will sing, another will perform on the nearly new grand piano. Linda Hiller is hoping to play flute for us.

If you would like to be part of this, please call Peter at 860-8163. One of the charisms of the guild is the wide variety of musical talents we have. Come and enjoy it. A reception will follow in the lobby of the church.
Response to Jubilate Deo Award

Sister Judith Kubicki
Professor of Theology, Fordham University

I am deeply honored and full of gratitude for the Jubilate Deo Award bestowed on me today. This honor belongs, not only to me, but to my family, my community, the Church Musicians Guild of Buffalo, NPM and Fordham University. All of these have nurtured my vocation as a musician and a theologian at the service of the Church’s liturgy.

I grew up in a home where there was always music playing—on the piano, radio, or record player and later CD player. All types of music: classical, semi-classical, Broadway shows, Polish, country, rock and roll, religious, and folk music. It was all celebrated and enjoyed.

When I joined my Felician Franciscan community, I was taken up into a whirlwind of singing both in and out of the chapel. We seemed to have singing rehearsal for something almost every day when I first entered! And early on, I started taking organ lessons and enrolled in our college program in piano and music theory.

My first contact with the Church Musicians Guild of Buffalo was as chauffeur for the Sisters Mary Evangeline and Martinelle who already belonged and faithfully attended meetings all over the Diocese.

Eventually, as president of the Church Musicians Guild, I initiated negotiations to become a local chapter of NPM, an organization the Guild preceded by 30 years. Thus began my collaboration and friendship with Virgil Funk. While teaching high school, I worked part time for Fr. Claude Biechler for whom liturgical music was a top priority. He brought me to my first NPM convention and he challenged me and nurtured my growth as a liturgical musician. NPM has always been an important part of my ministerial life. It inspired me to practice,
**Jubilate Deo Award, continued**

practice, practice! Eventually, I was hired as the Director of Music at Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora, NY. The joy of working there was the perfect combination of teaching in the classroom and pastoral practice with daily liturgies. I was thrilled with the opportunity to teach seminarians who would one day lead singing assemblies. When I moved to the Theology Department of Fordham University, my focus turned to the theology of hymn singing.

Everything has been grace. I have been supported, encouraged, and challenged all along the way by wonderful people and outstanding organizations. I see this award as a type of life-time achievement award, another confirmation that I have truly entered the “geezerhood” phase of my life. I am grateful and I am deeply touched. But this award belongs to so many people, including and especially NPM.

**In Gratitude**

The guild has been gifted with an anonymous donation of $250 in memory of Bridget Dick Blesnuk. We intend to use it for a very special event in November. Gail Shepherd has graciously accepted the task of producing a Taize style service to pray for the victims of violence and abuse. There will be more on this later.

We are a small non profit organization. Many of you are most generous by contributing to the Monsignor Kawalec organ scholarship fund. Although we are financially stable, contributions are always welcome. In particular, we encourage you to consider making a bequest in your will. Several members have done this already, including the late Monsignor Kawalec.

**Cantate Omnes Ensemble Concert October 11**

“Cantate Omnes, Latin for “let us all sing!” is a musical ensemble formed in early 2018 by Maria Chomicka, Music Director at St. Benedict Church. Our goal is to bring young adult musicians together, using our talents to dazzle the world with God’s beauty. All young musicians welcome, please contact us if you’re interested in joining! The name Cantate Omnes has local roots. It is the title of the very first Catholic hymnal published in English in the U.S., published right here in Buffalo in the 1950s.” - Maria Chomicka

One of the features that we admire is the way the director mixes classical and contemporary music in one program. Guild members Chelsea Brodka, Sarah Rice and James Boback perform in the group. Praise and worship music is a 21st century style of church music. We, as committed liturgical musicians, need to be familiar with this style which many people find inspiring.

We offer our condolences to Margaret Beard of Youngstown, on the death of her husband last winter.

Philip Revekant, our former treasurer, began his new life in Orlando, Florida as manager of the Pottery Barn store.

Former guild chaplain Rev. Paul Bossi celebrated his golden jubilee of ordination as well as retirement from Blessed Sacrament Church, Buffalo.

Bill Fay and Maria Chomicka attended the NPM Convention in Raleigh, NC in July.

Fox Run is looking for a volunteer pianist to play for the Saturday 4 PM Mass. If interested, please contact the residence.

We welcome new members Lucy Wronski and her pastor Rev. James Waite. They work at St. John the Baptist Parish in Lockport.

David Nease will retire from Our Lady of Victory Basilica on October 1.

St. Gregory the Great Church has selected Nancy Erdman as their new music director upon the resignation of Daniel Victoor.

Mickey Dick celebrated her golden wedding anniversary with husband Bud in August.
Church Musicians’ Guild Membership Form: Sept 2019 - August 2020

Our annual dues are $30 Add a Pastor for only $10! Retirees only pay $15!

This brings you:
• Regular mailings of the Guild Bulletin, and other Guild news
• Listing in, and a copy of, the annual Guild Directory
• E-mails concerning musical events, job listings, etc.

And

You are supporting the important work of the Guild, including: a schedule of events of interest to musicians; the Annual Convocation; the Kawalec Memorial Organ Scholarship; and Guild sponsorship of various musical causes in our Diocese

Please print or type

PLEASE CHECK: ___ BRAND NEW MEMBER! ___ Renewing NO CHANGES ___ Renewing w/CHANGES

Name ____________________________________________________________

Street Address/P.O. Box ___________________________________________

City, State, Zip Code: _____________________________________________

Home Phone: (_____)______________ Work Ph (______)______________ Cell: (_____)________________

Email: (PRINT IN CAPITAL LETTERS) __________________________________________________________

Church & Church City/Town _________________________________________

Please check ALL that apply to you

☐ Music Director ☐ Cantor ☐ Clergy
☐ Choir Director ☐ Choir Member ☐ Retired ($15 MEMBERSHIP)
☐ Ensemble Director ☐ Ensemble Member ☐ Other
☐ Organist ☐ Instrument ☐ ______________
☐ Pianist

Are you member of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Would you like to appear on the Sub List? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Select a Category and Availability (if appearing on Sub List)

☐ Organ/Piano ☐ Vocalist/Cantor ☐ Other Instrumentalist
☐ Available WEEKDAYS ☐ Available WEEKENDS ONLY ☐ Available ANY DAY

Private Teacher Listing ~ We are happy to make a listing of members who are also private teachers.

Would you like to appear on the Teacher List? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Lessons provided: (list voice, instruments, etc)

Mailings will be sent by email by default. We save a great deal in postage and we are helping to save the planet! We will mail via US MAIL by request.

☐ Please send all mailing via US MAIL _____________________________

TURN OVER

PLEASE CHECK: ___ BRAND NEW MEMBER!     ___ Renewing NO CHANGES     ___ Renewing w/CHANGES
Add your Pastor for only $10 more!

Please print or type information below for your pastor:

Pastor’s Name ______________________________________________________________
Street Address/P.O. Box _______________________________________________________
City, State, Zip Code: _________________________________________________________
Home Phone: (_____)______________  Work Ph (______)______________  Cell: (_____)______________
Email: (PRINT IN CAPITAL LETTERS) _____________________________________________
Church & Church City/Town ____________________________________________________
Send mailings via ____ Email (preferred)  OR _____ US MAIL

CMG 2019-20 Membership Dues $30.00 _________________________
- OR - CMG 2019-20 RETIREE Dues $15.00 _________________________
Add a Pastor $10.00 _________________________
Donation to Msgr. Kawalec Organ Scholarship Fund: _________________________
TOTAL: _________________________

Make checks payable to: The Church Musicians’ Guild

Mail your check and this form to:
CMG Membership c/o
Robert Kiersz
211 Parkhurst Blvd
Tonawanda, NY 14223

Other contact: rkiersz@gmail.com

Membership forms must be received by October 1, 2019

to be included in the Member Directory

Membership is for September 2019 - August 2020