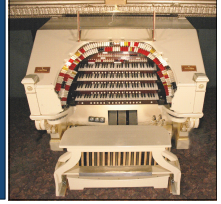


RTOS Blower

Official Newsletter of The Rochester Theater Organ Society Inc.



RTOS & The Eastman School of Music Present The Eastman Bunch XIII With 2019 ATOS Competition Winner Aaron Hawthorne

We welcome this year's Eastman Bunch guest Artist

Aaron Hawthorne is a musician from Glasgow, Scotland, UK. At a young age, he self-taught himself piano and after his first encounter with a theatre organ in his teenage years, he took to the organ just as quickly. Consequently, Aaron paved the way for a career in music and in 2019 graduated from the University of Glasgow with a Master of Arts degree in music. He is now an active organist on a local, national and (more recently) an international scale.

Following his 2019 performance at the American Theatre Organ Society's annual convention in Rochester, New York, Aaron received the ultimate honour for a young organist of winning the international *Young Theatre Organist* competition, having won the UK title two years before. Only a few months later, Aaron was awarded the *Ian Sutherland Award* by the UK Cinema Organ Society, an award made to a player who displays outstanding talent and promise as a theatre organist.

Aaron is very excited to be returning to the USA this February to give two exclusive performances in Rochester and North Tonawanda.

Aaron Hawthorne will perform a full length concert in North Tonawanda on the Riviera Theatre's historic 3/15 Wurlitzer on Monday, February 10th. This is a free concert. See details on page 4 of this *Blower*.



Aaron Hawthorne & Eastman Bunch XIII

Auditorium Theatre
885 E. Main St.

Sunday, February 9, 2020, 2:30 PM
(Doors open 45 min early)

Professor William Porter



RTOS is thrilled that "Bill" will again join the students he so masterfully coaches and mentors each year as part of the "bunch". Bill, along with then ESM student Jonathan Ortloff began the Eastman Bunch in 2007. A master of improvisation, this will be his 10th appearance.



David Baskeyfield

An ESM alumnus and an internationally acclaimed concert and recording artist, David returns to his roots to perform with this year's "bunch". A special treat for all.

The Eastman Bunch XIII



Joshua Ehlebracht is from Kitchener, ON, Canada and is an undergraduate student in the studio of Professor Nathan Laube. This will be his third appearance with the "bunch".



Benjamin Henderson is from Middletown, CT and is in pursuit of his Bachelor's (BM) in Organ Performance in the studio of Nathan Laube. This will be Ben's 4th RTOS performance.



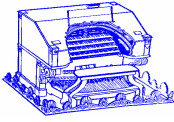
Daniel Minnick is pursuing a Master's degree in organ performance and literature at ESM with Prof. Laube. Dan works closely with the students to schedule everyone's practice sessions. This is his 3rd "Bunch" performance.



Margaret-Mary Owens is a DMA candidate and teaching assistant for Prof. Laube at ESM. This will be her third appearance at RTOS.



Ali Santos is an undergraduate student in the studio of David Higgs. This will be her debut performance with the Eastman Bunch.



**Rochester Theater Organ Society
(Founded 1964)**

PO Box 17114
Rochester, NY 14617
Concerts & Info: (585) 234-2295
<http://www.rtosonline.org>

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Ken Wilson
11 Bly St.
Rochester, NY 14620
(585) 690-5479
Ken.wilson213@gmail.com

Membership (from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31)
Full: \$75.00

Assoc.: (50+ miles from Roch): \$55.00
Student (age 18-24 with ID): \$45.00

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Visit the RTOS website at:
www.rtosonline.org



Shopping on Amazon?

To direct your support to RTOS, type smile.amazon.com in your web browser and enter "Rochester Theater Organ Society" as your charity.

Do you use Facebook? Help us publicize RTOS:

Visit our page (*Rochester Theatre Organ Society*) and 'Like' us.
Post our concert posters on your Facebook page.



JUST \$1

Help RTOS keep the music playing. If everyone drops \$1 into a donation box at each concert it will pay the yearly cost for our publications.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER



I talked about increasing our membership in January. One of our members suggested we also mention the cost of attendance in the *Blower*, since some people don't use the Internet or see the information on our posters. Tickets for adults are \$15 each. Children and students with ID, including college students, are admitted FREE. Members may bring children and students with ID FREE. We are now offering groups of 10 or more adults \$10 tickets.

We are also asking artists for information on type of music or specific titles so we can put the information on our posters. Hopefully, providing type of music or selections will interest more people in attending rather than just announcing a concert.

One of our members who attended the Annual Meeting suggested we offer more information sessions like the one Bob Bower did for children in November. Bob is working on providing short information sessions for everyone at future concerts.

If you have missed a concert or want to hear a concert again, we encourage you to stop by the Library. Greg Spring, Gordon Wood, and Bob Bower have been working on making discs of our concerts available. These discs can be played on a computer or Blu-Ray player, but not a regular DVD player. They have worked on getting the collection of CDs up to date – within a couple concerts.

Your Board members are actively working on tasks during the concerts and between concerts to bring you the best possible concerts and continued success as an organization. We would appreciate volunteer assistance with web design, contacting school music directors, contacting community and senior centers and back-up ushers. Please see me before the concerts, during intermission, or after the concerts if you can provide some much needed help! You can also email me at the address below.

I look forward to seeing you at the concert on Sunday, February 9 for the Eastman Bunch and the 2019 ATOS Young Artist winner Aaron Hawthorne from Scotland.

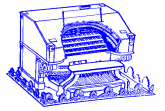
Please note that in addition to his RTOS appearance, Aaron will present a full length free concert at North Tonawanda's Riviera Theatre the next evening. See details in the *Upcoming Events* listings on page 4.

Chris Van Stean

cvanstean@rochester.rr.com

RODGERS TRIO - FREE TO A GOOD HOME

Three manual, full pedalboard Rodgers 321 "Trio". Excellent candidate for Hauptwerk (VTPO) conversion. Includes bench, two speaker cabinets. For more information please contact Paul Law at 585-755-4144 or email paullaw018@gmail.com



THANK-YOU TO OUR 2019-20 FUND DRIVE DONORS

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**OVERNIGHT BUS TRIP TO DELAWARE
 APRIL 25 - 26**

Join us for Dickinson Theater Organ Society's
 50th Anniversary Gala Celebration
 Saturday, April 26, 2020



Richard Hills


Two consoles - 6 Manuals
 66 Ranks





Simon Gledhill


Two World Class Artists
 In Concert

Included Activities

- Saturday afternoon self guided tour of Hagley Museum & Library in Wilmington, DE 
- Pre concert dinner at Bertucci's Restaurant
- One night hotel accommodation with breakfast

Sunday

- Visit world-famous Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA. 
- Lunch on your own at Longwood Includes one hour tour of Longwood's famous world's largest Aeolian residence pipe organ with 146 ranks (10,000 pipes) 

- Stop at the Country Cupboard in Lewisburg, PA for shopping and browsing followed by an included buffet dinner. 

We will depart at 7 am on April 25 from the Pittsford Park and Ride (rt. 31F at I490) and return at approximately 8:30 pm April 26. A minimum of 30 people is needed for the trip.

The fully escorted trip includes a self guided tour of the Hagley Museum and Library, family style dinner at Bertucci's Restaurant, Dickinson Theater Organ Society Concert, one night stay and breakfast at the Clarion Inn, Exton, PA, admission to Longwood Gardens (lunch on your own) with a one hour private organ tour, and buffet dinner and shopping at Country Cupboard in Lewisburg, PA.

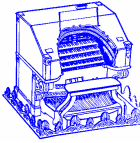
Pricing (per person)

- \$449 in hotel single occupancy
 - \$379 in hotel double occupancy
 - \$359 in hotel triple occupancy
 - \$349 in hotel quad occupancy
- \$150 deposit is due to secure the reservation.

Final payment is due Mar. 15, 2020.
 For more information, and to deposit, please call
 Chris Van Stean (585)-506-7755
 or email cvanstean@rochester.rr.com.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR RTOS MEMBERSHIP?

Did you forget to renew for 2020? Just look at the Blower mailing label!. If line 2 of label ends with "EXPIRED" you still have time to renew! Otherwise we'll miss you (but will not hound you). Contact Membership chairman Ken Wilson to renew, or renew online. Thanks, Ken Veneron-Member mailing.



**Rochester Theater
Organ Society**
P.O. Box 17114
Rochester, NY 14617-0114

Christine Van Stean, *President*
Bob Bower, *Vice-President*
Ken Wilson, *Secretary, Membership*
Robert Hunter, *Treasurer*
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Greg Spring, *Director*
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Ken Veneron, *Director, Mailing*

Help Support and
Encourage the
Future of
Theatre Organ
Join us
Sunday, Feb. 9
At 2:30 PM
For
Eastman Bunch XIII



2019 Eastman Bunch

RTOS EVENTS

Auditorium Theatre, 885 E. Main St.
All artists and dates subject to change. Please
check out our website for latest information.

Eastman Bunch	Feb 9	2:30 PM
Donnie Rankin	Apr 5	2:30 PM
David Peckham	May 24	2:30 PM
Nathan Avakian	June 28	2:30 PM

Rochester Museum & Science Center
Eisenhart Auditorium, East Ave. & Goodman St.

Open Console

Sundays from 11:00 AM to 4 PM

Feb 23, Mar 15, Apr 19, May 24, Jun 21,
Jul 19, Aug 16, Sep 6, Oct 18, Nov 15, Dec 20

“Open Console” is when members are given a
time slot to play one of the Society’s theater
pipe organs. Listeners welcome. Come to play,
or enjoy the music.

UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

Riviera Theatre & Organ Preservation Society (RTOS)

(3/15 Wurlitzer) 67 Webster St, N Tonawanda, NY

Box Office: (716) 692-2413. Info: <http://www.rivieratheatre.org/>
NEXT EVENT! Aaron Hawthorne Monday, Feb. 10, 7PM.

FREE ADMISSION

Empire State Theatre & Musical Instrument Museum (ESTMIM)

(3/11 Wurlitzer) 581 State Fair Blvd., Syracuse

(315) 687-3580 Info: <http://jrjunction.com/estmim/>

Kingston Theatre Organ Society (KTOS)

(3/28 Kimball) Kingston Korean Church 89 Kirkpatrick St., Kingston, ON, CA

Info: Info/ticketing: <http://ktos.ca/>

Binghamton Theatre Organ Society (BTOS)

(4/24 Robert Morton) 236 Washington St, Binghamton, NY.

Box Office (716) 692-2413. Info/ticketing: <http://www.binghamtontos.org/>

Please visit the websites for these venues
for the latest information on their upcoming concerts

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

BY CHRIS VAN STEAN

RTOS membership provides free admission to our 8 concerts each year for two adults for \$75. That is 16 adult admissions at a cost of \$4.69 each. Members may bring children free. Students with ID’s are also free. Associate Membership at a reduced rate is available to those residing outside a 50 mile radius of Rochester. Associate members receive all benefits of a full membership except that they may not hold office or vote. In addition, all members receive the RTOS newsletter, the *Blower*, which gives information on future events

and schedules along with other articles of interest.

If you missed a concert, or want to hear a concert again, the RTOS library is stocked with CD and taped copies of nearly all our concerts which may be borrowed by members. There are also copies of commercial organ CDs which may be borrowed. There is a “free” box in the library where members may contribute items or take items.

Open console sessions are held at the Eisenhart Auditorium, usually monthly throughout the year and occasionally at the Auditorium theatre. Members can sign up to play the organ or just come to socialize and enjoy

the music and refreshments.

All members are encouraged to volunteer as there are many opportunities to help keep RTOS running smoothly. Any full member may apply to run for a director or officer position.

Members are always encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting held in December to hear a review of activities and provide input to the Board.

Occasionally we have other events such as last year’s convention and upcoming bus trip.

A yearly membership in RTOS costs less than a month of cable TV and is your passport to a full year of great family oriented entertainment.