



# WINDLINES

*The newsletter of the AMERICAN ORGAN INSTITUTE at  
The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA SCHOOL OF MUSIC*

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<http://aoi.ou.edu/>

## Message from the Director

Greetings from the students, faculty and staff of the American Organ Institute! This latest edition of our newsletter updates you as to the many exciting things that have been happening here. You will see that the fall semester was busy, and this momentum is rolling right into the spring semester. I'm particularly pleased to announce that our students are continuing to make a name for themselves in numerous competitions. It was recently announced that Adam Pajan and Silviya Mateva advanced to the semi-final round of the Longwood International Organ Competition, whose \$40,000 First Prize is the largest of any organ competition. Chosen from a field of 100 possible candidates from around the world, we are particularly proud that two of the 10 semi-finalists are from OU, along with other young organists from America, Canada, Europe and Russia. I'm also happy to announce that Elliot Ringwald received second place in the American Guild of Organists' Regional Competition for Young Organists held in Dallas, and that Silviya Mateva has advanced to the final round of the Rodland Scholarship Competition to take place on April 13.



We're currently in the final days of audition season, and look forward to welcoming new and wonderfully talented young organists to our family. In the midst of all this, we continue in earnest the restoration of the Great division of Möller Opus 5819, with a goal of having it fully playable on the shop floor at the end of the academic year. You will also note that great progress has been made in our archive, and materials and the catalog are already available online to the public. Having laid the foundation for the processes of preserving and cataloging, this project will continue to pick up speed... just like the AOI! Please watch our website and Facebook page for updates!

—John Schwandt

## Pedals, Pipes & Pizza!

On Jan. 26, the AOI hosted a "Pedals, Pipes & Pizza" event in conjunction with the Southern Plains Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Twenty-six eager young piano students (along with some parents and siblings) experienced the wonders of the King of Instruments for the first time. Activities included a short silent film, tours of concert and practice instruments, a pizza party, and the opportunity for every student to make some music on each instrument. We hope to have inspired some new organists!



## Recent Events



—On Sept. 1, Christopher Marks visited the AOI and performed in Gothic Hall. The following day Dr. Marks gave a masterclass in Sharp Hall and a lecture on the life and works of Seth Bingham.

— On Oct. 26, Clark Wilson accompanied the silent film *The Cat and the Canary* for a large and enthusiastic audience in Sharp Hall. (Pictured left)

—We were privileged to host Walt Strony for a concert of popular and theatrical music on Jan. 25 that was streamed live (and was so popular that it crashed the servers!). Strony also lectured on theatre organ techniques the following day.

Such concert offerings are only available through your generosity. Please consider making a donation.



Above: Student Archivist Bailey Schreier

## Archives & Library

We are pleased to report great progress in the sorting of unprocessed materials in the American Theatre Organ Collection! Our top priorities include organization, migration to acid-free boxes and paper, and online access to the collections. The database is in a work in progress and viewable at: [aoial.libraryhost.com](http://aoial.libraryhost.com) and information is constantly being added. As processes are refined, additions will happen more quickly. For inquiries, or to contact the archives about making a donation, please email: [organarchive@ou.edu](mailto:organarchive@ou.edu).

## The Wahl Has Arrived!

We are pleased to announce the arrival of our new mechanical action-practice organ by Wahl Organbuilders, made possible by the estate of renowned Professor Mildred Andrews Bogess. The installation was a great learning experience for our students, who helped Ron and Christoph install the instrument in our practice suite. Visually, the instrument is a stunning piece of workmanship. Tonally, two 8' stops give fundamental clarity, while a 4' Flute adds brightness. A firm 16' Subbass anchors the pedal. The bottom manual is permanently coupled.



For more information please visit: [wahlorganbuilders.com](http://wahlorganbuilders.com)

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