

Jacob Gruss

2023 Robert & Nancy Powell Scholarship Winner
Christ Church Episcopal Greenville, SC

Program - June 9 - 4:00 PM

Joie et clarté des Corps Glorieux	Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)
Prelude and Fugue in A Minor, BWV 543	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Fantaisie in A Major	César Franck (1822-1890)
Improvisation on <i>Victimae Paschali Laudes</i>	Charles Tournemire (1870-1939)

Donations made today benefit the Robert & Nancy Powell Scholarship Fund and can be made in the plate or online at either the www.ccgsc.org or www.greenvilleago.org



Please join us immediately following the recital in the McKissick Family Garden for a reception and to meet Jacob.

About the Performer



Young organist JACOB GRUSS is a third-year undergraduate at The Juilliard School in New York City studying in the studio of Paul Jacobs. A native of Pittsburgh, PA, Jacob was fortunate to develop his musical interest through generous teachers and prominent church music positions. In high school, Jacob was Director of Music at Otterbein United Methodist Church (Greensburg), Assistant Organist at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral (Greensburg), and Sacred Music Intern at St. Bernard Church (Mt. Lebanon).

Jacob recently completed a two-year music intern position at Hitchcock Presbyterian Church in Scarsdale, NY. Currently, he serves as Organ Scholar at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. Jacob placed first in the Westmorland Symphony Orchestra's Young Artist Competition, and first in the Cassel Competition sponsored by the Harrisburg AGO. Additionally, he placed second in the 2023 AGO Quimby Northeast Regional Competition.

Jacob is grateful to be the recipient of the American Guild of Organists' Pogorzelski-Yankee Memorial Scholarship, the Robert and Nancy Powell Scholarship, and the Guild's 2022-23 Student Commissioning Project. Eager to broaden his knowledge of both the organ and its repertoire, Jacob has performed in numerous masterclasses including those with John Salvesson, Caroline Robinson, Gordon Turk, and Gregory Hand. Beyond the organ, Jacob studies Choral Conducting, Composition, Improvisation, and Organ Literature. In his free time, Jacob enjoys opera, art, biking, and golf.

Robert & Nancy Powell Scholarship & Organ Competition American Guild of Organists - Greenville Chapter

A scholarship fund was established in 2022 to honor Robert Powell, FAGO, organist and composer of hundreds of choral and organ service pieces of published music, along with his wife, Nancy Powell, AAGO, also a consummate organist. They have served the Greenville community for decades as leaders and role models for the organists and church musicians of this community. A \$4,000* scholarship will be awarded in July 2024 to an undergraduate student pursuing study in fall 2024 at an American college, conservatory, or university, leading toward a career in organ performance and church music. The winner will also be invited to play a recital in Greenville for the AGO, our sponsors and the public.

Current Judges/Committee:

- Mr. John Polo, Scholarship Program Director & Treasurer, Greenville AGO Chapter
- Mr. Donald Duncan, Scholarship Co-Chair & Director of Liturgy & Music, Christ Church, Episcopal, Greenville, SC
- Mr. Vance Jenkins, Scholarship Co-Chair & Director of Music & Principal Organist, Buncombe Street Methodist Church, Greenville, SC
- Dr. Ed Dunbar, Scholarship Judge & Retired Professor Organ, Bob Jones University, Greenville, SC
- Rev. Dr. Jim Parham, Scholarship Committee & Trinity Lutheran, Greenville, SC
- Mr. Robert Glick, Scholarship Judge & Retired Professor Organ, Erskine University/First Presbyterian Church, Greenwood, SC
- Dr. Brennan Szafron, Scholarship Judge & Organist & Choir Master, Holy Cross Episcopal Church, Tryon, NC
- Dr. Will Thomas Cleveland, Scholarship Judge & Director of Music & Organist, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greenwood, SC

For more information regarding the scholarship and Greater Bridgeport Chapter of the American Guild of Organists visit www.greaterbridgeportago.org

Specifications of the Pipe Organs Christ Church Episcopal Greenville, SC

Christ Church Episcopal is blessed with two outstanding organs. The 2001 Goulding and Wood pipe organ in the rear gallery comprised of 3 keyboards and 67 pipe ranks. The 2018 Walker Technical/Cornell Zimmer digital organ in the chancel comprised of 4 keyboard and 115 digitally sampled pipe ranks. All 10 divisions of both organs can be played from the chancel console.

A Special Thank You

We want to thank Donald Duncan and Sarah Marczynski at Christ Church Episcopal for hosting this recital and reception in the historic church today.

Our Sponsors

Many organizations and individual donors have helped us create and sustain the Powell Scholarship & Organ Competition. This brings a sense of great pride helping support the careers of future church musicians, giving them a glimpse of our Greenville area, and honoring the legacy of Robert & Nancy Powell. Become a sponsor! The Powell Scholarship is designated program within the Greenville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Leadership Circle – over \$5,000

Meagley Fund – Buncombe Street Methodist Church, Greenville
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Bebensee

Musician Circle - \$1,000 – \$4,999

Christ Church Episcopal, Greenville
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Greenville

Sustainer - \$500 - \$999

Mr. & Mrs. Milton & Sara Bates
Dr. & Mrs. Ed Dunbar
Stephen Bolle & Peggy Muncie
Mr. John Gilbert
Greenville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
Mr. & Mrs. Dexter Hagy
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Kehl
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Mahon
Peggy Parham

Benefactor - \$250 - \$499

Anderson Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
Columbia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Clark
Jean Dority
Mr. Wade Kolb III
Jo Lynne Pearce
Spartanburg Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Patron - \$50 - \$249

Mr. & Mrs. Alkins
Anne Arrington
Mr. & Mrs. John Boyd Jr.
Claire Cappio

Mr. John Chestnut
Carol Clarke
Diane Cochran & Jim Redman
Crescent Music Club

Nancie Dixon
Mr. & Mrs. Henry DuPre
MaryBeth Endicott
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Germain
Mr. Perry Gilreath
Norma Givens
Dot Grimball
Mr. & Mrs. Cab Gregory
Hillary Hayes
Mr. Carl Headley
Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Henderson
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Hoyle
Joy Hughes
Mr. & Mrs. Rolfe Hughes
Lucy Hummers
Mr. Quincy Inman
Mr. & Mrs. James Jackson
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Jennings
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Klasing
Mr. David Kral
Mr. & Mrs. Don Lineback
Mr. Larry Loftis

Fletcher Mann Jr & Peggy Brock
Harriet Martin
Mr. & Mrs. John McKay
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Miller
The Music Club of Greenville
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Nicoll
Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Norris Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Norwood Jr.
Louise Oxner
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Parke
Joyce Parks
Catherine Powell
Mr. John Reineking
Mary Moore Robertson
Mr. John Rowell
Mr. Richard Simms
Rev'd & Mrs. William Shand
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Simon
Mr. Charles Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Sterling Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Heyward Sullivan
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. Knox White