

# *Abigail Wood*

2024 Robert & Nancy Powell Scholarship Winner  
Christ Church Episcopal Greenville, SC

## *Program - June 1 - 4:00 PM*

Improvisation on "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"	Abbie Wood (b. 2002)
Sonata No. 1 in E-flat major BWV 525	J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
Symphonie No. 1: III. Aria	Rachel Laurin (1961-2023)
Prelude et Fugue sur le nom d'Alain	Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)
Master Tallis's Testament	Herbert Howells (1892-1983)
Symphony VI: I. Allegro	Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

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](http://www.ccgsc.org) or [www.greenvilleago.org](http://www.greenvilleago.org)

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

## *About the Performer*



Abigail (Abbie) Wood is a recent graduate of Syracuse University, studying with Dr. Anne Laver for a major in organ performance, and minoring in jazz studies. During her time there, she has been Organist at University United Methodist Church in Syracuse, NY, and she substitutes for various churches during academic breaks. She will be attending the Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins starting in the fall of 2025 for a master's degree in Organ Performance, and she will be studying with Dr. Daniel Aune.

Abbie was a multiple-year recipient of the Yocum and Shenk Organ scholarships, and also received a monetary award in the Quimby Harrisburg Chapter Organ Competition in 2021. In 2023, she won 2nd prize in the George Mathias Memorial Scholarship Competition in Brooklyn, NY, and received 1st place in the Quimby Potomac Chapter Organ Competition.

She recently received the 2024 Robert & Nancy Powell Scholarship of Greenville, SC. She also was a winner of Syracuse University's 2024 Outstanding Artists Competition and has performed C. M. Widor's Allegro from Symphony VI with the Syracuse University Orchestra.

Most recently, Abbie was awarded VPA Scholar by Syracuse University, in addition to the Setnor School of Music's Academic Music Award and the Arthur Poister Prize for organ majors, and she has been named of The Diapason's "20 under 30", Class of 2025. Her research focuses on the Victorian British organ, and she attended the Royal College of Organists' 2024 Summer Course, studying with professionals in London. She made in-person recordings of these instruments for two weeks in July-August of 2024, and wrote a research paper about the experience and historical background. This was funded through Syracuse University's SOURCE program. Also funded through this program, Abbie was able to assist Dr. Anne Laver in presenting data found on organ programs of the 1915 San Francisco Exposition at the July 2024 AGO National Convention.

## *Robert & Nancy Powell Scholarship & Organ Competition*

### *American Guild of Organists - Greenville Chapter*

A scholarship fund was established in 2022 to honor Robert Powell, FAGO (1932-2025), 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 2025 to an undergraduate student pursuing study in fall 2025 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 Greenville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists visit [www.greenvilleago.org](http://www.greenvilleago.org)

### *Specifications of the Pipe Organs Christ Church Episcopal Greenville, SC*

Christ Church Episcopal is blessed with two outstanding organs. The 2001 Gouling 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 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*

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Greenville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists  
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Mr. & Mrs. Bill Kehl  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Mahon  
Peggy Parham

### *Benefactor - \$250 - \$499*

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### *Patron - \$50 - \$249*

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