



Organists Unite!

Join the American Guild of Organists in celebrating the International Year of the Organ!

- ▼ Join the world's largest organ recital: October 19, 2008. All AGO chapters are encouraged to present organ concerts, recitals, and other events that day.
- ▼ Introduce the organ to children through special classes and our *Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza* programs.
- ▼ Encourage orchestras and choirs to feature the organ in their programs.
- ▼ Premiere the winning work in the organ composition competition. Play the piece during the 2008 Organ Spectacular. Let your music be heard!

Celebrations will include premieres of an original commissioned work by Stephen Paulus, specifically created for the AGO Organ Spectacular. It will be a spectacular year featuring the most spectacular of musical instruments, the organ!

For additional information, please contact:

James E. Thomashower, AGO Executive Director
Ph: (212) 870-2310
Email: os@agohq.org Website: www.agohq.org/os

July 2008 to
June 2009 has been
designated as the
**INTERNATIONAL
YEAR OF THE ORGAN!**

American
Guild of
Organists

an
international
organ
celebration
2008-2009

Organ
Spectacular

19 October 2008



How YOU can participate in the International Organ Celebration and help make the Organ Spectacular truly *Spectacular!*

The International Year of the Organ 2008-2009 (IYO) is designed to attract new audiences to the organ and lay the groundwork for future events, fund-raising and membership in the AGO. A special guide available on the Guild's website will tell you how to plan and produce a successful Organ Spectacular (OS) event for October 19, 2008. Other resources supplied on the IYO and OS website pages (www.agohq.org/os) will help you publicize and market your events.

This year-long celebration will feature a multitude of activities, beginning with a major event at the national convention in Minneapolis in June, 2008. Of particular note is the Sunday, October 19, 2008 series of organ concerts worldwide. With an estimated 250 organ concerts expected to be held throughout the world that day, we are confident that the concert programs will appeal to a large, diversified audience and promote the continued growth of our organization and the popularity of organ music.

We encourage you to be as creative as possible in planning your local events and in making the Organ Spectacular concert day a great success. The AGO Committee on Professional Networking and Public Relations and the AGO staff are committed to supporting your efforts and ensuring that all of the chapters reap the maximum benefits of their involvement in IYO and OS.

Our two primary objectives for the Organ Spectacular: An International Organ Celebration 2008-2009 are to: 1) Promote increased general public awareness of the organ; and 2) Promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles among current/previous organ enthusiasts and entirely new audiences.

The strategies and goals we have identified in line with that are:

STRATEGIES

Using the "Organ Spectacular" event on October 19, 2008 and subsequent individual chapter events throughout the year, promote awareness of the instrument, as well as increase attendance and participation in various concerts and classes.

Aligning AGO with other organizations devoted to promoting the organ both nationally and internationally.

Leveraging celebrity involvement and support for the instrument.

GOALS

Have a minimum of 225 chapters participate in the October 19, 2008 Organ Spectacular event.

Have a minimum of 250 chapters, and at least 25 international organizations, participate in the International Year of the Organ.

Have a minimum of 100 chapters participate in providing a class for public schools, using the AGO Committee on the New Organist's presentation for one 45-minute class about the organ (with assistance of local organ builder/technician): in other words, take Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza to the classroom.

Have at least 150 chapters put on a Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza program.

With all organists uniting in this effort, our Organ Spectacular will be nothing short of spectacular!