

## CONVENTIONS

Conventions provide a forum for education, socializing, and communication within the organization. Opportunities for informal exchange of interests, ideas, and mutual support, combined with seminars on professional issues, performance, liturgics, and other topics make these gatherings an important aspect of Guild life. Sponsoring a regional convention can also prove to be an excellent way to energize a chapter.

The Guild regularly schedules two types of conventions: a large national convention, held during the summer of even-numbered years, and nine smaller regional conventions, scheduled during the summer of odd-numbered years. Both are produced with the indispensable assistance of local chapters. National conventions are run under the aegis of the National Council, while regional conventions are entrusted to a sponsoring chapter with the advice and approval of the appropriate regional councillor.

If you are interested in sponsoring a regional convention, contact your regional councillor. He or she is responsible for submitting a recommendation to the Regional Convention Committee four years prior to the convention date. Procedures for site selection vary from region to region, so it is best to contact your regional councillor directly for details as soon as you feel there is an interest in sponsoring a regional convention in your chapter.

If you are considering hosting a national convention, you should contact the National Convention Committee through the National Headquarters office in New York.

Official Guidelines and Procedures for hosting national and regional conventions are available from AGO Headquarters upon request.

In addition to these nationally recognized events, you may consider producing a “mini-convention” for all the chapters in your district or local area. Your regional councillor and district convener will be able to help you plan such an event.