

**WHAT IS A POE-TECH?**

**G**uild members undoubtedly know about the AGO's successful and long-running Pipe Organ Encounter program, whereby aspiring young organists with some basic keyboard knowledge, assemble at gatherings in each of the AGO regions during the summer, for a week of intensive study with well-known organ teachers from across the country.

The Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America, a select group of 30 organbuilder and supply firms, supports regular POEs with a contribution of up to \$2,000 seed money for each event. A Pipe Organ Encounter Advanced is for those who already have some organ study under their fingers and toes.

What may be less well known is the

Pipe Organ Encounter Technical (or "Tech"), where up to 20 students assemble at an organbuilder's workshop for a week of intensive hands-on study of how pipe organs are built, how they work, and how pipes are made, voiced, and tuned. This additional outreach, also supported by APOBA, is specifically for young people who would like to learn about the technical aspects of organbuilding: the real organbuilders of the future. It is not necessary to play the organ or to have keyboard skills to attend. APOBA support for both POE Advanced and POE-Tech is \$3,000 per event.

The next POE-Tech will be held near Atlanta, at the shop of Parkey Organ-Builders in Berkeley Lake, Ga., during the week of July 9-14. The workshop will last

for a full week, just like a regular POE, and while some playable instruments will be visited, students will spend most of their time learning what makes a pipe organ tick--or toot!

There are 20 spots available, and we would like to see a full house. It is not too early to begin thinking about attending. The application process is the same as that for a regular POE.

APOBA and AGO: not just thinking about the musicians of the future, but also about those who will build and maintain the pipe organs for those future musicians. See page 59 for additional information.

**RANDALL S. DYER**, Secretary  
Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America

*Photos: John M. Riester*



POE-Tech students practiced woodworking, soldering, voicing, and finishing at the American Organ Institute (University of Oklahoma) in 2015.

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