



American Guild of
ORGANISTS



Duke
UNIVERSITY
CHAPEL

Organ Scholar Program, 2022–2023

Job Purpose:

- To acquire mastery in service playing and keyboard skills: hymn playing, choral accompaniment, improvisation, transposition, figured bass, and sight reading, as well as to develop organ playing repertory;
- To acquire confidence and proficiency conducting, teaching, and working with the Chapel's choirs in rehearsals and services;
- To ensure that the highest level of professional performance standards are maintained, and to be proactive in this regard;
- To benefit from a year absorbing the weekly liturgical life of a large university chapel and to be equipped for vocational work as a professional church musician.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Assist in accompanying and providing music for Sunday morning, Choral Evensong, and Choral Vespers services as assigned with the Chapel Organist. Observe and/or sing in the choirs when not playing;
- Attend, sing in, and accompany (as assigned) Monday rehearsals of the Evensong Singers and Vespers Ensemble and Wednesday rehearsals of the Chapel Choir;
- Provide organ music for midday Thursday service in the Divinity School in rotation with Chapel Organist;
- Study service playing, choral accompaniment, improvisation, and keyboard skills with the Chapel Organist on a weekly basis;
- Study conducting with the Director of Chapel Music bi-weekly, and voice/early music techniques monthly with the Associate Conductor for Chapel Music;
- Thoroughly prepare all assigned accompaniments, service music, and voluntaries for Sunday morning worship, Choral Evensong and Vespers services in a supportive, hands-on, practical environment by maintaining a habit of regular practice on Duke Chapel's organs: IV Aeolian (1932), IV Flentrop (1976), II Brombaugh (1997), and II Richards & Fowkes (2008);
- Divide playing for Saturday weddings in Duke Chapel in consultation with the Chapel Organist;
- Participate fully in the broader liturgical life of Duke Chapel with Chapel musicians and clergy by attending staff and worship planning meetings;
- Assist and oversee the maintenance and care of the choir library for Evensong Singers and Vespers;
- Present a full-length recital on the Chapel's organs;
- Under the guidance of the Chapel Organist, prepare for AGO examinations.

Education and Training:

- Candidates should have at least one college degree, with a preference for degrees in music and/or commensurate professional certifications from the American Guild of Organists or Royal College of Organists, and possess a strong desire for continued professional work as a church musician;
- Candidates will have previous experience in choral accompaniment and choral directing;
- Candidates will have acquired an advanced level of proficiency in public performance of organ repertoire.

Knowledge and Experience:

- Proficient sight reading skills;
- Prior experience directing choirs;
- Possess good oral and written communication skills;
- Strong interpersonal skills;
- Commitment to further professional development.

This position is designed at 40 hours per week.

For further information, please contact:

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