



AGO Task Force for Gender Equity

# March Newsletter

## Woman Composer Sunday

It's almost here!

Woman Composer Sunday is March 5th, 2023 and we hope you are ready to add to the day. Please share with us what you are playing and perhaps a little report of how it went. Remember to post your videos of your playing on social media with the hashtag #WomanComposerSunday.

We would love to hear from you!



Another way to honor Woman Composer Sunday is to take a look at the Women Organist list on Wikipedia. As of now, there are 175 women organists listed on the page. Take a look through as you may have someone to contribute to the list! Or you may look through some of your favorite organists and see if the information is correct and/or if you have additional information to add to the articles.

[WIKIPEDIA: WOMEN ORGANISTS](#)



AGO Task Force for Gender Equity

Nancy Cooper, Director | Michelle Kardos, Newsletter Editor | Mary Newton | Lyn Loewi

Eileen Hunt, AGO President and ex officio member | Leslie Wolf Robb | Vicky Schaeffer

# Need a last minute idea?

## Organ Repertoire

- Adoration - Florence B. Price
- Moderately slow ("Offertory") - Emma Lou Diemer
  - From Little Suite of Organ
- Prelude in G - Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel
- Sous les Étoiles, Op. 65, No. 4 - Amy Beach
  - Transcribed from piano solo found on IMSLP by Benjamin Cornelius-Bates
- Toccata - Mel Bonis

## Choral Anthems

- Ascribe to the Lord - Rosephanye Powell
- John 3:16 - B.E. Boykin
- Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen - Undine Smith Moore
  - Easily transcribed from sight readable piano solo found on IMSLP
- Sanctus - Sherri Porterfield
- We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace - Undine Smith Moore

## Hymns

- "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" - Sylvia G. Dunstan
- "Blessed Assurance" - Phoebe Palmer Knapp
- "Hope of the World" - Georgia Elma Harkness
- "Houston" - Kathleen Thomerson
  - Often set to the text "I want to walk as a child of the light"
- "Lord of All Hopefulness" - Jan Struther
- "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak" - Frances R. Havergral
- "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" - Claudia Frances Hernaman
- "O Lord, You Were Sent" - Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
- "Praise to You, O Christ, Our Savior" - Bernadette Farrell
- "The First One Ever" - Linda Wilberger Egan

[WOMAN COMPOSER SUNDAY RECOMMENDED PIECES](#)

[SPOTIFY PLAYLIST - WOMEN COMPOSERS](#)

# Composer of the Month

## June Nixon

One of Australia's best-known organists, choir trainers and composers, June Nixon initially obtained a Diploma in Music (Piano) and Bachelor of Music (Organ) from Melbourne University, Australia. Postgraduate scholarships enabled further study in London, where she gained an Associateship of the Royal College of Music, Fellowship of the Royal College of Organists, and was the first woman to be granted the John Brooke prize for the Choir Training Diploma.

In 1968 she was winner of the Australian National Organ Competition, and in 1973 was appointed Organist and Director of Music at St. Paul's Cathedral Melbourne. She retired from this position in February 2013 and is now Organist Emerita.

Her influence outside the Anglican Church was recognized in 1995 by the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne awarding her the Percy Jones Award for "outstanding dedication and service given to music for worship." She was made a Member (AM) in the General Division of the Queen's Birthday Honours in 1998 for services to church music. In 1999, the Archbishop of Canterbury conferred on her the Lambeth Degree, Doctor of Music (Cantuar), and in 2013 she was awarded Associate of the Royal School of Church Music (ARSCM).

June is a widely published composer, both in the USA and England, writing music which is accessible and enjoyable for both musicians and listeners. Several cathedral choirs have recorded her works, and her arrangement of the traditional carol "The Holly and the Ivy" was included in the Nine Lessons and Carols from King's College Cambridge in 2010, 2017 and 2021.

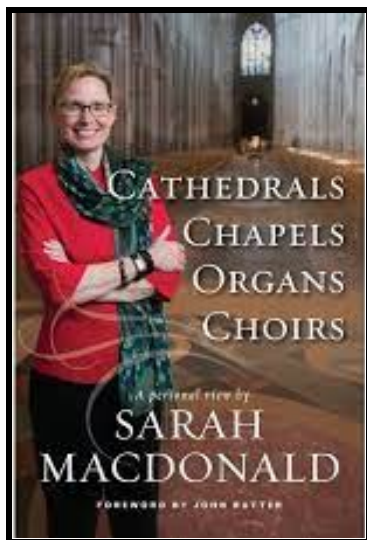
Learn more about her by clicking on one of the links below!



[JUNE NIXON COMPOSITIONS](#)

[A CATHEDRAL ORGANIST'S CAREER: JUNE NIXON](#)

## Check It Out



You may be interested to read that Sarah MacDonald has recently published a book, described by John Rutter as “valuable and enlightening.” Here is the new book from SWO Patron Sarah MacDonald called “Cathedrals, Chapels, Organs, Choirs.” Visit the website for more information, including details of where you can order a copy!

[SARAH MACDONALD: CATHEDRALS, CHAPELS, ORGANS, CHOIRS](#)

In reflecting upon the end of Black History Month and the start of Women’s History Month, check out some of the choral music by B.E. (Brittney Elizabeth) Boykin. Her website has information about her backgrounds, compositions, and recordings of her works.

[B. E. BOYKIN](#)



## Get Involved!

Have you completed any research recently that you are wanting to share with the public? Have you reworked your doctoral dissertation on women organ composers, cut it in half and eliminated all words of more than 4 syllables, and are ready to submit it somewhere? Consider publishing in TAO. Nick Bergin is the new, enthusiastic editor, and is very (I mean, VERY) supportive of the TF’s work in the past year. We are continuing it for the upcoming year as well, but no one has said that Women Can Only Have One Article Per Month, right? Talk with Nancy, or with Lyn Loewi, or write Nick directly ([nbergin@agohq.org](mailto:nbergin@agohq.org)). **He is eager to hear from you!**