



RELAY CHATTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE JOLIET AREA

THEATRE ORGAN ENTHUSIASTS

WWW.JATOE.ORG DON WALKER, NEWSLETTER EDITOR: JATOE.BARTON@GMAIL.COM



March/April 2020

upcoming EVENTS

Sunday, March 1, 2020

JATOE, CTOS & CATOE

Rialto Theatre, Joliet

Doors open at 1:30 pm

Program at 2:00 pm

Guest Artist:

**Jelani Eddington & The
Southwest Children's
Choir**

Saturday, April 18, 2020

Allen Organ Studios

Doors open at 1:30 pm

Program at 2:00 pm - Artist:
Zach Frame

BARTON'S ORIGINAL TOE PISTONS FOUND IN THE RIALTO'S BASEMENT

While cleaning up the basement and taking inventory a few years ago with the board, I came across the left side original toe pistons that were on the pedal board. I searched and searched, but could not find the right side. After talking with Glenn we found a way to use the toe pistons without altering them and attaching them back on to the pedal board.

Since we didn't have the right side, I took the original to L. Surges Custom Woodwork in Joliet to see if they could replicate the tierce for the right side. I met Pablo, and he immediately wanted to take on the project. He did an outstanding job replicating the left side in reverse. Next we needed the actual toe pistons replicated. I took one to General Machine & Tool Company in Crest Hill and they made exact replicas of them. As you can see the results are fantastic. What a joy to be able to put something original back on the Barton Grand. This gives us a total of 10 toe pistons which will be enough to hook up the various sound effects that were disconnected in the 1980's.

JATOE greatly appreciates the help these two companies provided to restore parts of the Barton. What's old is new again. If you haven't noticed, the three crash levers were put back in too. While not original Barton ones, Bob Arndt made the Wurlitzer replicas for us. All have second touch. The first one has the cymbal roll and crash cymbal,. The second will have a drum roll and grand crash. The third has the gong and gong roll.

Joel Martis



JATOE now offers gift certificates. Give the gift of music! Share your experience with a friend.

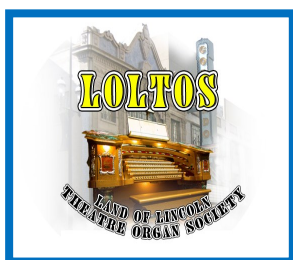
Gift Certificates are \$30.00 and are valid for dues. They don't expire! See a board member to purchase one.



upcoming EVENTS



Click on the icons to visit the websites:



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As stated in our Bylaws under Section IV - Dues

D. Dues must be paid by January 31st of each year. If delinquent dues are paid by March 15th, full membership will be restored.

E. Any member whose membership has lapsed, may not hold office, chair or serve on a committee, vote on any issue, or receive the Relay Chatter newsletter until reinstated. I sincerely regret that this will

be your last newsletter if you have not renewed your membership. If you have just forgotten, Please do so now! The simple, short form is on the last page. You don't want to miss out on all the great things JATOE has planned for 2020. You are and always will be the most important part of JATOE. You are the reason why the Barton Grande continues to play!

JATOE wishes to thank the businesses that made our Member Appreciation Dinner in January such a huge success. Please support them as they have supported us!

- The Happy Place Café in Shorewood
- The Old Fashion Pancake House in Joliet
- Beauty by Moni in Shorewood
- Dan's Candies in Joliet
- Al's Steak House in Joliet
- Rialto Square Theater
- Maurie's Table in Joliet
- Labo" Flowers & Gifts
- Syl's in Rockdale

ALEXA KNOWS THEATRE ORGAN

Through the diligent work of Steve Worthington, Alexa now understands how to play Theatre Organ Radio without going through a third party, like Tune-In radio.

The voice command—"Alexa, Open Theatre Organ Radio" will launch our AAC 128k stream on your device.



Please remember the following people in your prayers.:
 Rhonda Wickerham, Bill Reynolds & Don Young, Pat Hewlett



**LIVE ON THE 4/27 BARTON GRANDE
SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2020**

JATOE, CTOS & CATOE PRESENTS

JELANI EDDINGTON



During the years that Jelani Eddington has given concerts, he has easily established himself as one of the most prominent and sought-after artists on the concert circuit. Jelani has performed in most of the major concert venues throughout the United States, has toured extensively abroad, and has received numerous awards and recognitions. Jelani Eddington was born in Muncie, Indiana and grew up in a very musical family. Between the interests of his mother, a professional music teacher of many years, and those of his grandmother, a well-respected piano instructor, it was no surprise when Jelani demonstrated an inclination toward music at a very early age.

Shortly after beginning piano instruction at the age of four, Jelani began studying classical piano under the direction of his grandmother. At the age of eight, a trip to hear the 4-manual 42-rank Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ installed in the Indianapolis, Indiana restaurant, the Paramount Music Palace, introduced Jelani to the sounds of the theatre pipe organ.

Soon thereafter, he began to pursue classical organ lessons and ultimately began studying theatre organ under the direction of John Ferguson, whose skills as a theatre organ instructor have been highly acclaimed internationally. During the course of his concert career, Jelani has been featured at numerous national and regional conventions of the American Theatre Organ Society, and has toured extensively throughout the world. He has also produced and marketed over 30 theatre organ albums on some of the best-known and most dynamic instruments in the country.

In 2014, Jelani became the first and to date the only musician to have a video of his theatre organ performance go “viral.” Within a few short weeks, Jelani’s performance of John William’s Star Wars Symphonic Suite was viewed on YouTube over 1 million times in more than 200 countries around the world. As of 2016, that video has earned more than 2.2 million views worldwide.

With special guests: The Southwest Children’s Choir under the direction of Mike Cierski!

Enter 121 Scott St. Stage Doors open at 1:30 pm Show starts at 2:00 pm. Bring Refreshments!

LIVE ON THE 5/55 ALLEN THEATER ORGAN

SATURDAY, April 18, 2020

ZACH FRAME



From Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, Zach comes from a musical family. He discovered the theatre pipe organ at age five, when his family happened to visit Organ Piper Pizza in Greenfield, Wisconsin. At that time, the Organ Piper's Featured Organist was Dave Wickerham, who was highly influential in Zach's interest in the instrument. In early 2011, Zach was fortunate to become the Organ Piper's Featured Organist, where he continues to entertain nightly at the three manual, thirty rank theatre pipe organ.

Zach has a Degree in Recording Technology from McNally Smith College of Music in St. Paul, Minnesota. He has been privileged to work on several recording projects as an engineer, most recently Dan Minervini's excellent CD "Where or When" recorded on the Hardman Studio Wurlitzer in Great Falls, VA. In April of 2018, Zach released his first CD on the Organ Piper's Wurlitzer, entitled "It's About Time".

Equally at home behind the console as in front of it, Zach is also an experienced pipe organ technician and is involved in maintaining, restoring and installing several instruments in South Eastern Wisconsin. This list includes the Organ Piper Pizza Wurlitzer, his own ten rank Barton organ and a few church installations in the area.

Away from his profession, Zach and his wife Emily reside in East Troy, Wisconsin where he is an active volunteer with the East Troy Railroad Museum. The museum works to preserve the rail heritage of Wisconsin and America and operates restored streetcars and electric interurban equipment on seven and a half miles of original interurban right-of-way.



Jasper Sanfilippo

From Dave Calendine, ATOS President



The theatre organ and mechanical music world lost a giant in the music world with the passing of Jasper Sanfilippo. Jasper's love of mechanics and music had him collect one of the world's largest and best collections of mechanical music machines, steam engines, and one of the largest theatre pipe organs in existence. His love of the

machines also had him build an incredible house and carousel building so that he could share his passion with others, and helped non-profit groups raise millions of dollars at the same time. All this, and on top of all that, he still ran a world-class organization in the John B. Sanfilippo company, parent company of Fisher Nuts. Jasper passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by family. All of us in JATOE extend our sympathy and condolences to the entire Sanfilippo family.



May Jasper Rest in Peace.

March 31, 1931

January 28, 2020



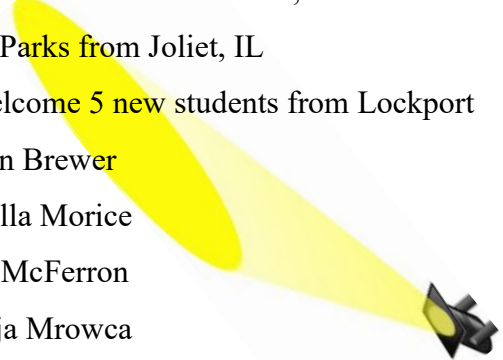
A very special thank you to Sara Randolph for all that she's done and continues to do introducing young people to the theatre organ! Her passion and dedication is truly inspiring!

THANK YOU!



Please Welcome our Newest Members to JATOE!

- Jennifer Gruber, from Joliet, IL
- Kenneth Redman, from Plainfield, IL.
- Troy Hambly, from Plainfield, IL.
- Robert Potts from Midlothian, IL
- Cindy Parks from Joliet, IL
- We welcome 5 new students from Lockport
- Jackson Brewer
- Gabriella Morice
- Henry McFerron
- Patrycja Mrowca
- Sarah Colarelli



THANK YOU!

With heavy hearts, we have been informed of the death of Raymond J Ratajczak (Buffalo Grove, Illinois), who passed away on August 15, 2019.



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please Print or affix an address sticker. Yearly Dues are \$30.00, \$15.00 for students.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (C) _____

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ATOS Member? Yes ___ No ___ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

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Please mail your remittance to:

Jim Patak

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Westchester, IL 60154



**MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL**
Annual Dues

Due by March 31st

Allen Organs

Chicago

181 W Crossroads Parkway,

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Bolingbrook, Illinois 60440

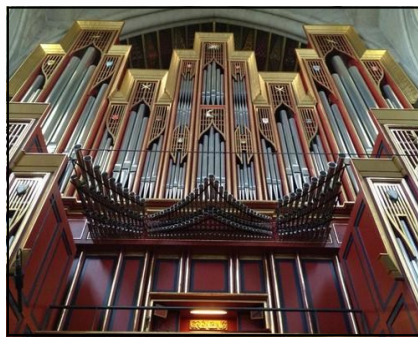
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2020 "Reels at the Rialto" Movie line up, tickets are just \$5, Doors open at 6pm, show time 7pm. The Barton Grande Theater Pipe Organ plays for 30 minutes before all shows.

March 19th - A Star is Born, organist Glenn Tallar

April 2nd – The Greatest Showman,
organist Taylor Trimby

May 7th – Grease, organist Carl DeSanti

June 25th – Uncle Buck, organist Taylor Trimby

July 16th – The Sandlot, organist Taylor Trimby

August 20th – Casablanca, organist Carl DeSanti

September 17th – Toy Story 4, organist Taylor Trimby

October 29th – Hocus Pocus, organist Carl DeSanti



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2020 ATOS Convention Registration Is Now Open

Make plans now to attend the 2020 annual convention this year in Indianapolis. Registration is now open. Click on the link for complete details.



<https://www.atos.org/convention>



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