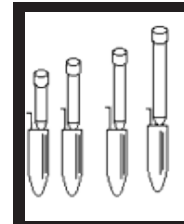




Dickinson Theatre Organ Society

A chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society



PO Box 5094
Wilmington, DE 19808

Vox Humana

www.dtoskimball.org

Volume 54 Number 3

The Official DTOS Newsletter

November 2023



Justin Lavoie

is one of today's most dedicated and artistic young theatre organists. Since his introduction to the instrument at age six, he has received piano and organ instruction from numerous accomplished instructors, including Jelani Eddington. He received the American Theatre Organ Society's Student of the Year Award in 2010, and won the organization's annual Young Theatre Organist Competition in 2013. Since then, Justin has performed in venues across the United States, and at national conventions of the American Theatre Organ Society and the Organ Historical Society. His music has also been featured on *Pipedreams*, the nationally syndicated radio program, and Steve Ashley's *Hot Pipes* podcast. In recognition of his accomplishments as a performer, Justin was named Organist of the Year by the American Theatre Organ Society in 2020.

Discounted Season Tickets are back...

Skip the line, Save time, Buy by phone or online...

Buy the entire season at a discounted price of \$90 (\$10 discount)

Hello kindred friends!

Welcome to the first concert in our 23/24 season. It is without a doubt that one of the best, was this evening's organist. A master of the console, Mr. Dave Wickerham. When Dave performs, it's all from his mind. Every piece is embellished with his own unique arrangement. Because of the sheer number of pieces presented, I am changing my style of review with facts about the music, and just present what was played and even to that end, I will not include every title.

The concert opens with the combined tunes "Get Happy" and "It's a Good Day". Not a bad choice considering the travel to the concert was a bit wet. With that in mind, the medley up next was "Rainy Day", and consisted of "Singing in the Rain", "September in the Rain", "Here's That Rainy Day", and I believe, "Laughter in the Rain". In the reprise of "Singing in the Rain", Dave was interrupted by an organ note cypher. A side note, Dave works well with cyphers, bringing to mind the 2017 Tampa ATOS convention, I was able to witness Dave play through a cypher and was so well enjoyed that it was included on the Convention Highlights CD.



After a brief interruption by a noise from within the audience, Dave selected to play the Batman Theme. He followed this with a beautiful arrangement of "Autumn Leaves".

Up next was a Thanksgiving Medley. This consisted of "We Gather Together (to ask the Lord's blessing)", "Sent Forth by God's Blessing", "Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens Adore Him" and a reprise of "Sent Forth by God's Blessing". I did need a little help with identifying these pieces and went to my good friend Jim Reinhart and came through beautifully. A side note, it was Jim who took me to Dickinson for my introduction to our mighty Kimball and will be forever thankful for that. I've been coming ever since!

The concert continued with "Never On Sunday" and then a 70's medley consisting of the following: "Sweet Caroline", "Song Sung Blue", "Blue Bayou" and the last tune which was interrupted by another cypher, "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown". Even with all the fine maintenance, with so many pipes, one can expect just that, and Dave never gets rattled he is such a professional!

At this point, the time got away from Dave and he extended the first half but nobody seemed to notice, we were all enjoying Dave so much. Next was a Disney Medley,

and believe me, this list was not inclusive but included the following: “Heigh-Ho Heigh-Ho”, “Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo”, “When You Wish Upon a Star”, “Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious”, and Mickey Mouse Club Theme Song.

To take us into intermission, Dave played Super Mario Bros theme song , which Dave called his “Walking Music”.

The majority of the second half was dedicated to song requests from the audience that had been obtained during the break. The first, however, was on the list but was requested earlier by a friend. This was “Who? (Who Stole My Heart Away?)”.

The next selection was “Think”, the theme song from Jeopardy! that Dave played while deciding which jazz rag he was going to play. What a showman! After which he played “Temptation Rag”.

Next was the request list, including but not inclusive: “Top of the World”, “We’ve Only Just Begun”, “Tonight”, “My Favorite Things”, “Edelweiss”, “Love is Here to Stay”, and the next one I just loved as he began with “Rhapsody in Blue”, combined with “I Got Rhythm” and end-



ing with more of “Rhapsody in Blue”, plus “You”, “Over the Rainbow”, “How Great Thou Art”, “Danny Boy/Londonderry Air”, “America the Beautiful” and “My Country Tis of Thee”.

Dave now receives a well-deserved standing ovation and ends the concert with “Sabbath Prayer”. What a really wonderful evening!



Thank you Dave, such a pleasure as always.

Spread the Word About DTOS to Your Friends

Please tell your friends about the Dickinson Theatre Organ Society. Those who are on the mailing list will receive the Vox Humana electronically and/or via mail, but we’d like to extend the word to others who may not have attended concerts before or be members of our organization. We are on Facebook (Dickinson Theatre Organ Society) and also have a website that lists our concert dates just in case you miss the Vox Humana in print. Season tickets can still be purchased online via our website as well.

A Special Request—Help with House/Lobby

Scott Burkart, our house/lobby volunteer, is looking for additional help particularly with clean-up of the lobby following concerts. Please contact c_earl6@msn.com for more information if you are willing/interested in helping. We use carts to help transport/put away materials; limited heavy lifting is required. Custodians are responsible for taking down tables and chairs.

A Request from One of Our Members

Long time founding member, Mary Ann Dilworth, has recently relocated to Bridgeville, DE. She would like to continue attending DTOS concerts and is wondering if anyone who lives near that area would be willing to take her. If you are interested/able to accommodate this request, please contact Mary Ann Dilworth directly at 302-494-5489. She will provide the home address.

A Note from the Reception Committee

If you are interested in donating baked goods or have other treats to share for our concert receptions, please contact c_earl6@msn.com or call at 302-388-4789. We would like to know how much to anticipate, about 1 week in advance of each concert, if possible.

We need help at intermission (to begin set up) and after the reception. Clean-up typically does not take long (less than 30 minutes), especially when others are present to help. Please reach out to Christie Earl at c_earl6@msn.com or at 302-388-4789 to obtain more information.

Thanks again for your support! We look forward to seeing you at the receptions in the lobby following the concerts!

Bob's Corner



In honor of our Society's founder, this corner of the *Vox* will be saved for special articles from previous *Voxes* that were written by Bob. This edition's special article includes part of the March 2011 *Vox*, an article titled "What is a double console concert?" This article talked about the upcoming (at that time) concert which featured Chris Gorsuch and Jelani Eddington:

"DTOS is blessed with twin consoles. Only a few other venues can offer this feature. At this concert you will find our second console on the opposite side of the stage from where you have seen the regular console. Both consoles address (play) the same pipes, but having two organists at the same time allows for more variety of sounds and more complex arrangements than one artist alone can perform.

Not all selections will be duets. Expect to hear solos, organ duets, perhaps piano/organ duets, or even a piano solo. This will be a concert where you won't know what to expect, but it will be an evening of great music, performed very well, on a great instrument.

Chris and Jelani have performed together several times in the past. Now it is our turn to experience this excitement."

Volunteers Needed!

In our years of presenting concerts, DTOS has built a reputation for excellence. People have come to expect good music, played by talented artists in a professionally delivered and smoothly run concert. But you may not always think about the folks who are “behind the scenes” who make the event possible – people who volunteered their time and skills for the benefit of DTOS and all of the attendees.

When difficulties arose, someone in the “family” would often step up to fill the need – or a volunteer would add the job to his / her workload. The audience wasn’t even aware that there was a problem.

In recent years DTOS has lost many of those volunteers who made the system work. And now, we need more hands to take their places. Without them we simply cannot do it. In the past, we have politely asked for help, but response was poor. Now the situation is serious. DTOS needs more members of the “family” to share the effort of doing what we have done so well in the past – sharing the music and magic of the theatre pipe organ with the rest of the world.

This recent comment by a member of the Dickinson Family gives a possible reason to hope: “I’ve been in this organization a long time, enjoying the music. It’s time I volunteer to give back and to help make the system work.”

How about you? Whether a new member of our family of concert-goers or a long-time DTOS’er, could you match your skills to one of the jobs that DTOS needs to fill?

For more information (and to sign up) contact Christi Earl at c_earl6@msn.com or see any of the DTOS volunteers at the next concert.

President’s Message

In the spirit of musical camaraderie, we gather once again to share our love for the magnificent theatre pipe organ. Our recent concert with Dave Wickerham was nothing short of a harmonious celebration, with the audience coming together to revel in the magic that this extraordinary instrument brings to our lives.

The evening featured a delightful performance that resonated with the soul, reminding us why the Mighty Kimball holds a special place in our hearts. As we applauded Dave’s skillful maneuvers across the keys, we couldn’t help but feel the collective passion that unites our society.

Looking ahead, our calendar is brimming with exciting plans to nurture our shared enthusiasm. We invite you to mark your calendars and join us for the upcoming concerts. Together, let’s continue fostering a vibrant community that cherishes the beauty and brilliance of the theatre organ.

Saturday, January 27, 2024 - Matinee Concert at 3:00 PM featuring Dr. Carol Williams

Saturday, March 16, 2024 - Matinee Concert at 3:00 PM featuring Jerry Nagano

Saturday, May 4, 2024 - Concert at 7:00 PM featuring Simon Gledhill

Thank you for being an integral part of the Dickinson Theatre Organ Society. Your dedication to preserving this art form ensures that its notes of joy will resonate for generations to come.

David A. Ruth, Ph.D.
President / Chairman
DTOSPres@gmail.com

Our Annual Appeal Has Begun for 2023-2024

You are invited to send your contribution to:

**DTOS Appeal
PO Box 5094
Wilmington, DE 19808**

Your contributions are tax deductible.
DTOS is a 501(c)3 Corporation in the State of Delaware

2023-2024 Appeal

Sponsorship Level	Single Donation
Guardian of our Musical Heritage	\$1000+
President's Circle	\$500 - \$999
Benefactor	\$250 - \$499
Sponsor	\$100 - \$249
Donor	\$50 - \$99
Friend	\$10 - \$49

Premium Giving / Naming Opportunities

Dickinson 54th Season Sponsor	\$50,000
Boyd Console Sponsor	\$25,000
Individual Concert Sponsor	\$8,000
Concert Playbill Sponsor	\$2,000

Estate Planning

By putting DTOS in your will or estate plan, you can make it possible for generations of future audiences to continue to enjoy the music of the Mighty Kimball. At the same time, your planned gift can offer tax-saving opportunities for you and your loved ones. For more information, contact me directly and I will schedule a time to meet with you.

Please consider going online to www.dtoskimball.org to complete your sponsorship online using a credit card.

Thank you for helping to keep the music playing!

Dickinson Theatre Organ Society
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Wilmington, DE 19808

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Dickinson Theatre Organ Society

A chapter of the
American Theatre Organ Society
presents

Justin Lavoie

Live Concert
Saturday, November 18th, 2023
at 3:00pm



The Dickinson Theatre

1801 Milltown Road

Wilmington, DE 19808-4011