

NOMINATIONS

Nominees for election to the OHS Board of Directors. Five candidates for two open positions. Balloting opens April 15, 2019 and closes May 31, 2019.

OHS members may cast their ballots online through the OHS website.

The five candidates were asked to supply responses to the following four questions:

1. What important challenges do you believe the OHS faces in the near future, and how can the OHS meet them?
2. How will your contributions to the Board of Directors benefit the OHS?
3. How will your professional/personal experience and capabilities benefit at least one existing or new OHS program or activity?
4. What is your capacity to participate actively as a member of the Board of Directors, including your commitment to follow through in a timely manner and contribute financially to the organization, as your personal circumstances permit?

NICHOLAS DANIELS



1. As a member of the OHS for the past 15 years, I have seen our membership age. The OHS needs to continue to reach out to and to recruit a younger generation of organists, builders, and enthusiasts to the organization.
2. As a doctor for 20 years and as an organ enthusiast or the past 20 years, I can bring a different perspective to OHS. I have a lot of experience working in academia, and on other Boards and organizations that have to make difficult decisions for the betterment of the Society. I have the experience, and intellectual capabilities to help OHS make rational and practical decisions.
3. My background in community outreach and developing community-based health programs will allow me to help OHS grow the membership pipeline with younger organists and other organ enthusiasts like myself. My involvement in the Board will also allow

me to assist with helping OHS to become more organized, to establish realistic timelines that are met and executed in timely fashion.

4. I have the capacity and time to participate fully in the OHS Board of Directors activities. One of my greatest attributes is staying on time and being punctual in my clinical practice and in completing assignments and tasks. I regularly make donations philanthropic causes, and I supported the concert of Christopher Houlihan played at Sage Chapel at Cornell University, my alma mater, during one of OHS Syracuse Conventions. My partner, who is also an active member and amateur organist, and I will continue to contribute to OHS in the future since we consider OHS and many of its members as family. I share the guiding principles of OHS and I am deeply committed to this great organization.

MICHAEL DIORIO



1. To my mind, I believe that one of the challenges that faces the OHS is the membership demographic. I believe that this organization, this important organization, has not been touted as widely and vociferously as have other professional organizations within the organist world.

I believe that this challenge originates in the organ departments of many of our important music institutions in the country. I don't recall being spoken with as an undergraduate organ student, or our department being spoken to, about the OHS.

It seems that many students are quickly ushered into the American Guild of Organists to put them in "the mix." Younger generations of organists are so focused on becoming integrated in the field and considering professional concerns that one of the greatest concerns, that of the preservation and care of the very instrument they are so diligently studying, is entirely overlooked.

I believe one way in which this can be addressed is by having a clear presence at other professional organizations' regional and national gatherings. Perhaps it would be wise to consider dovetailing and collaborating with regional offerings to promote awareness and engage in a lively campaign of recruitment.

Offering reduced membership rates, if not free membership for the first year, to undergraduate and graduate students engaged in study of the instrument, maybe even assigning mentors from the OHS for each major organ department in the country. I don't believe it would take much effort, and could be a way of checking in with students and promoting not only awareness but education for what is sometimes otherwise thought of as an organization to which "older people" belong.

I also think the Scholarship is an excellent resource and incentive for the younger demographic. Speaking as a former fellow I know that it afforded me an incredible opportunity to have an intimate glimpse into the Society, garnering a deeper understanding and make some lasting friendships.

2. I would hope that, having not served before, I would bring a unique optic garnered by thinking outside of the proverbial box. I think to serve on the board, and to truly be able to offer something meaningful, one has to have the ability to listen. One should listen with not the intention to respond but with the intention to actually hear what is being said.

To be able to stand back, consider the information presented, contemplate the ramifications of a decision, and offer a proposal for a course of action takes mental clarity, and often requires the removal of self from a situation.

I would hope that were I to be elected to the Board of Directors I would bring not only my professional musical experiences and my passion for the instrument, but also the administrative and fiduciary responsibility experience that I have acquired over the past ten years as a director of a large church music program.

Having served as organist and director of music at Church of the Redeemer has placed me in the position of not only the principal musician, but the principal steward of funds for the music program.

My responsibilities as steward of these funds have involved scholarship appeals and disbursements, fund allocation, establishing and/or repurposing specific line items, fundraising for international activities, and project development. None of this is achieved by sitting on the sidelines. Actively recruiting donors, writing proposals for funding, and making appeals are all part and parcel of my position. I would hope that this experience would bring an element of usefulness to discussions around the table of the Board of Directors as they pertain to not only musical matters but those of fiduciary concerns as well.

3. I have been a professional organist and church musician for nearly 20 years. I actively concertize abroad, record, produce, and engage in professional musical activities. I think that with each one of those facets of

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my musicianship comes an experience that is able to speak to different levels and focuses of need.

I also think my training at Westminster Choir College, Yale University, and Boston University, has given me a unique optic into the various types of organ programs offered and the often-varied focus apertures that the institutions have on the field.

I think having a good relationship with our organ professors and garnering performance opportunities for their students across the country at our conventions and events could elevate our presence and provide for a broader exposure over a wider demographic.

I believe my experience, as a former Biggs Fellow can aid in articulating to future Scholars the privilege of membership in such a Society as the OHS. Cultivating younger members should be a priority. Again, recruiting should be an ongoing process. One should never be 100 percent satisfied with numbers or the status quo, as this feeling of false satisfaction often numbs us to the actual state of complacency.

Recruitment is hard work, but if we can establish connections with organ departments across the country, and initiate a new invigorated campaign for membership that could be an exciting time!

4. If it's one thing I pride myself on it is timeliness and the accomplishment of tasks at hand.

In considering a place on the Board of Directors for the OHS, I have taken into consideration such factors as distance from my home, distance from my work, and my current workload and life responsibilities.

At present, my full-time job is less than two miles away from the OHS headquarters. My residence is only a 45-minute drive away from that location. Attendance at meetings would not be a problem.

I am afforded ample time for continuing education and the funding of those pursuits that also include professional development. Being available for and present at annual conventions is also not a problem.

When it comes to contributing financially to the OHS, I believe it is the responsibility of all members to make themselves aware of the funding possibilities and opportunities available to them. When it comes to board members participating financially, I completely understand that this is a prerequisite and ongoing responsibility of each member of the Board of Directors.

Were I to be elected to the board, I would be an active contributor to not only the annual fund, but also to the Biggs fellowship, of which I am an avid advocate. I also understand that there may be other OHS initiatives for which my financial support would be appreciated. As my circumstances dictate, I would be very amenable to participating in those as well.

LYNN DOBSON



1. With the acquisition of the new headquarters and archives facilities, it appears that the OHS is maturing into a more professional organization that is commanding a wider respect among the professional organizations and those people who make up the "organ community" at large. It will be important to maintain the qualities that were the spirit of the original founders but also meet the expectations of a growing professional group.
2. I would hope to help bring experience and perspective from the organbuilding community's challenges in this to this group as they chart their course for the future.
3. Having been a member of OHS for 40 years but with a somewhat detached involvement, I would need to find out more about the specific activities that exist or may exist in the future to know how I might be most productive to the organization.
4. While I will remain active in my business, in the next year or so I will be stepping back from many of my duties so I should have more time to devote to organizations like OHS. I would look forward to keeping in touch with the many friends and associates through this work.

CAROLE TERRY



1. The OHS needs to have more outreach to young organists and organ-builders in universities and colleges as well as the general public. This can be accomplished with programming at Stoneleigh and increased visibility through social media and YouTube.
2. I have had a 40-year history in Academia and have had students who have been active in OHS as well as the American Guild of Organists and several of

the University of Washington doctoral students were awarded Biggs Fellowships. At UW, I teach on various organs in the Seattle area. At our playing classes, the students study aspects of registration, voicing, scaling and construction of instruments built by Flentrop, Fritts, Pasi, and Fisk. The students have often visited organ building shops of Fritts and Pasi. In addition, the class has taken trips to France and Germany.

3. As a university professor, I have mentored many masters and doctoral students in preparation for their exams and dissertations. Stoneleigh can provide a wealth of possible topics on organ-building for those students wishing to specialize in this field. Grants should be developed for students to come to Stoneleigh to pursue their research.
4. I will be able to participate actively as a member of the Board of Directors and perform given tasks to the best of my ability. I will also be able to contribute financially to the Organ Historical Society.

MAXINE THEVENOT



1. The pace of life and peoples' expectations of communication are very different now than they were in 1956, when the OHS was founded. I believe that, as with any organization, embracing the 21st-century tools now available to us all will bring current members closer together and bring new members into the OHS. Creating healthy online forums for discussion may encourage current members to be more active and also attract new, younger members.
2. I hope to be especially helpful in increasing membership within the organization.
3. As a frequent performer for other similar organizations, I can offer perhaps a unique perspective in that regard. As a seasoned, dual-citizen, professional musician, who has the opportunity to play many different organs in North America, the UK and Europe, and to interact with organists, clergy and organ enthusiasts alike, I would suggest that we consider expanding our membership scope to include Canada and Mexico as we look to the future of the OHS.
4. I believe that I can fully participate in all tele/video conferencing meetings. Schedule permitting, I hope to be able to attend any face to face meetings that are called. Also, as personal circumstances permit, I will be happy to contribute financial resources to further the purpose of the OHS.