

The Windline



December 2025



*Susquehanna Valley Theatre
Organ Society*

www.svtos.org



SVTOS HOLIDAY PARTY

FEATURING

NATHAN AVAKIAN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, 12:00-?? PM
NEIDICH-HORVATH RESIDENCE, LEWISBERRY, PA

NATHAN AVAKIAN is an internationally-acclaimed performer and composer who brings bold, contemporary sound to film, media and live performance. Known for his unique blending of virtual instrument technology with organ music, Nathan's concerts satisfy contemporary musical tastes and pay tribute to the historical legacy of the pipe organ.

Nathan's fascination with the pipe organ began at age four with a visit to the Portland Organ Grinder, a restaurant featuring pop music played live on a theatre organ with all of its mechanics exposed. At age eleven he began nine years of private organ studies with Donna Parker, and he was frequently coached by Jonas Nordwall.

Since winning the American Theatre Organ Society Young Organist Competition in 2009, Nathan has provided pipe organ entertainment across the United States and internationally including performances in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and Thailand. He has produced three albums featuring various pipe organs and virtual orchestrations which are available on CD, vinyl and digital streaming platforms. (Continued on Page 2)



Nathan Avakian at the
Capitol Wurlitzer

SVTOS is a 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the preservation and presentation of Theatre Pipe Organs. Proudly supporting the Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ in the Capitol Theatre in York, PA.





NATHAN AVAKIAN (Continued from Page 1)

From 2011-2013 Nathan served as the Youth Representative on the American Theatre Organ Society Board of Directors managing programs that recognize and support the work of young organ students.

As resident organist and composer for the International Youth Silent Film Festival, for fifteen years Nathan created music that inspired young filmmakers around the world. He helped pioneer the festival's expansion to include regional competitions across North America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

Nathan produces cinematic scores for films, web series, and podcasts including "Makers Who Inspire," "Apotheosis," "The Creative Quarantine Sessions," and the "I Am A Creator" documentary series from Kit. He has also created original theatre organ scores for Thanhouser Company Film Preservation and various shorts by contemporary filmmakers.

Nathan has a growing collection of piano and organ compositions to his credit including "At The Square," commissioned to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Jersey Journal

publication in 2017. In 2020 he started a songwriting business with his sister Claire called "Passing Notes" writing and producing personalized songs for customers and their loved ones.

Nathan also works as a freelance theatrical lighting designer. In 2014 he received a B.F.A. degree in lighting design from Purchase College, State University of New York.



The Neidich-Horvath Christmas Tree



For more information about Nathan's music, visit www.avakianmusic.com.



**Richard's
Radar**

Happy Holiday time, hope everyone is having an enjoyable Thanksgiving week and you have been able to watch at least one holiday program on television.

After our wonderful SVTOS holiday program two years ago, I wanted to have Nathan Avakian return for another program of traditional and contemporary arrangements. In looking at the early December schedule, Capitol Theatre conflicts for meeting at the Capitol and Nathan's schedule, with his encouragement we decided to have Nathan's program on the 3/51 Walker this year. He has just released a new holiday album on CD and vinyl on the Sanfilippo organ which will be available at the meeting.

Please read the details about the holiday program (See Page #4). We will need an RSVP to plan the event. (We will try and accommodate all, however, SVTOS members will get preference due to space limitations.) Please plan your arrival between 11 AM and 12 Noon please

We will be heading south just after New Year's Day. As with the past few winters, Barry Howard will be coordinating Open Consoles for January and February and a Members Showcase for March.

If you cannot make the meeting, have a wonderful holiday season.

Richard Neidich, President SVTOS



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME **2025 - 2026 SEASON** **SEPTEMBER 1, 2025 - AUGUST 31, 2026**

YES - It's once again time to renew your SVTOS Membership. You'll find a personalized renewal form on the second page of the email that delivered this *Windline* (**Scroll Down in the email**).

Please print that form, review the information, make any necessary changes, and mail it along with your check made payable to "SVTOS" to Roy Wainwright at the address at the bottom of the form. You can also bring it to the next SVTOS meeting that you attend. Thank you for your continuing support!

SVTOS OFFICERS

Richard Neidich - President 202-302-6320
Barry Howard - Vice President 717-274-2254
Roy Wainwright - Secretary, Treasurer, and Webmaster 717-619-7243

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Larry Fenner – "Windline" Editor & Membership
Ed Horvath - Hospitality
Gary Coller, Ken Kline, Terry Nace, and Don Schoeps.





SVTOS Holiday Program Invitation

Not exactly like our picnic arrangements, the December Holiday Program will be at the residence of Richard Neidich and Edward Horvath. With an early sunset and other conflicts, we have scheduled our SVTOS 2025 holiday organ performance from 12 Noon to 2 PM on Saturday, December 6, 2025.

During the program, there will be an intermission with beverages. After the program, Ed is planning on a Holiday Buffet of traditional items such as waffles (with "chicken n gravy" and/or with a dessert topping), other finger foods and desserts and beverages the rest of the afternoon.

Guests are welcome to bring treats or beverages to share.

So that we have sufficient seating and to allow for planning, please provide an e-mail RSVP by December 2nd with names of those planning on attending to rgneidich@aol.com (or Ed Horvath at 202.302.0231). An acknowledgement message with map and location (if requested) will be provided by e-mail on December 4th.

There is plenty of parking available on our street and our driveway areas.

Richard Neidich and Edward Horvath

110 Wheatland Road

Lewisberry PA 17339 (Our home is actually in Fairview Township, York County)

Ed Horvath at 202.302.0231 for voice mail or text, e-mail at rgneidich@aol.com

Don Kinnier's "Retirement" from Longwood Gardens

Over the years many of our members have planned their Christmas Holiday visits to Longwood Gardens to make sure that they were there to hear Don Kinnier play Christmas tunes on the Conservatory organ. After **45 YEARS(!)** of Christmas At the Gardens, Don has decided that, between lousy night vision, bad knees, and low back stuff, it was time "retire" and give someone else a chance. Luke Staisiunas and Tedde Gibson are two of the new guys playing this year.

(Editor's Note: I don't know about you, but I'll really miss hearing Don's iconic arrangement of *Parade Of The Wooden Soldiers*, that has more key changes than a cheap motel.)





SVTOS 2025-2026 SEASON

Saturday December 6* 12:00 PM until ?	SVTOS Holiday Party featuring Nathan Avakian playing the 3/52 Walker from 12:00 PM-2:00 PM in the Neidich-Horvath Residence, Lewisberry, PA. Followed by holiday refreshments.*
Monday, January 19* 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Open Console (MLK Day), Capitol Theatre, York, PA*
Monday, February 16* 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Open Console (Presidents' Day), Capitol Theatre, York, PA*
Monday, March 9 7:00 PM	Members' Showcase, Capitol Theatre, York, PA
Monday, April 27* 7:00 PM	Declan Poole Showcase (ATOS 2025 Young Organist Competition Winner from Great Britain), Capitol Theatre, York, PA*
Saturday, May 16* 2:30 PM	Dan Minervini Showcase, Howard-Fenner Residence, Lebanon PA.*
Monday, June 8 7:00 PM	Details to be determined, Capitol Theatre, York, PA
Saturday July 18 (times to follow)*	Annual SVTOS Picnic, Neidich-Horvath Residence, Lewisberry, PA*

* Indicates meetings **NOT** held on the usual second Monday of the month **and/or** at a different time or location



"SVTOS Plays For The Movies"

Hear these SVTOS members play the WurliTzer 30 minutes before listed times at the Capitol Theatre. Consult the Capitol Theatre Website ([Click here](#)) for the details and admission prices.

- Saturday, December 6, 3:00 PM, *White Christmas* – LARRY FENNER
- Saturday, December 6, 7:00 PM, *White Christmas* – LARRY FENNER
- Sunday, December 7, 3:00 PM, *White Christmas* – ROY WAINWRIGHT
- Wednesday, December 10, 7:00 PM, *Die Hard* – GARY COLLER
- Friday, December 12, 7:00 PM, *This Christmas* – GLENN HOUGH
- Saturday, December 13, 7:00 PM, *The Nightmare Before Christmas* – DON SCHOEPS
- Sunday, December 14, 3:00 PM, *McCabe & Mrs. Miller* – JERR KEIM
- Tuesday, December 16, 7:00 PM, Glatfelter Private Rental – GLENN HOUGH
- Wednesday, December 17, 7:00 PM, Glatfelter Private Rental – ROY WAINWRIGHT
- Thursday, December 18, 7:00 PM, *Elf* – DON SCHOEPS
- Sunday, December 21, 3:00 PM, *It's a Wonderful Life* – GARY COLLER





COMING ATTRACTIONS

Saturday, November 29 3:00 PM	Silent Film <i>The Freshman</i> starring Harold Lloyd accompanied by Tedde Gibson, Weinberg Center for the Arts, Frederick, MD
Sunday, December 14 12:30 - 3:30 PM	Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley Annual Holiday Concert, 12:30-1:30 PM featuring Bernie McGorrey on the Wurlitzer, followed by <i>White Christmas</i> Sing-Along (1:30 - 3:30 PM) , tickets available at Colonial Theatre , 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville, PA
Saturday, December 20 7:00 PM	Don Kinnier accompanies Charlie Chaplin's <i>The Gold Rush</i> , Capitol Theatre, York, PA (See details below)
Saturday, January 17 3:00 PM	Silent Film <i>The Unholy Three</i> accompanied by Tedde Gibson, Weinberg Center for the Arts, Frederick, MD
Saturday, January 17 7:30 PM	Silent Film <i>He Who Gets Slapped</i> accompanied by Tedde Gibson, Weinberg Center for the Arts, Frederick, MD
Saturday, January 31 2:00 PM	Justin Stahl, Dickinson Theatre Organ Society , Wilmington, DE.
Saturday, February 14 7:30 PM	Silent Film <i>Son of the Sheik</i> starring Rudolph Valentino accompanied by Tedde Gibson, Weinberg Center for the Arts, Frederick, MD
Saturday, March 15 3:00 PM	Silent Films <i>Coney Island</i> and <i>The Cook</i> , both starring Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle and Buster Keaton, accompanied by Tedde Gibson, Weinberg Center for the Arts, Frederick, MD
Saturday, March 21 2:00 PM	Peter Richard Conte, Dickinson Theatre Organ Society , Wilmington, DE.
Saturday, April 12 3:00 PM	Silent Film <i>Chicago</i> accompanied by Tedde Gibson, Weinberg Center for the Arts, Frederick, MD
Saturday, May 2 2:00 PM	Nathan Avakian, Dickinson Theatre Organ Society , Wilmington, DE.
July 6-10, 2026	ATOS 2026 Annual Convention, Rochester, NY
Click on the underlined links to find additional information, including location and cost, for these events.	

100th Anniversary Screening with Live Theatre Organ Accompaniment by Don Kinnier

Charlie Chaplin's comedic masterwork—which charts a prospector's search for fortune in the Klondike and his discovery of romance (with the beautiful Georgia Hale)—forever cemented the iconic status of Chaplin and his Little Tramp character. Shot partly on location in the Sierra Nevadas and featuring such timeless gags as the dance of the dinner rolls and the meal of boiled shoe leather, *The Gold Rush* is an indelible work of heartwarming hilarity.

Don't miss the 100th Anniversary screening of this legendary silent film accompanied live on our Mighty Wurlitzer Organ by **Don Kinnier** of Susquehanna Valley Theatre Organ Society.

Date: December 20, 2025

Time: 7:00 pm

Series: CapFilm

Venue: Capitol Theatre, York, PA

Duration: 1 hour 35 minutes

Rating: NR

Price: All Tickets \$8

Click [HERE](#) to purchase tickets

