



CLARION

Journal of Chicagoland Theatre Organ Society

*A chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society
CTOS is a Illinois Non-Profit Corporation*

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March 2020



**CTOS, JATOE and CATOE
Are Proud To Present
Jelani Eddington and the
Southwest Children's Choir
In concert, Sunday March 1
At the Rialto Theatre in Joliet
Doors open at 1:30 pm
concert starts at 2:00 pm**

**Enter via the stage door at 121 Scott Street
Please bring a refreshment to share**

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 for 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 organ installed in the Indianapolis 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 Williams Star Wars Symphonic Suite was viewed on You Tube 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.



The Rialto Theatre Grand Barton Pipe Organ

Jelani is joined by the **Southwest Children's Choir** under the direction of **Mike Cierski** for this program.



Mark Your Calendar!

April 18th Zach Frame at the Allen Organ Store, co-sponsored by CTOS, CATOE and JATOE. Doors open at 2:30, program starts at 3:00.

June 14th Nicholas Renkosik at the Allen Organ Store. Doors open at 2:30, program starts at 3:00.

Please remember to pay your 2020 dues.

Without your prompt attention to sending in your dues your board cannot schedule artists for the coming months and we cannot schedule the caliber of artists you have come to expect from your club. To date less than 50% of our current members have paid the 2020 dues. Membership applications can be downloaded from our web site.

Also, please remember to invite your family, friends and co-workers to a concert. Hopefully they may catch the bug and join our organization to support these programs.



Melody Maker Organ Club

Would you enjoy having the opportunity to play various instruments? Would you like to practice in front of a few, very friendly, amateur organists? If this is appealing to you then we may have a club for you.

There are no dues, we have several types of organs available, members of our group meet in the homes of fellow members once each month (usually on the third Saturday) for a chance to perform for each other. Skill level is not a requirement. We are looking for a few interested people to join us. Call Carole Schmidt at 630-668-5925 for more information and to get your name added to our roster.

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