

# DETROIT THEATER ORGAN SOCIETY

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DTOS  
Executive Board  
& Directors

- **President**  
Lance Luce  
lanceluce@wowway.com
- **Vice President**  
Michael Fisher  
fisher.michael65@yahoo.com
- **Treasurer**  
Dave Calendine  
dave@calendine.net
- **Corporate Secretary**  
Fred Brufloodt  
fred.audioarts@prodigy.net
- Gil Francis  
ggf@juno.com
- Paul Jacyk  
paul5jacyk@aol.com
- Dick Leichtamer  
tibiaplana434@buckeye-express.com
- George Orbits  
orbitsgc@gmail.com
- Bob Weil  
robertjweil@yahoo.com
- Chris Werner  
rolandefleur@gmail.com
- Kevin Werner  
kevwer@comcast.net

## Justin LaVoie Premieres At The Senate Sunday, May 18, 2014 3:00 p.m.

This month's organ concert brings a new artist to the Senate Theater; an artist that has won world acclaim for his artistry, and an artist that we are proud to say is from right here in the Metro Detroit area!

Justin LaVoie is a passionate, 19-year old organist who possesses a steadfast dedication to the theatre organ art form. His fascination with the instrument began at the age of seven, after hearing his first theatre organ recording. This newfound interest compelled Justin to take electronic organ lessons at a local music store for the next six years. In 2008, he attended the ATOS Summer Youth Camp in Chicago, subsequently participating in the 2009, 2010, and 2012 camps. These thoroughly enjoyable and educational opportunities motivated Justin to mature in his musicianship, and he began studying with renowned theatre organist Jelani Eddington in 2010. Shortly thereafter, he began performing movie overtures and intermissions for the public on the Barton organ at the Redford Theatre in Detroit.

In recognition of his diligent musical studies, Justin was named ATOS Student of the Year in 2010, and more recently he won the 2013 ATOS Young Organist Competition, achieving the prestigious title of Overall Winner. In addi-

tion to his theatre organ pursuits, Justin studies classical organ with Rick Cucchi, and occasionally plays for services at his home parish. Away from the console, he enjoys listening to a wide variety of music, cooking, spending time outdoors, and maintaining his extensive collection of early 20th century box cameras.

Justin will be performing at this year's annual convention for the American Theatre Organ Society on the 3-manual, 26-rank Wurlitzer organ in-

stalled in the Carl Wright Auditorium at Manual High School in Indianapolis, Indiana. Justin made a great impression on both artists and attendees at last year's convention in Atlanta, Georgia. We are thrilled to bring him to the Senate Theater for his first concert for DTOS. You don't want to miss this exciting concert!

Doors to the Senate Theater will open at 2:00 p.m. with the concert starting at 3:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing you there!



# Kroger Community Rewards for DTOS

Pal Jacyk  
DTOS Board of Directors

Help DTOS by re-enrolling in Kroger Community Rewards Program (or enrolling for the first time!)

It's time for you to re-enroll with Kroger Community Rewards for the period May 1, 2014 to April 30, 2015. This needs to be done each year so your shopping with a Kroger card can help DTOS get a donation of up to \$300 each quarter from Kroger without cost to you. Since DTOS signed up with the program in the middle of last year, seven people participated and DTOS received \$73.00.

To re-enroll your card

simply go to :

[www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com)

- Click "sign-in"
- Put in your email address and password that was used to enroll your card.
- Put in the group number (91825) or part of the name Detroit Theater Organ Society.
- Choose Detroit Theater Organ Society.
- Click Enroll.

Full details of how to enroll can be found on a printout in the Senate Lobby by the membership application display or in the August 2013 DTOS newsletter online at [www.dtos.org](http://www.dtos.org) on the "Upcoming Events" page.



## Exciting News About Our Senate Marquee

Lance Luce  
DTOS President

To our amazement, the neon letters and stars on our marquee still work!! Recently we had a sign company do an evaluation of our original, rare SENATE sign and when electric current was applied to the neon tubes, they lit up!! A worker from the sign company went up on a ladder truck and attached wires to some of the letters and stars, one at a time, and the glass was intact, and the neon gas inside still illuminated. He didn't try every letter on both sides, but this is very encouraging news. Most of us had no idea that the letters (and stars) still worked. The bad news is that the trans-

formers for the higher voltage that is required to light neon, all need to be replaced. Also, the main electrical supply to the sign also needs to be brought up to modern code. But, according to the sign company, is all repairable, and our sign can light up brightly once more!

Our Marquee is proving to be our number one way of attracting people to our public events. As we have been polling ticket buyers about how they heard about the event they are coming to; Time and time again, the answer is that they saw it on the marquee. Decades ago the neon was shut

off, and white "flood" lights were used to wash the sign with light. This allowed passers by at night to see the sign somewhat, but was a far cry from the colorful neon letters of the original vintage sign. The sign company will fix the letters, and get them illuminated again as a first step. The stars will follow. The small white light bulbs that ran down the sign could be done in the future as another phase of restoration of our historic sign. Apparently there are not too many of these types of signs left in Michigan, and the sign company is familiar with its history as well as manufac-

ture. They have also hinted that we might be able to qualify for some grant monies to help restore the sign, as long as it's done to original specifications.

Lighting the S E N A T E again on both sides of the sign will definitely be a "sign" to all that travel past the theater that we are "open for business" again. Many of our neighbors coming to the theater think that we have been closed for 50 years, and are already thanking us for re-opening the theater. Wait till they see this!!

# How Our Wurlitzer Works ... Delayed

Dave Calendine, DTOS Board of Directors

I had great intentions of starting a series of articles that describe the various parts of our prized Wurlitzer Theater Organ in greater detail so that you can have a greater appreci-

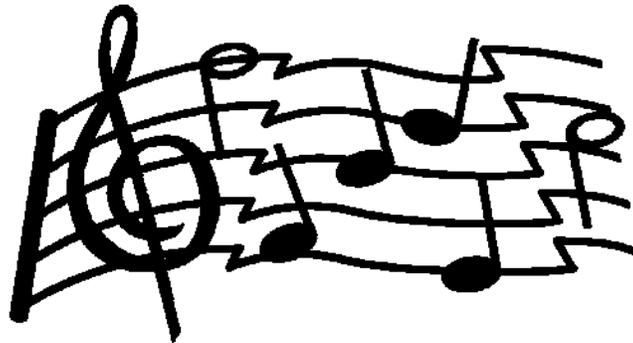
ation for the work that goes into keeping the instrument in working condition. Unfortunately, I am finding that I have to have a series of surgeries to keep me in working condition,

so I need to delay the articles for a couple of months.

The surgeries are not major, but necessary, and I find that my time will be spent at home recuperating after they

are all done, which will hopefully be by the end of June.

I ask for your patience as I recover, and look forward to starting the articles as soon as I am able.



## UPCOMING MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR THE SENATE THEATER

June 7—Frida—8pm

June 13—Strong Productions presents “The Great Detroit” (Documentary) - 8pm

June 14—Robocop—8pm

July 19—Viva Las Vegas—8pm

Visit our web site for the full schedule of events,  
including concerts and films.

[WWW.DTOS.ORG](http://WWW.DTOS.ORG)

Visit our friends at the Redford Theatre for their classic film series.

May 16 & 17—Raiders of the Lost Ark

May 30 & 31—Imitation of Life

June 7—Spite Marriage—Buster Keaton silent film with live accompaniment—8pm

June 13 & 14—Invasion of the Body Snatchers / War of the Worlds

June 27 & 28—The Wizard of Oz

Full schedule of events, including times and prices, can be found on the web site

[WWW.REDFORDTHEATRE.COM](http://WWW.REDFORDTHEATRE.COM)

DETROIT THEATER  
ORGAN SOCIETY

*Over 50 Years of Entertainment!*

## **Detroit Theater Organ Society**

Dave Calendine, Editor  
DTOS Newsletter  
6424 Michigan Ave.  
Detroit, MI 48210-2957

Phone: (313) 894-0850  
Concert Hotline: (313) 894-4100

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.DTOS.ORG

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## **2014 Concert Series**

May 18—Justin Lavoie

June 22—Tom Hoehn

September 21—Nathan Avakian

October 19—Tom Fortier

November 16—Melissa

Ambrose-Eidson

December 7—Donnie Rankin

All concerts are held at the Senate Theater.

Doors open at 2:00 p.m., concerts start at 3:00 p.m.



photo: Lance Luce