

Organizing Collaborative Events

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Events can be a wonderful way for AGO chapters to pool their resources and expertise to create memorable experiences for their members and the broader community. When chapters work together or with other community organizations, they can offer a wider range of events, bring in higher-profile performers and speakers, and foster a stronger sense of community. Here's how identify and reach out to potential partners:

- **Local Network:** Start by reaching out to other chapters within your region. Many AGO chapters can be reached within hour's drive. Reach out to your regional councillor or AGO HQ for contact information.
- **Shared Interests:** Look for organizations in your area that share similar interests or have complementary goals and programming. Suggestions: churches and other religious institutions, music schools, universities, homeschooling groups, other educational and professional associations, performing arts organizations, libraries, museums, community centers, historical reenacting and preservation societies, music stores and instrument dealers, local government, tourism organizations and cultural heritage centers.

Establish common goals and understanding of responsibilities

- Outline shared objectives and goals for collaboration, such as providing education with community engagement
- Determine the division of labor and expenses for the event

Maximize your impact

- **Cross-Promote:** use each organization's social media channels, newsletters, and websites to promote the event to a wider audience.
- Provide networking opportunities for members of each organization.
- Gather feedback after the event from attendees, to assess what worked well and what could be improved.

Celebrate Success!

- **Recognize Contributions:** acknowledge the efforts of all participating organizations and individuals.
- **Share Stories:** highlight successful events and collaborative efforts in your newsletters and on social media.

By working together, AGO chapters and other local organizations can create powerful, meaningful events that strengthen the organist community and bring joy to audiences across the U.S. Encourage your fellow chapter leaders to explore the potential of collaboration.