



### Mission Statement

The mission of the AAM Mentoring Program is to support Episcopal church musicians who seek enrichment, by establishing mentoring relationships with experienced colleagues.

### Theological Statement

“...but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” — Ephesians 5:18–20

Scripture bids us to be a singing people who offer prayers of thanks for the many blessings we receive. The musicians called to the holy vocation of leading the Church’s song are those who help our congregations raise their corporate praises and songs of faith. Through the AAM Mentoring Program, young professional and less-experienced church musicians receive support, encouragement, and guidance, to strengthen their confidence and equip them with valuable skills to do their important work. The gifts that these musicians make use of in their vocation are gifts that God has freely bestowed. The Church then becomes stewards of these gifts by supporting these musicians in their service to God and God’s people.

*“...our time together opened my thoughts to considering other avenues for development. For instance, I am now working on an independent study in choral conducting with a local university choral director and pondering the next stage of my education...”*



ASSOCIATION OF ANGLICAN MUSICIANS

# Mentoring Program

Supporting Episcopal Church Musicians



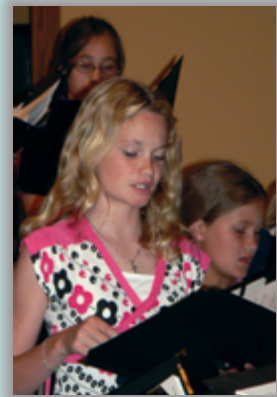
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[anglicanmusicians.org](http://anglicanmusicians.org)  
[mentoring@anglicanmusicians.org](mailto:mentoring@anglicanmusicians.org)

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The AAM Mentoring Program is designed to foster and inspire mentoring relationships that will offer support and guidance to church musicians who are interested in developing their resources and skills, particularly those musicians new to the Episcopal Church.



Each “mentee” will work with an experienced colleague: a mentor. The mentor will help the mentee assess his or her skills and special abilities, offering help in locating resources, and providing support and guidance in matters such as hymn and service playing, choral conducting, accompanying, liturgical planning and repertoire, staff relations, and the development of listening skills.

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## HOW THE MENTORING PROGRAM WORKS

Persons desiring guidance are encouraged to email Kyle Ritter, Chair of the AAM Mentoring Committee. After an initial conversation in which the needs of the mentee are assessed, a mentor is selected by the committee and introduced to the mentee. The mentor is a seasoned colleague who ideally lives in the same or a nearby geographic location—someone who can

offer first-hand guidance in the areas of church music that the mentee has questions or concerns. Both mentee and mentor are then asked to check in periodically with a member of the Mentoring Committee to track progress.

## SUMMARY

- Contact Kyle Ritter
- Needs of potential mentee are assessed
- The mentee is matched with a mentor
- The mentee and mentor arrange to meet
- The mentee and mentor check in with a member of the Mentoring Committee to track progress

We are eager to learn the names of Episcopal church musicians who might benefit from this program. If you know of potential mentees or would like more information about the program, please contact Kyle Ritter: [mentoring@anglicanmusicians.org](mailto:mentoring@anglicanmusicians.org).

