

# MATTHEW ALAN EDWARDS

## CHORAL EDUCATOR, ORGANIST, COMPOSER

Matthew Alan Edwards is an organist who has performed at venues such as Central Synagogue in New York City and Cathedral Church of the Advent in Birmingham, Alabama. His programs include infrequently-performed music, including “Trionfo della vita: Phantasiestück”, by German romantic organist Franz Wagner, and “Carillon”, by Marcel Dupré. He also performs his own compositions, such as “Fantasia in C minor”. In April 2015, he visited Germany with the University of Alabama organ studio to study historical Bach organs.

In 2012, Matthew won third prize in the Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival. Soon after, he won second prize in the 2013 University of Alabama Organ Scholarship Competition. He has participated in numerous other competitions as well, including the 2015 Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival, the 2015 Young Composers’ Forum of the Tennessee Valley Music and Arts Festival, and the 2015 Anthem Competition of the First Baptist Church of Worcester, Massachusetts.

Matthew earned his Bachelor of Music (B.M.) in Organ Performance at the University of Alabama with Dr. Faythe Freese and graduated *Summa cum laude* with honors. In the fall of 2017, he will begin work on a Master of Arts (M.A.) in Secondary Choral Music Education. He is organist and choir director of St. Matthias Episcopal Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. In the summer of 2016, he completed an internship with Parkey OrganBuilders. His other teachers have included Dr. Hope Davis and Dr. Carol Williams in high school, and Dr. Douglas Reed and Dr. Christopher Marks at American Guild of Organists Pipe Organ Encounter Advanced programs.

Current professional affiliations include the Birmingham Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), and the Spreckels Organ Society (SOS). He also served on the executive committee for the 2017 Birmingham AGO Pipe Organ Encounter Advanced. For more information, to listen to his recordings, or to browse his sheet music store, visit [MatthewAlanEdwards.com](http://MatthewAlanEdwards.com).