

**ATOS NAMES KAT BRIGHTWELL & JONATHAN GRADIN
2009 GEORGE WRIGHT MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP WINNERS**

MAY 5, 2009

The American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS) is pleased to announce that Kat Brightwell and Jonathan Gradin have been selected as the 2009 George Wright Memorial Fellowship winners.

Kat Brightwell is 16 years old and hails from Seattle, Washington, where she is an active member of the Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society. She first heard a theatre organ at the Seattle Paramount during a silent film presentation and immediately fell in love with the instrument. In addition to studying the theatre organ, Kat plays the trumpet in the Garfield High School concert band.

Jonathan Gradin is 19 years old and lives in Rathdrum, Idaho. Jonathan is a member of ATOS' newest chapter, the Spokane First Nazarene Chapter, and has combined his keen interest in playing the theatre organ with his passion for writing. To date, he has authored biographies on Aristide Cavallé-Coll, Edwin H. Lemare, and Rosa Rio.

ATOS established the George Wright Memorial Fellowship in 2001 to enable young theatre organ enthusiasts to attend their very first convention. The fellowship has been one in a series of very successful programs ATOS has put into place to help encourage and support younger theatre organists and theatre organ enthusiasts. Previous George Wright Fellows include Zach Frame from Lake Geneva, Wisconsin (2002), Jonathan Fox from Shreveport, Louisiana (2003), Jesse Kohl from Forest Grove, Oregon (2004), Sam Moffat from Toronto, Canada (2005), Daniel McCollum from Sumterville, Florida (2006), Nathaniel Baker from Columbus, Ohio (2007), and Glenn Tallar from Homer Glen, Illinois (2008).

ATOS wishes a hearty "congratulations" to Kat and Jonathan, and we look forward to seeing them, along with many other ATOS members, at the convention in July!