

**Daniel Ficarra**, CAGO, is a young musician from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania beginning his undergraduate studies in organ performance at The Juilliard School this year with Paul Jacobs. He has performed throughout the Pittsburgh area as an organist, pianist, violinist, and singer. For three years he was awarded a scholarship from the Pittsburgh Organ Academy, and he received the Colleague Certification from the American Guild of Organists in May of 2012. He placed first in the Carol Teti Memorial Organ Competition and had the honor of performing his own *Sonata for Piano and Oboe* in concert with Pittsburgh Symphony Principal Oboist Cynthia DeAlmeida. In 2012, he was commissioned by Manfred Honeck, conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, to write two choral compositions to be considered for the orchestra's *Spirit Festival*. Daniel is currently the Organ Scholar at Hitchcock Presbyterian Church in Scarsdale, New York, under the direction of John T. King. Previously, he served as the Assistant Organist and Choir Director of St. John

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Neumann Parish in Pittsburgh and held the position of Organ Scholar at Sacred Heart Parish in Pittsburgh from 2012-2014. For six years, he was the music director and composer for ceremonies at Holy Family Institute, a charity housing abused children. During that time, he also had the opportunity to work with Fr. James Chepponis, a distinguished composer presiding at St. John Capistran Parish. While in high school, he organized and conducted numerous concerts to benefit charities within the community.