

Ryan Jackson Biography



Acclaimed organist and choral director Ryan Jackson was appointed William S. Perper Director of Music and Fine Arts Ministries at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in 2012, following an international search. Ryan is the founding director of the church's professional Chamber Choir, as well as the Community Choir, a teaching ensemble open to all members of the church community. In 2013, Ryan established Fifth Avenue's annual concert series, which features a diverse program of

choral concerts and organ recitals each season.

Prior to his appointment at Fifth Avenue, Ryan served in the music programs at Christ Church United Methodist on Park Avenue; the University Church at Yale; Christ Church Episcopal in New Haven; and Metropolitan United Church in Toronto. In addition to his work at Fifth Avenue, Ryan maintains an active recital schedule throughout the United States and his native Canada where his performances have been praised for their "mature musicality, technical poise, and registrational sensitivity" (RCCO Bulletin). Ryan is also on faculty at the Juilliard School where he teaches a course in sacred music skills to organ majors.

The winner of numerous prestigious competitions, including the Royal Canadian College of Organists' National Organ Playing Competition (2005), he has studied with several of the most prominent organists of the day, including Patricia Wright, Thomas Murray, and Paul Jacobs. Ryan is a graduate of the University of Toronto (Mus.Bac.Perf.), Yale University (M.M.), and The Juilliard School (D.M.A.).