

PRESS RELEASE Acclaimed young American organist coming to Stambaugh Auditorium

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For Immediate Release:

On Sunday, April 23rd at 4pm, Stambaugh Auditorium will present organist Christopher Houlihan in concert. Houlihan is widely acknowledged as one of the brightest stars in the new generation of organists, praised by the media as "gifted" (*New York Times*), "dazzling" (*Wall Street Journal*), and "eloquent" (*Los Angeles Times*). Tickets for this performance go on sale Monday, February 27th through the Florence and Ward Beecher Box Office at Stambaugh Auditorium. Artist accommodations are sponsored by Courtyard Marriott Youngstown-Canfield.

Christopher Houlihan has established an international reputation for his artistry with performances in celebrated venues in major cities across North America and Europe. He has also performed at numerous conventions of the American Guild of Organists and the Organ Historical Society.

In 2014, Houlihan made his Disney Hall debut, performing with principal brass of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, for which the *Los Angeles Times* raved, "Houlihan is the next big organ talent." Highlights of the 2015-2016 season include Houlihan's debuts at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia, PA, as well as the release of a new all-Bach organ CD.

Christopher Houlihan's "Vierne 2012" tour attracted international attention and critical acclaim for his marathon performances. The Los Angeles Times called his performance there "a major surprise of the summer, a true revelation."

Houlihan studied with Grammy Award-winning organist Paul Jacobs at The Juilliard School, where he earned a master's degree, with John Rose at Trinity College (Hartford), and Jean-Baptiste Robin at the French National Regional Conservatory in Versailles. Houlihan's recordings include music of Maurice Durufle and Jehan Alain, and Organ Symphony No. 2 by Louis Vierne, both on Towerhill Records. More information, including photos and videos, can be found at christopherhoulihan.com.

Tickets for this performance go on sale Monday, February 27th. For more information or for tickets, visit stambaughauditorium.com or call the Florence and Ward Beecher Box Office at Stambaugh Auditorium at 330-259-0555. The box office is open Monday through Friday, 9am-6pm and Saturday, 10am-2pm.

About Stambaugh Auditorium:

Stambaugh Auditorium is a non-profit public auditorium which opened in 1926 through the generous gift of Youngstown area businessman Henry H. Stambaugh. The centerpiece of the complex is the Concert Hall which has a seating capacity of 2,553 and is renowned for its near perfect acoustics. The auditorium also features a 9,700-square-foot ballroom (Jeanne D. Tyler Grand Ballroom), a recital hall (Anne K. Christman Memorial Hall), and a formal garden at the southern end of the building, all of which can be rented for public, business, or private functions. The venue welcomes national and international performers on a regular basis while also hosting local and regional events many of which use the Florence and Ward Beecher Box Office to sell and distribute tickets. Stambaugh Auditorium was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984.