



2026 AMICA MBSI/COAA Convention

August 18-23, 2026 Princeton, New Jersey

The convention is nearly here and everything is in place! This issue includes a more detailed schedule of events along with the registration forms and hotel information. See *previous bulletin issues* for other information.

Early Arrival - Sunday, August 16, 2026

MBSI members arrive in preparation for their Board Meetings on Monday August 17, 2026. No other activities planned.

Early Arrival - Monday, August 17, 2026

People are encouraged to arrive on this day if they intend to participate in the pre-convention Arnold Chase home tour on Tuesday.

3:00 pm - 10:00 pm | Registration/Hospitality (Einstein Room)

9:00 am - 5:00 pm | MBSI Board Meeting (Princeton Room)

Pre-Convention Tour - Arnold Chase Home Tuesday, August 18, 2026

Registration for the entire convention is a prerequisite for attending this event. Participants must use the bus service from Princeton to Chase home. Private transportation to Chase is not permitted for security reasons.

7:00 am - 10:00 pm | Registration/Hospitality (Einstein Room)

6:30 am - 8:30 am | Continental breakfast included* (Prince William Ballroom)

8:00 am | Buses C1 & C2 load, depart 8:30 AM for Chase, West Hartford, CT

12:30 pm | Lunch at Chase home*

2:00 pm | Tour Chase home

5:00 pm | Buses load, depart 5:30 PM for return trip to Princeton. Box dinner* provided on bus.

9:30 pm | Arrive at hotel

3:00 pm - 10:00 pm | Hospitality Room (Einstein Room) & player piano (Library) open.

2026 AMICA MBSI/COAA Convention cont.

Day One – Welcome Breakfast, Morris Museum, Edison Labs, Silent Movie & Evening Ragtime Concert : Wednesday, August 19, 2026

7:00 am - 10:00 am | Registration/Hospitality Room (Einstein Room)
7:30 am - 9:00 am | Welcome Breakfast at Hotel included* (PW Ballroom)
8:15 am | Welcoming comments & introductions (PW Ballroom)
Buses A1 & A2 Morris Museum – Edison Labs
9:15 am | Buses load, depart 9:30 for Morris Museum (1 hr. trip).
10:30 am | Tour Morris Museum (1-1/2 hr.).
12:00 pm | Bus to Edison Labs, Box lunch on bus* (45 min.).
12:45 pm | Tour Edison Labs (1-1/2 hr.)
2:15 pm | Bus back to Morris Museum (45 min.)
3:00 pm | MBSI Awards Presentation & 2027 Detroit Convention presentation in Bickford Theater, Morris Museum (45 min.)
3:45 pm | Silent Movie at Bickford Theater, Morris Museum (1-1/2 hr.)
5:30 pm | Bus to Princeton
6:30 pm | Arrive Princeton
Buses A3 & A4 Edison Labs – Morris Museum
9:30 am | Buses load, depart 9:45 for Edison Labs (1.25 hr.)
11:00 am | Tour Edison Labs & home (1.75 hrs.)
12:45 pm | Bus to Morris Museum. Box lunch on bus* (.75 min.)
1:30 pm | Tour Morris Museum (1-1/2 hour)
3:00 pm | MBSI Awards Presentation & 2027 Detroit Convention promotion in Bickford Theater, Morris Museum (45 min.)
3:45 pm | Silent Movie at Bickford Theater, Morris Museum (1-1/2 hr.)
5:30 pm | Bus to Princeton
6:30 pm | Arrive Princeton
6:30 pm | Dinner on your own
8:00 pm | Entertainment – Ragtime piano & vocalist – Peter Mintun (Nassau Presbyterian Church – 1 block from hotel)
5:30 pm - 10:00 pm | Hospitality Room (Einstein Room) & player piano (Library) open.

Day Two – American Treasure Tour (ATT) & Glenn Thomas Home Collection with Evening Player Piano Pumper Contest: Thursday, August 20, 2026

Breakfast on your own
Buses A1 & A2 ATT – Thomas Collection
8:00 am | Buses load, depart 8:30 for American Treasures Tour (ATT)
9:45 am | Bus A1 - Tram Tour through ATT followed by car & mechanical music exhibit.
9:45 am | Bus A2 - Visit car & mechanical music followed by tram tour through ATT
11:30 am | Lunch at ATT Arnolds restaurant included*
12:30 pm | Depart for Thomas collection
2:00 pm | Visit Thomas collection
4:30 pm | Depart for Princeton
5:00 pm | Arrive Princeton
Buses A3 & A4 Thomas Collection - ATT
8:00 am | Buses load, depart 8:30 for Thomas collection tour
9:00 am | Visit Thomas collection
11:30 am | Leave for ATT
12:45 pm | Lunch at ATT Arnolds Restaurant included*
2:15 pm | Bus A3 - Tram tour through ATT followed by car & mechanical music exhibits
2:15 pm | Bus A4 - Visit car & mechanical music exhibits followed by Tram tour through ATT
4:00 pm | Depart for Princeton
5:15 pm | Arrive Princeton
5:00 pm | Dinner on your own
7:30 pm | Player piano pumper contest (PW Ballroom)
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm | Hospitality Room (Einstein Room) & player piano (Library) open.

2026 AMICA MBSI/COAA Convention cont.

Day Three - Workshops & Mart: Friday, August 21, 2026

Breakfast on your own

9:00 am | Morning Workshops (Palmer & Witherspoon, Nassau A & B, Princeton, University/Colonial rooms.

9:00 am - 10:00 am | Session 1 (Four rooms)

10:15 am - 11:15 am | Session 2 (Four rooms)

11:30 am - 12:30 pm | Session 3 (Four rooms)

12:30 pm | Lunch on your own

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm | Mart (PW Ballroom)

11:00 am - 2:00 pm | vendor set-up

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm | vendor break-down

6:00 pm | Dinner on your own

8:00 pm | Ice cream social & entertainment, including new member meet & greet. (Palmer & J. Witherspoon Rooms)

9:00 am - 10:00 pm | Hospitality Room (Einstein Room) & player piano (Library) open.

Day Four – Meetings & Band Organ Rally: Saturday, August 22, 2026

Breakfast on your own

9:00 am - 12:00 pm | AMICA Board Meeting (Princeton Room)

9:00 am - 12:00 pm | MBSI Annual Meeting (Senior Room)

Lunch on your own. **

9:00 am - 5:00 pm | Band Organ Rally on the streets of Princeton

Other Activities | Find additional information in Hospitality Suite (Einstein Room)

- Palmer Square Summer Series music entertainment 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm.
- Princeton University campus self-guided tours.
- Princeton University Art Museum, world class venue, just opened and free to the public.
- Historic Princeton Cemetery tour which holds the final resting place for national leaders in politics, sciences, military, business and academia.
- Princeton African American history and life tour.

6:00 pm | Cocktail reception (Senior Room)

7:00 pm | Banquet dinner* with entertainment by Matt Tolentino (PW Ballroom)

9:00 am - 10:00 pm | Hospitality Room (Einstein Room) & player piano (Library) open.

Note: There will be a private event (wedding) in the Palmer and J. Witherspoon Rooms from 4:00 pm - 11:00 pm. Access to Lobby L2 will be restricted during this time.

Day Five – Breakfast Meetings & Band Organ Rally: Sunday, August 23, 2026

8:00 am | Breakfast buffet* (PW Ballroom)

9:00 am | Optional non-denominational service with mech. music (Senior Room)

9:30 am | Yoga in Palmer Square (1 hour)

10:00 am | AMICA annual meeting (PW Ballroom)

11:30 am - 5:00 pm | Band Organ Rally

9:00 am - 2:00 pm | Hospitality Room (Einstein Room) & player piano (Library) open.

Other Activities: See Saturday Activity list above. No house tours scheduled

Notes

* Indicates meals included in the convention fee.

** Indicates meals on your own and not included in the convention fee. Food options include hotel restaurant & bar along with many restaurants all within three blocks walking distance of the hotel.

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Wednesday, August 19, 2026: Ian Fraser

On Wednesday afternoon in the Bickford Theatre at the Morris Museum, organist Ian Fraser will be accompanying the silent films "Sherlock Jr." (1924) starring Buster Keaton and Edison's "Coney Island at Night" (1905) by Edwin S. Porter on his touring digital theatre organ. He will also give a presentation about the theatre organ and perform a mini concert.

Ian developed a passion for organs and mechanical music at the age of two after hearing a band organ on a carousel. His journey into theatre organ performance began at 16 after seeing a silent film accompanied by theatre organist Bernie Anderson. Leveraging his ability to play by ear, Ian taught himself in just a few short years to play the instrument.

He is the house silent film organist at the Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway, NJ, the Brook Arts Center in Bound Brook, NJ, The Grand Theater in East Greenville, PA, and the duCret Center of Art in Plainfield, NJ. Additionally, Ian is the house organist at the St. George Theatre in Staten Island, NY performing pre-show concerts for their classic movie series and "Arts-In-Education" series where he regularly plays for audiences of over 1,500 K-12 students introducing the theatre organ to the next generation.

Ian is the first-place winner of the American Theatre Organ Society's 2023 Young Theatre Organist Competition. In June 2025, Ian performed the world's first-ever silent film with live organ accompaniment at a drive-in movie theater with the 100th Anniversary of "The Phantom of the Opera" at The Mahoning Drive-In Theater in Lehighton, PA. This was made possible with Ian's touring organ which enables him to bring his concerts and films to venues without organs.

Ian is the curator of the new "Classic Movies at the Brook" series of classic and silent films at the Brook Arts Center in Bound Brook, NJ.

He is also actively involved in restoring pipe organs and mechanical musical instruments. Ian is the Crew Chief of the Brook Arts Center Wurlitzer theatre organ for GSTOS (Garden State Theatre Organ Society). He is also a member of ATOS, NYTOS, COAA, NCA and AMICA's Lady Liberty chapter.

To read more about Ian, hear him perform and check out his upcoming shows, visit: <https://ianfraserorganist.com>



Wednesday, August 19, 2026: Peter Mintun

Peter Mintun will be our entertainment on Wednesday evening at the historic Nassau Presbyterian Church, one block from the hotel. For more than twenty-five years Peter Mintun's name has been synonymous with American Society. He has performed with symphony orchestras, with his own society dance orchestra, and has entertained royalty, film and stage stars, heads of industry, and composers themselves. Peter started collecting music and records before he was a teenager. He interviewed famous as well as long-forgotten songwriters and has given them a new respect in the 21st Century.

Closely associated with music in hotels and nightclubs, Mintun is an archivist at heart and has revived unjustly neglected music and composers of the early 20th century. Mintun's knowledge of early popular music is respected globally and his research has helped musicians and historians around the world. In 1998 Mintun gave a talk at the Library of Congress for the Gershwin Centennial. He has contributed to music publications for Steinway & Sons and Dover Publications.



He performed at L'Etoile in the Huntington Hotel (SF), Masons in The Fairmont (SF), Madison Room of The New York Palace, seven years in Bar at The Carlyle (NYC), Feinstein's at Loews Regency. His piano music is heard on HBO's "Boardwalk Empire." He has concertized at Carnegie Hall, New York's Film Forum, The Town Hall, National Arts Club, Museum of The City of New York and Louis M. Davies Symphony Hall (SF). As accompanist to silent films, Mintun has performed at Pacific Film Archive, Stanford University, Museum of Modern Art, Brooklyn Library and Film Forum.

2026 AMICA MBSI/COAA Convention cont.

Friday, August 21, 2026: Matt Tolentino

"Multi-Instrumentalist, Band Leader, Vocalist, Preservationist, Music Historian..."

Sharing his birthday with Fred Astaire, Matt Tolentino was born May 10, 1985. For nearly two decades he has worked to perform and preserve ragtime, hot jazz, and the roots of swing for today's modern audience.

A true multi-instrumentalist, he plays accordion, piano, clarinet, saxophone, banjo, guitar, tuba, and vibraphone. As a vocalist, Matt has been praised for capturing the flavor and spirit of the 1920s and 1930s with sincerity and authenticity. His ensembles include small combos and multiple large ensembles including The New Liberty Dance Orchestra, named for the Liberty Dance Orchestra, a 1920s Cincinnati society band. Recent performance highlights include Transatlantic crossings aboard the Queen Mary 2, featured vocalist with the Maui Pops Orchestra, and appearances in the latest Scorsese picture, 'Killers Of The Flower Moon'. In his native Dallas he founded the Jazz Age Sunday Social, a lawn party centered around the wonderful music of the Roaring Twenties.



With a collection of over 6,000 band arrangements, hundreds of 78 rpm records, and notable artifacts including Adrian Rollini's bass saxophone, he doubles as an archivist to further the preservation of America's treasured musical past. Matt makes his home in Cincinnati, Ohio, sharing his 1890 Victorian with his wife Danielle and a 1952 Kaiser Deluxe. For more information on Matt, his bands, and his music, please visit www.MattTolentino.com.

Nassau Inn Reservation Information

The convention committee has negotiated a per night room rate of \$169.00 + tax. This is a very fair price considering location in the center of the town of Princeton and the historic nature of the hotel. You can only make reservations for this group rate up until **Friday, July 17, 2026**. After that day you may be required to pay the non-discounted room rate. The following options are available to make reservations:

Option 1:

Call the Nassau Inn directly at (609) 921-7500. Tell them you are part of the **AMICA/MBSI/COAA group** and reference booking **number 30355**.

Option 2:

On-line at either of the two links below. If a pop-up appears at any time while you are reserving and asks if you would like to, "Unlock Exclusive Rates by Nassau Inn," click on "DON'T ALLOW."

Link A:

Nassau Website <https://nassauinn.com/>

1. At upper righthand corner click on "Book Now" (or find it in the hamburger pull down on your mobile device).
2. Select number of adults and click on "Add Code" pull down. Leave default at "Group Attendee" and add group code 30355. Click on "Add."
3. The next screen will identify the room block. Click "Select & Go To The Next Step."
4. At the Guests & Rooms page select days on calendar pop-up & click on "Confirm Dates of Stay." Follow remaining screen instructions for room selection and payment.

Link B:

For direct access to the group reservation use:

<https://reservations.travelclick.com/13522?groupID=4891622>

1. A popup will identify the room block AMICA/MBSI/COAA. Click, "Select & Go To The Next Step."
2. At the Guests & Rooms page, select # of adults and click on "Add Code" pull down box. Leave default at "Group Attendee" and add group code 30355. Click on "Add."
3. Click on "Update Guests & Rooms," Select days on calendar pop-up & click on "Confirm Dates of Stay." Follow remaining screen instructions for room selection and payment.

Scan the codes below using your phone's camera.



Link A



Link B

2026 AMICA MBSI/COAA Convention cont.

Other Important Information:

- There is a limited number of guest rooms available, so make your reservation as soon as possible.
- The group rate is for overnight stays from check-in Monday, August 17 through check-out Sunday, August 23, 2026. There are a very limited number of rooms available for check-in Sunday, August 16 & August 23.
- Room modifications are allowed only before cutoff date of Friday, July 17, 2026.
- Cancellation Policy: Cancellation is up to 3 PM, 48 hours prior to arrival to avoid one night's room and tax charge. There will be no exceptions to this policy.
- Group Rates not eligible for Rewards Program.
- Check-In Time: 3:00pm, Check-Out Time: 11:00am
- Vehicle parking is available across the street from the hotel in a municipal garage which has an arrangement with the Nassau Inn. For \$20.00 per night you will receive a pass with 24-hour unlimited access (you can come and go as you please). Non-hotel guest rate for 24-hour parking at the garage is currently \$36.00. Vehicle height limit is 6'-4".
- Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) is the most convenient airport to access Princeton, NJ. Travel time by auto/rideshare is approximately 1 hour. The hotel does not provide transportation/limousine service, but private services are available. Public transportation from the airport is possible via a combination of the AirTrain from airport to NJ Transit main line which will take you to Princeton Junction Station. Then transfer for a 5-minute shuttle train (locally referred to as the "Dinky") to Princeton Station. The hotel is just over ½ mile walk from the station or take an Uber. Overall travel time for these connections is about 2 hours and total cost for AirTrain & NJ Transit is roughly \$28-\$42.
- Additional information about the Nassau Inn can be found at their website

<https://nassauinn.com/> See QR code on page 10 for Link A.



Nassau Inn (outside and inside)



Princeton University Art Museum

2026 AMICA MBSI/COAA Convention cont.



Arnold Chase Collection

AMICA-MBSI CONVENTION & COAA ORGAN RALLY

AUGUST 18-23, 2026

NASSAU INN • PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

NOTE: Use this form only for mail-in registration and payment by personal check.

For online registration and payment by credit card/paypal, use the QR code (right) or go to:

<https://mbsi.org/amica-mbsi-coaa-2026-annual-meeting-registration/>



REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2026

Name (Attendee 1) _____ First Convention? ☐ YES

Name (Attendee 2) _____ First Convention? ☐ YES

Address _____

City, State/Province, Zip, Country _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Est. Date/Time of Arrival? _____ Will you be staying at the Nassau Inn? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Name(s) to appear on badge: _____

1. _____ 2. _____

I'm a member of (Required): ☐ AMICA ☐ MBSI ☐ MBSGB ☐ COAA

Will you participate in the Player Piano Contest? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Please advise any special dietary requirements.

Meal Preferences: ____Meat ____Chicken ____Vegetarian

Convention Registration includes 5 days of activities, tours and transportation to Glenn Thomas Collection, Morris Museum, American Treasure Tour, Thomas Edison National Historical Park • **ALSO INCLUDED** is the Band Organ Rally throughout the streets of downtown Princeton, Pumper Contest, Convention Workshops, The Mart, Ice Cream Social, Annual Dinner Banquet with cocktail hour & light entertainment, Silent Movie at the Morris Museum Bickford Theater accompanied by award-winning theater organist Ian Fraser, and more!

Arnold L. Chase Tour is not a part of the basic convention registration cost. Additional registration required.

Fees

	# of Persons	Price Per Person	Total \$
Early Convention Registration (up to June 22, 2026)		\$564	
Late Convention Registration (after June 22, 2026)		\$590	
Student Rate Ages 14 to 21 • APPROVAL NEEDED (See note below)		\$282	
Optional Pre-convention Tour of the Arnold L. Chase Collection (See note above)	Tour Full	\$100	_____
Optional Mart Table (Include completed Mart Sign Up Form with this registration)		\$25	
Total due for registration plus optional event/mart			

Student Rate: Students from ages 14 to 21 are half price, provided they submit to **Eileen Jacobs** at **emcgj@aol.com** a one page description of their interest in mechanical music and why they want to attend the convention. Students 18 and under must be accompanied by a full paying adult.

SEE NEXT PAGE.

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CHECK PAYMENT & MAILING DETAILS

**REGISTRATION
DEADLINE:
FRIDAY,
JULY 17, 2026
(Postmark)**

Make Checks Payable To: AMICA

Memo: **2026 Annual Convention**

Currency: Pay in US Funds

Mail Completed Registration Form By July 17 To:

William Sharkey, Registrar

AMICA/MBSI/COAA 2026 Convention

77 Sunrise Way

Bethpage, NY 11714



HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

Nassau Inn

10 Palmer Square, Princeton, NJ 08542

nassauinn.com

Find reservation information in this month's issue.

CONTACTS FOR QUESTIONS

General:	Joel Cluskey	(412) 779-0740	ampico2018@gmail.com
Registration:	William Sharkey	(516) 984-9568	ftdwilly@aol.com
Mart:	Jere Ryder	(908) 377-9146	jryder@morrismuseum.org

CANCELLATION POLICY (No Exceptions)

100% refundable before June 15, 2026.

A 25% fee deducted June 15 to July 1, 2026.

A 50% fee deducted July 2 to July 10, 2026.

No refund after July 10, 2026.

Cancellation dates are when notice received by registrar, not postmark.

All refundable fees will deduct non-reversible expenses.

www.amica.org • mbsi.org • coaa.us

2026 AMICA MBSI/COAA Convention

AMICA-MBSI CONVENTION & COAA ORGAN RALLY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

THE 2026 MART

Mart Policies

WHO: The Mart will be open to participants who are registered for this Annual Convention. Exhibitors must be MBSI, AMICA or COAA members. Badges must be worn to enter and conduct business.

TABLES/ SPACES: Full Tables will be available at a cost of \$25 each. Table cover, skirting, and two chairs will be provided. You need to bring your own electrical extension cord!

SET UP: Only the registered Mart exhibitor and one registered helper will be permitted entry into the Mart room during setup. Exhibitors are expected to leave the Mart area as soon as they are set up. Reentry will be permitted just prior to the opening.

Please, no trades, sales, or “previews” will be permitted during setup. This policy is one of simple fairness to the general membership.

Please save a copy before sending in your Mart application.

Mart Registration

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Assistant (must be registered) _____

Assistant Phone _____

PLEASE RESERVE: _____ FULL TABLE (S) _____ EQUIVALENT FLOOR SPACES

☐ YES, Electrical outlet needed.

☐ My items are loud. ☐ My items are relatively quiet. ☐ My items are large.

Other _____

Mart Disclaimer

Musical Box Society International (MBSI), Carousel Organ Association of America (COAA), The Automatic Musical Instrument Collectors' Association (AMICA) and its Founding Chapter, being non-profit organizations, cannot and do not assume responsibility for any loss or damage of any nature whatsoever to any item or object offered for sale or displayed during this convention. The organizations/associations carry no insurance for this purpose and suggests that Mart participants provide their own coverage. All persons participating in the Mart do so solely at their own risk and agree to hold harmless the above organizations, the chapters, their members, and the Nassau Inn in the event of the loss or damage of any kind whatsoever.

All Mart participants are responsible for compliance with local, state, and federal tax laws. Each Mart participant shall, where required, collect all sales or similar taxes on any taxable transaction and shall complete and sign an acknowledgment form agreeing to comply with association guidelines concerning Mart policies and tax matters. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in exclusion from the Mart.

I have read and understand the Mart Policies and the foregoing Disclaimer and I accept the terms as a condition of my participation in the Mart.

Member's Signature/Date _____