

# AGG Goes to Washington



*Featuring the latest from the American Glass Guild*

*Text and Photography by Tony Glander*

The 10th anniversary of the American Glass Guild (AGG) is shaping up to be a grand celebration. On June 18–21, 2015, the conference will take place in and around Washington, D.C. As always, AGG will provide great speakers, an exciting auction, a professional exhibition, and much more. Topping off all of this will be a focus on one of our nation's premier collections of stained glass windows, the Washington National Cathedral.

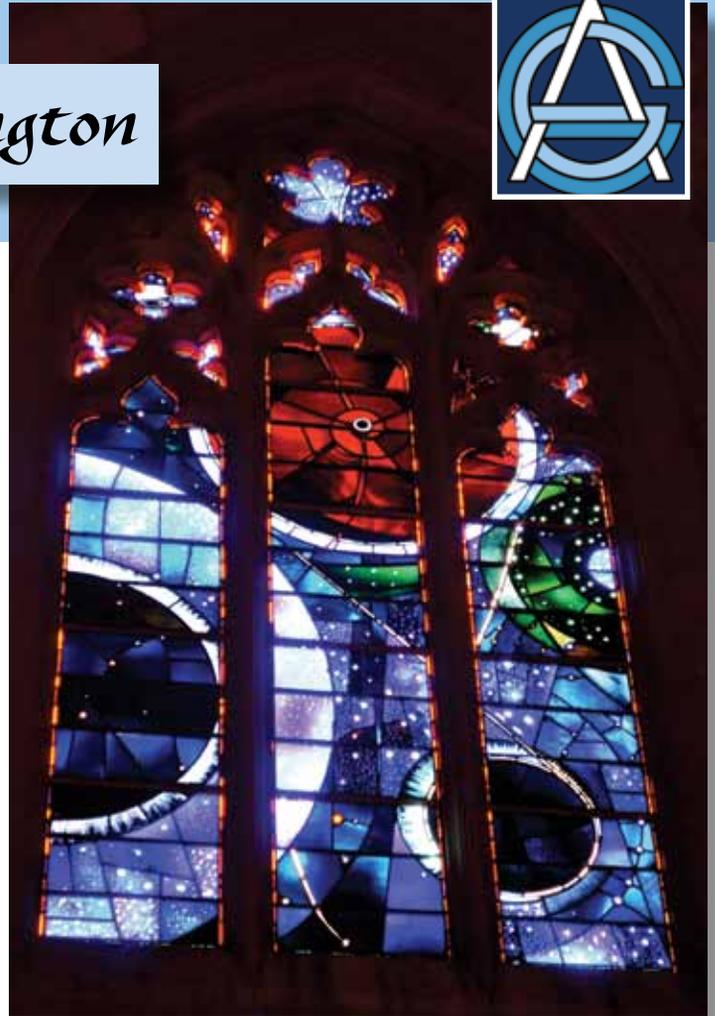
This year's hotel site is the Hilton Washington DC/Rockville Hotel and Executive Meeting Center just north of Washington. The hotel was recently renovated and is just across the street from the Washington Metro, simplifying transit around the city. The hotel's great rates, beautiful atrium, and variety of meeting spaces are ideal for the AGG's events.

## A Time for Sharing and Learning

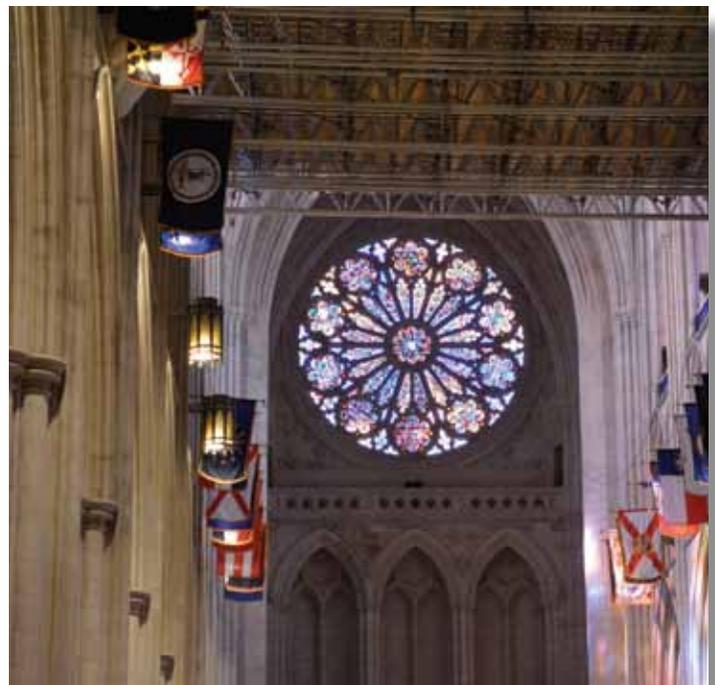
Education, the key focus of the American Glass Guild conference, will be in full swing Thursday, with workshops designed to inspire attendees. There will be a wide array of educational opportunities, including a full-day workshop with last year's Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Peter McGrain, who will be sharing his unique Vitri-Fusaille glass painting technique. Then for a different type of painting class, William Cochran, renowned trompe l'oeil muralist and glass designer from the D.C. area, will be teaching a workshop on how to create greater dimension in stained glass painting. More workshops are in the planning stage and will be announced soon.

Some of Washington's finest art organizations have been invited to attend Friday evening's celebrations with plenty of opportunities to meet and network. The banquet will be highlighted by a keynote presentation featuring Cochran, who will discuss his artwork, his approach to public art installation, and the recent incorporation of glass into his work. This will be followed by the always exciting AGG live auction, complete with friendly bidding, humor, and incredible art pieces.

Saturday events, including talks, demonstrations, tours, and this year's *American Glass Now 2015* exhibition, will take place at the Washington National Cathedral, a paradise for stained glass lovers. Sunday will feature more talks and a tour of local stained glass related sites. It promises to be a busy four-day event.



*Rodney Winfield, Space Window,  
in the National Cathedral.*



*Rowan LeCompte's Rose Window  
in the National Cathedral.*



Window from the Rockville United Methodist Church, part of Sunday's tour.

### Washington National Cathedral Events

The Washington National Cathedral is planning a spectacular open house event that the AGG will be sponsoring in conjunction with the Association for Preservation Technology and the National Trust. This event will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and will include demonstrations by AGG members, tours, and talks focused on stained glass. The AGG's *American Glass Now 2015* exhibition will be on display on the seventh floor in the Pilgrim Observation Gallery. For details on submitting work for entry into this juried exhibition, please visit the AGG website.

The collection of art glass at the Washington National Cathedral is difficult to match and will be well represented at the conference. It includes the first windows produced in 1912 in England, as well as AGG member Charles Z. Lawrence's windows installed in 1981, including *Angels of Ministration*, and windows recently fabricated by AGG member Mary Clerkin-Higgins. Brenda Belfield will discuss her famous *Water Windows* as well as her other beautiful, modern windows designed for the Cathedral.

An event this great may not happen again for another 10 years. Plan now to attend and take part in all of the educational opportunities, special events, and fun this conference will offer. **GA**

Visit [www.americanglassguild.org](http://www.americanglassguild.org) for more information and to register for the conference, or contact Tony Glander, conference chair, at [conference@americanglassguild.org](mailto:conference@americanglassguild.org).

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