

The Lyric Letter

**VOLUME 18, ISSUE 3, SEPTEMBER, 2018**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Colorado is a wonderful place to live—and Denver Lyric Opera Guild has a great part in bringing the world of arts and entertainment to Coloradans throughout the state.

Denver Lyric Opera Guild has had a busy summer with two special activities. Our 3rd annual Flag Day celebration at the Melting Pot in Littleton was patriotic, delicious, and earned money for the Competition for Colorado Singers to be held in the spring of 2019.



Bill Maclay, President

The next event was our annual Summer Party, held in July at Mt. Vernon Country Club. Approximately 90 members and guests enjoyed the ambiance, the entertainment, and the excellent luncheon. Many members expressed their desire to return every year, due to the venue and the excellent entertainment every summer. The music is particularly pleasing thanks to our association with Central City Opera and DLOG member Scott Finlay.

Then in August, a group of our members attended Central City Opera's production of *Il Trovatore*, and another group traveled to Santa Fe Opera for wonderful excursion. Both are described in articles in this newsletter. I look forward to a season of delightful programs and continuing friendships in the Guild!

BOARD MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

I am so pleased to be the president-elect for DLOG. I am looking forward to working with our president, fellow board members and the membership. What an opportunity to renew old friendships and to start new ones!

Coming from a family of professional musicians, there has hardly been a moment in my life that hasn't been filled with music. My mother (a former DLOG member) was a singer and played the string bass in the Denver Symphony and for the Central City Orchestra. My father was a professional jazz pianist. My wonderful late husband of 53 years (also a former DLOG member) was an award-winning choral conductor as well as an accomplished singer. We enjoyed many years singing together in local restaurants.

I began my professional singing career as a Mario's singer at Mario's restaurant in Denver when I was 24 years old. I have enjoyed singing many opera roles in the area and being a featured soloist with the City Park Band. I am thrilled that the musical genes have continued in my family with my daughter (a current DLOG member) singing and acting professionally, and I love watching my grandchildren develop their love of the arts.



Mary Jo Weiker, President-elect

Vintage Treasure Hunt

Have you heard the news? DLOG is planning a Vintage Treasures Sale to be held on Saturday, March 30—the day of our 2019 Competition Finals—at Calvary Baptist Church!

That's right: THE HUNT IS ON!



Tracy McCarthy and Joanne Fisher with Vintage Treasures

WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

- Vintage, costume or fine jewelry.
- Vintage silver, crystal, china and linens
- Artwork, vintage or unique
- Garden décor, mid-century décor
- Vintage accessories: purses, hats, glove, scarves, etc.
- Small furniture (that can be lifted by one person), e.g., end tables, chairs, small leaf tables, footstools, etc.

We are asking members and friends to go through your jewelry box and treasure chests to find a few treasures to donate for our sale.

And not everything has to be vintage.

The Vintage Treasures Committee will be on hand to receive your treasures at all our events. Or, if you prefer to have them picked up, one of us will be happy to do so.

There will be a Preview Party for members and guests on Friday, March 29, 5:00-8:00 p.m. No sales until then, so save the date.

Joanne Fisher | **Marie Belew Wheatley**
303-781-4390 | 303-986-7116

COMING SOON!

DENVER LYRIC OPERA GUILD
invites you to
OPERA ON TUESDAY
OCTOBER 2, 2018
11:00 am Program / 12:00 noon Lunch
Featuring: Metropolitan State University
Pinehurst Country Club
6255 West Quincy Ave.
Denver, CO 80235
Reservations: \$40 by Sept. 27, 2018
PLEASE BRING GUESTS!!
Reserve online through Paypal on the DLOG
website: denverlyricoperaguild.org
or
Send Check payable to DLOG to:
Lynn Harrington
9997 Raleigh Street
Westminster CO 80031
303-464-0659

FLAG DAY AT THE MELTING POT



We celebrated Flag Day with song, celebration, and red, white, and blue.

The Melting Pot is the perfect place to enjoy the day with excellent food and service. This is a great way to have a fundraiser for the Competition for Colorado Singers.

We had 39 members who participated and everyone had a wonderful evening!

Marleen Diamond, Membership VP

SUMMER PARTY

Our annual Summer Party was held at Mt. Vernon Country Club on July 10. We enjoyed delightful performers from Central City Opera, followed by a delicious luncheon.



Left to right in the photo:

Standing are performers John Arida (pianist) and Kevin Langdon (bass).

Seated are Bill Maclay, Leigh Maclay, and Sally Wolf.

FALL KICK-OFF PARTY

Our Season Kickoff was the evening of September 13 at Lakewood Country Club. We were entertained by the delightful Ecklund Opera Program. Singers Zach Bryant, Paige Sentianin, and Claire McCahan were accompanied on the piano by Jeremy Reger.

Our delicious dinner included a choice of medallions of beef or hazel nut crusted salmon.

Singers Zach Bryant, Paige Sentianin, Claire McCahan, Jeremy Reger



CENTRAL CITY OPERA TOUR 2018

As we have done for years, some DLOG members rode together to Central City in the Boomer Bus.. This year we went to the matinee on August 1.

When we arrived at the Teller House, next to the Opera House, we enjoyed a nice buffet lunch and then a fascinating 'behind the scenes' presentation by opera staff. Afterwards we strolled around town, maybe going into the Gilpin County Art exhibit or visiting the Opera Shop.

This year we were treated to Verdi's *Il Trovatore*, which is infrequently performed and one of the most complex operas to produce. It was magnificent, featuring the same three singers, Michael Mayes, Alexandra Loutsion and Jonathan Burton, who sang the lead roles in Puccini's *Tosca* in 2016, and a new singer to Central City Opera, the wonderful Lindsay Ammann.

The performance of *Il Trovatore* was one of the most exciting, exquisite operas, with spectacular voices, sets, costumes and acting, that I have ever experienced, not just at Central City Opera, but anywhere. Many others have said the same.

by Barbara Walton



Barbara Walton, Gene Young, and young opera fans

SANTA FE OPERA TRIP



Pat Diamond, Julie Johnston, Barbara Berryman, Susan Long, Karen Stevens, Kathleen Ness, Marleen Diamond, Karen Bruggenthies, Rick and Sandy Gottschalk.

In late August a group of 14 intrepid DLOG travelers made our way down to Santa Fe, New Mexico for this year's Opera Tour. While there, we went as a group to a great piano bar for dinner and topnotch entertainment. We also braved the wild and crazy Meow Wolf immersive art experience. During the day we split up and enjoyed shopping on the Plaza, perusing the artwork on Canyon Road, checking out the many museums and just generally enjoying each other's company and the many wonderful places and things Santa Fe has to offer.

Then, of course, there were the three productions at Santa Fe Opera. We saw Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos* and a very cleverly staged and beautifully performed production of Bernstein's *Candide*. The highlight of the trip was a truly lovely production of *Madame Butterfly* that was emotionally anchored by an outstanding performance from DLOG's own Megan Marino as Suzuki. What a fun way to make new friends, catch up with old friends, get some "away time" and enjoy beautiful opera all at the same time!

by Karen Bruggenthies

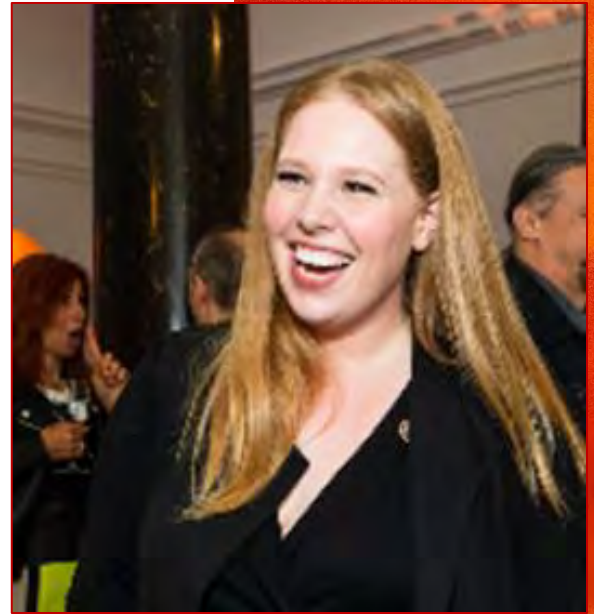


Opening scene of *Madame Butterfly*

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Canadian Soprano Sarah Cambridge earned her Bachelors and Masters in Vocal Performance at the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music. She was also a National Semifinalist for the 2015 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. As part of her participation in the 2016 Merola Program, Sarah performed Elsa from Wagner's *Lohengrin* in the Schwabacher Concert Series.

Sarah proudly lists her first-place finish in the 2016 Denver Lyric Opera Guild Competition for Colorado Singers in her resume and on her website. Now she's making a name for herself as a rising star in the opera world. DLOG members remember her big voice, infectious smile and sunny disposition. You might also remember Sarah for leading our 2016 Competition winners in a beautiful rendition of Happy Birthday for Ruby Goldberg on her 90th birthday at the Awards Luncheon that year.



Sarah Cambridge

Sarah made her company debut with the San Francisco Opera in its Fall 2017 production of *Elektra* as 4th Maid, as well as covering the role of Chrysothemis. She later had the role of Donna Anna in SFO's 2017 production of *Don Giovanni*. She is currently a second-year Adler Fellow with SFO. This is one of the most prestigious young artists programs in the United States and among the very finest in the world. Past Adler Fellows include Patricia Racette, Deborah Voigt and John Relyea.

This season, Sarah performed the roles of Ortlinde and the 3rd Norn in their *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, and covered the role of Freia. She will also be the Soprano Angel in the Angel quartet of Jake Heggie's *It's a Wonderful Life* this coming Fall. Most recently, Sarah made her role debut as Amelia in Livermore Valley Opera's 2018 production of *Un Ballo in Maschera*.

In the 2019 opera seasons, Sarah will be debuting the roles of Sieglinde in Wagner's *Die Walküre* with Opéra National de Bordeaux, and the role of the Foreign Princess in Dvořák's *Rusalka* with San Francisco Opera.



Ruby Goldberg's birthday



Un Ballo in Maschera

Gotterdammerung



MEMBERSHIP

We are looking forward to an excellent DLOG season. You will have an opportunity to enjoy many wonderful singers at Opera on Tuesdays and then at DLOG's highlight, the Competition for Colorado Singers. We would like to encourage you to bring friends, neighbors and music lovers. Hopefully they will consider becoming a member of DLOG. There is so much good music to enjoy and share. Think about who you might bring to our events and just do it.

A new directory has been sent to you and I hope you like it. Please let me know if there are changes or corrections that need to be made.

There are 174 members right now and we would love to increase that by 30 new members. Please help us out. We have one new member to welcome. Please add him to your roster.

Jeff Kadavy
8123 E. Hinsdale Dr., Centennial, CO 80112
303-506-4682
Email: jeff.kadavy@gmail.com

by Marleen Diamond

THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW

Mary Grimm and Barbara Skramstad

Denver Lyric Opera Guild sent "Thinking of you" cards to two of our long, long-time members who are now in care centers: Mary Grimm is at Harvard Square in Denver, and Barbara Skramstad is at Garden Manor in Aurora. I got a call from Mary's son. He said when he read the card to Mary (now age 95) she got a great big smile on her face and said "I remember all my friends in DLOG."

by Deanna Leino



Christie Conover

Christie Conover delivered a 7 pound 19.5 inch baby boy on September 5, 2018!

Christie was the winner of DLOG's 2010 Competition for Colorado Singers, was an Opera Colorado Young Artist, and put on a fabulous program for us at one of our recent Fall Kickoffs.

We wish Christie the very best as she adds the role of new mom to her repertoire!

DENVER LYRIC OPERA CALENDAR FOR 2018-2019

SEPT. 13, 2018

2018 FALL KICKOFF - LAKEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

5 pm -Choice of Medallions of Beef or Hazelnut Crusted Salmon
Featuring: Eklund Opera, University of Colorado
\$55.00 by Sept. 10, 2018

Oct. 2 2018

OPERA ON TUESDAY - PINEHURST COUNTRY CLUB

Featuring: Metropolitan State University @ 11 am
\$40 by Sept. 27, 2018

Nov. 6, 2018

OPERA ON TUESDAY - LAKEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB @ 11:00 am

Featuring: Opera Colorado Young Artists
\$40 by Nov. 1, 2018

Dec. 4, 2018

OPERA ON TUESDAY - WELLSHIRE EVENT CENTER @ 11 am

Featuring: Eklund Opera @ University of Colorado
\$40 by Nov. 29, 2018

Jan. 8, 2019

OPERA ON TUESDAY - DENVER COUNTRY CLUB @ 11:00 am

Featuring: DU Lamont School of Music
\$40.00 by Jan. 3, 2019

April 9, 2019

OPERA ON TUESDAY - PINEHURST COUNTRY CLUB

Featuring: 2018 Competition Winners Program @ 11:00 am
\$45.00 by April 4, 2019 Lunch @ 12:00 pm

May 7, 2019

ANNUAL MEETING @ 10:30 / OPERA ON TUESDAY

LAKEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB Social Time @ 11:30 pm
Featuring: Colorado State University Program @ 12:00 pm
\$40 by May 2, 2019 Lunch @ 1:00 pm

COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Feb. 16, 2019

***LOUISE C. CONTER MASTER CLASS**

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH - 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

March 16, 2019

*PRELIMINARY COMPETITION FOR COLORADO SINGERS

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

March 30, 2019

*FINALS COMPETITION FOR COLORADO SINGERS

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

***VINTAGE TREASURES SALE** 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

March 30, 2019

JUDGES RECEPTION @ WELLSHIRE EVENTS CENTER

Immediately following Finals, 3333 S. Colorado Blvd

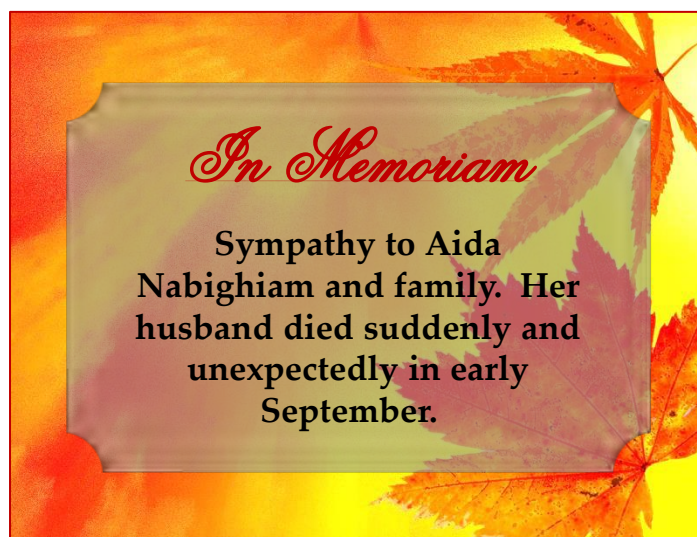
RESERVE ONLINE THROUGH PAYPAL ON THE DLOG WEBSITE: denverlyricoperaguild.org

RESERVE BY CHECK PAYABLE TO DLOG TO: LYNN HARRINGTON

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Designed by Deborah Natelson



DENVER LYRIC OPERA GUILD

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