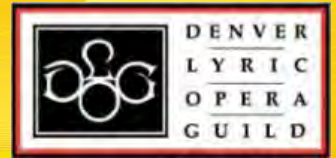


The *Lyric* Letter



Volume 18. May, 2018



**Marie Belew
Wheatley**
Current
President

My year serving as president of Denver Lyric Opera Guild is winding down, and I want to express my gratitude to my fellow board members who have made my job so rewarding. Together, we mounted a membership recruitment campaign that brought in more than thirty new members. We learned that when YOU, our Guild members, bring guests, and when our guests feel welcomed and enjoy great programs and camaraderie, they often want to join. Let's keep that momentum going!

Speaking of momentum, mark your calendars for a host of events coming up this summer, all of which are detailed in this newsletter as well as on our website: www.DenverLyricOperaGuild.org. June 14, Flag Day, is our fundraiser at The Melting Pot fondue restaurant. Our Summer Party July 10th is a great event to bring guests. The tour to Central City Opera on August 1 will be fun! And I hope you'll join us for the tour to Santa Fe Opera August 22–26.

As I pass the gavel to Bill Maclay, I am so appreciative of the hard work and dedication of our board members and the many volunteers who step up to take jobs large and small. Thank you to every Guild member for your participation in what we do, for bringing guests and welcoming new members. And thank you for your support of young singers.

It has been a very informative year for me as President-Elect! Although I have spent many years in school administration, with board, faculty, and community meetings, this year has been a real eye-opener, dealing with an organization that serves an entirely different genre—the world of fine arts.

During this past year I selected a Nominating Committee composed of Maradith Wilkins, Dick Bronowski, Suzanne Bufton, Lynn Harrington, Mary Sharon Wells, Linda Young, and elected Chair, Mary Jo Weiker. It has been a real challenge to find officers to fill the nominations, to say the least. I cannot thank Mary Jo enough for her dedication to this process.

Hopefully when the Guild meets in May to approve the slate of officers, we will have a complete slate. At this moment the position of President-Elect is open. Any of you may volunteer, which would be greatly appreciated!

I look forward to an exciting year as your President of Denver Lyric Opera Guild! Your suggestions and ideas are always welcome!

Bill Maclay
President-
Elect



JUNE 14: CELEBRATE FLAG DAY AT THE MELTING POT

Put on your Red, White and Blue this June 14, and help us celebrate Flag Day!

Invite your friends and family to join our third annual Flag Day celebration and . . .



- ✓ Sing patriotic songs
- ✓ Enjoy a four-course Melting Pot fondue meal
- ✓ Fundraise for the Competition
- ✓ Have lots of fun!

WHEN: Thursday, June 14, 2018, from 5:30 pm - 8:30pm

WHERE:
The Melting Pot
2707 W. Main Street
Littleton, CO 80120

HOW MUCH:
Reservations \$60 by June 9, 2018

HOW TO PAY:
Send check payable to DLOG to:
Marleen Diamond
1827 Ross Ln
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126
303-683-3609

JULY 10: ANNUAL SUMMER PARTY

Plans for the annual **Summer Party at Mt. Vernon Canyon Club** are in place, and I hope we'll have a fantastic turnout.

The date is **Tuesday, July 10th** with a social hour beginning at **10:30 a.m.** Our entertainment is being planned by the ever-affable Scott Finlay from Central City Opera, and will include one or two of the principals from the 2018 summer season. Following will be a luncheon. Please watch for a flyer with particulars including a choice of entrée. Gluten-Free and Vegan choices will also be available.

There will be no reserved seating, but you are welcome to go into the dining room and save seats by placing napkins over the back of the chairs.

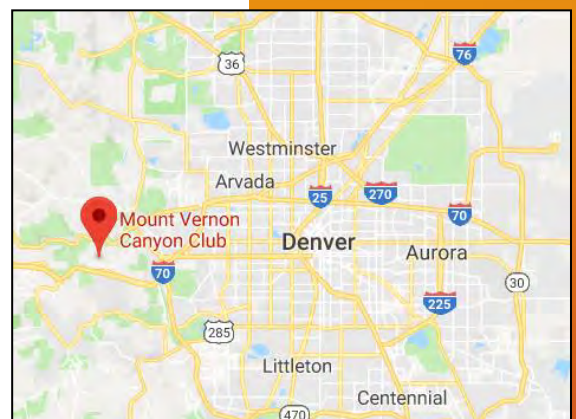
There will be a cash bar and valet parking available.

The price will be **\$40.00**, and of course, guests are most welcome! Please send your checks to me and put your entrée choice on the check. If you prefer, you can make your reservation on our website, (www.denverlyricoperaguild.org) using Paypal.

Reservations MUST be received by July 3rd. There will be no seating available for those who do not have a reservation.

Thanks!

Leigh Maclay



AUGUST 1: CENTRAL CITY OPERA

*Tickets are in demand for the
August 1, 2018 Central City Opera Tour*

COST:

Bus ride & lunch: **\$35.00**

Theatre ticket: **\$59.60**

DEADLINE:

Wednesday, July 18,
2018

HOW TO PAY:

Send check payable to
DLOG to:

Barbara Walton
460 S. Marion Pkwy
Apt. 254B
Denver, CO 80209

CONTACT:

barbaranwal@msn.com
720-934-2867

Arrangements have been made for a trip to Central City to see Verdi's IL TROVATORE matinee performance on August 1, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. Please make your reservations as soon as possible! We hope you can join us on the Boomer Bus that will take you directly to the front of the Opera House, arriving at 11:45 a.m. The bus leaves from near the corner of Colorado Boulevard and Alameda Avenue directly in front of the newly relocated Bed Bath and Beyond. It stops to pick up people who live on the west side of town at the parking lot at the bottom of the Simms Landing Steak House on 6th Avenue, leaving that location at 10:45 a.m. You can look forward to a talk about this opera on the ride up the mountain. The melodies from IL TROVATORE are probably more widely known than those of any other opera. The most familiar is the Anvil Chorus.

Shortly after arrival you will be served lunch in the Teller House, after which you will be treated to a "behind the scenes" experience. Opera Notes, an additional talk about the opera, begins across the street in Williams Stables at 1:45 p.m. It is too early to know who the speaker will be, but it is often the Director or Stage Manager of the show, and the talk always includes more pertinent insights about what you are about to see and hear. If you prefer to purchase your tickets separate from the bus tour and drive yourself, that option is open to you.

From Barbara Walton

AROUND TOWN

- * **Opera Colorado:** "Falstaff" May 5, 8, 11, 13.
- * **Opera Theatre of the Rockies:** "Aida" May 10, 12, 13.
- * **Opera Fort Collins:** "Madama Butterfly" May 31, June 2
- * **Central City Opera summer season:** "Magic Flute" and "Il Trovatore" July 7–Aug. 5. The cast includes Mike Mayes, a DLOG Member and former Competition judge.

From Becky Gantner

MEET THE ARTISTS

When Opera Colorado held its "Meet the Artists" event at DU, some DLOG members attended. One way we support the arts is through connections with other groups.



Marleen Diamond, Greg Carpenter, Nancy Cochran,
Lynn Harrington, Linda Young

LIVERPOOL GROUP

The DLOG Liverpool group enjoys cards and dining at the Fresh Fish Co. We meet monthly and raise money for a Competition prize. We always love new members.

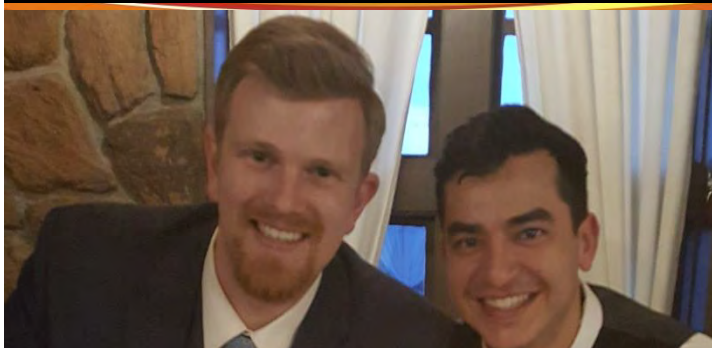


2018 DLOG COMPETITION WINNERS, 2018



Front L-R: Michael Hoffman, Schyler Vargas, Leah Podzemik, Katheryne Baker, Claire McCahan, Jacob Baker, Christian Mark Gibbs
Back L-R: Humberto Borboa Beltran, Mary Kettlewell

1ST & 2ND PLACE



Michael Hoffman (1st) and Schyler Vargas (2nd)

THE ACCOMPANIST



Jeremy Reger (accompanist) and Schyler Vargas (2nd place)

COMPETITION WINNERS AND WRAP-UP

Thanks to a long and thoughtful search by Barbara Walton, our VP of Competition, we were able to move the annual DLOG Competition to Calvary Baptist Church this year. It proved to be an excellent venue, which we look forward to using for years to come. Bringing the 2018 Competition to fruition took a year-long effort, beginning shortly after the April, 2017 Opera on Tuesday awards luncheon.

Now Karen Bruggenthies—who serves as both Candidate Chair and Competition Vice President—is already preparing for the 2019 Competition. Karen is very experienced in both positions and enjoys getting to know these young singers who have a true commitment to their art. As Candidate Chair for the past year, Karen carefully shepherded qualified singers through the process leading to acceptance as competition participants. She prepared those who expressed interest in participation in the Master Class. She was there, behind the stage, ushering singers to their performances at both the Preliminaries and the Finals (March 10 and March 14, 2018).

Jeremy Reger was the accompanist and teacher of the Master Class. He focused on both coaching the individual singers and informing the audience about the process.

PLACE	WINNER	DONOR	AWARD	PRESENTER
1 st	Michael Hoffman	Galen & Ada Belle Spencer	\$6,000	Marie Belew Wheatley
2 nd	Schylar Vargas	Kenneth King Foundation	\$5,000	Phyllis & Rod Wicklund
3 rd	Leah Podzimek	Myrle F. Hoffman Memorial	\$4,500	Carol Hoffman
4 th	Katheryne Baker	Ada Belle Spencer	\$4,000	Jackie Writz
5 th	Claire McCahan	Shirley & Marlis Smith	\$3,500	Marlis Smith
6 th	Jacob Baker	Bernard Polak Memorial	\$3,000	Mary Polak
7 th	Christian Mark Gibbs	Sherry Sheperd Sargent (Mem.)	\$2,500	Frank Sargent
Merit	Humberto Borboa Beltran	Diamond Wendelboe	\$1,000	Jeanette Thrower
Merit	Mary Kettlewell	Liverpool Ladies	\$1,000	Deanna Leino
Merit	Christine Honein	DLOG members	\$1,000	Becky Gantner

The Competition Vice President has an outstanding committee that is listed in the Membership Directory. Scott Finlay, charged with selecting judges, did a wonderful job again this year, finding people who were willing to serve as judges for both the Preliminaries (John Arida, Dr. Anne Gross and Evelyn Petros) and the Finals (Maestro Craig Kier, Alison Moritz and Edward Parks). Jackie Writz again handled the Candidate Check-in with her team, many of whom have worked with her on this for several years. All the committees contributed in meaningful ways.

Barbara Walton handled the contract with Penguin Digital, Inc. who recorded all the Finalists' performances and printed CDs that were given to each of the Finalists and to the donors who provided the prize money.

Marie Belew Wheatley welcomed our audiences at all of the Competition events and Barbara Walton introduced the judges and kept the audiences informed of the schedule and any additional information they needed to have.

From Barbara Walton

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Margaret Ozaki Graves is a soprano with “an absolutely huge voice that is crystal clear,” wrote OPUS Colorado. All of us who have heard her sing—and many of us have, since she was a three-time prize winner in our Competitions (2004, 2005, and 2007)—look forward to being in the audience for many future performances.

Recently Meg premiered in *West Side Story* with the Boulder Philharmonic and sang the title role in *Orpheus and Euridice*. Since 2016, she has debuted at Lyric Opera of Chicago, Opera Steamboat and Arizona Opera, made concert premiers with Colorado Springs Philharmonic, Aurora Symphony, and Lone Tree Arts Center, and appeared with the Colorado Music Festival and the Denver Municipal Band. She has also sung at the Aspen Music Festival, That is an eclectic list!



Margaret Ozaki Graves

Three of her favorite roles have been Mimi in *La Boheme* with Loveland Opera Theatre, Lilli Vanessi in *Kiss Me Kate* with CenterStage Theater / Evergreen Chorale, and Jenny in *Company* with Equinox Theatre. Recent collaborations included duo concerts with mezzo-soprano Ivy Walz, tenor Humberto Borboa (a DLOG favorite), and bass-baritone Christopher Herrera. She also performed in a mixed recital, *Outsiders*, with Denver Art Song Project's tenor Eapen Leubner, baritone John Seesholtz and pianist Mallory Bernstein. Meg was a jump-in soloist at Lyric Opera Studio Weimar, Germany.

Meg is an alumna of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Lawrence University is where she earned her undergraduate degree. She was a Guest Instructor in Voice at University of Wisconsin Milwaukee in the Fall of 2017, and this Spring, 2018 is Assistant Professor of Voice at Ithaca College (as a sabbatical replacement). She has been published in NATS (National Association of Teachers of Singing), presented work at the Midwest Conference for East Asian Studies at Miami University, and is a contributing author for publications by AGMA (American Guild of Musical Artists) and the Japanese American Resource Center of Colorado.

From Barbara Walton

April 15: DLOG members enjoyed afternoon tea with Jennifer DeDominici, the “Diva” and former 1st place winner of the DLOG Competition of Colorado Singers. Ms. DeDominici presented *A Dame at Sea: Tales from the High C's*, sharing her vocal talent and whimsical stories about working as an entertainer on a cruise ship.

Sponsored by Opera Fort Collins, this full British afternoon tea included finger sandwiches, scones, and pastries, a popular cake auction.

TEA WITH A DIVA



Trish Pansze, Marie Belew Wheatley, Karen Stevens, Kathy Hammer, Jennifer DeDominici, Charles Ralph, Becky Gantner, Carole Cruson, Reta Ralph, Deanna Leino

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

The 2018-2019 Membership Renewal Forms for DLOG will be sent out on May 2. Please send back your forms as soon as possible to be included in the 2018–2019 Membership Directory. We would love to have everyone renew to enjoy Opera on Tuesdays, the competition and all the DLOG events. Please encourage your friends and family to join also!

From Marleen Diamond

THE NEW DLOG BOARD



Back Row: Bill Maclay, Marie Belew Wheatley, Linda Young, Betty Natelson, Tracy McCarthy

Front Row: Deanna Leino, Karen Stevens, Barbara Walton, Marleen Diamond, Kathy Hammer

DLOG BOARD, 2018-19

President	Bill Maclay	Recording Secretary	Linda Young
President-elect	TBD	Treasurer	Kathy Hammer
Immediate Past-president	Marie Belew Wheatley	Corresponding Secretary	Deanna Leino
Vice-president Competition	Karen Bruggenthies	Historian	TBD
Vice-president Education	Karen Stevens	Parliamentarian	Phyllis Wicklund
Vice-president Finance	Tracy McCarthy	Newsletter, Technology & Communications	Betty Natelson
Vice-president Membership	Marleen Diamond	Tours	Barbara Walton
Vice-president Public Relations	Barbara Walton	Regional Tours	Karen Bruggenthies
		Summer Party	Leigh Maclay

DENVER LYRIC OPERA GUILD

INVITES YOU TO THE

SANTA FE OPERA TOUR

AUGUST 22 - 26, 2018

Enjoy

Aug. 23rd - **Ariadne Auf Naxos**

Aug. 24th - **Madame Butterfly**

Aug. 25th - **Candide**

TOTAL PACKAGE INCLUDES

3 Opera tickets, Hotel and
\$100 Donation to DLOG Competition

Hotel: Inn on the Alameda
Double Occupancy \$825 ea./ Single \$1235

Reserve by June 1, 2018

Full Payment by July 1, 2018

We will carpool to Santa Fe leaving on 8/22/18
Add \$40 donation for Driver

Contact and Send Check Payable to DLOG to:

Karen Bruggenthies

4692 S. Field Street

Denver, Co., 80123

#303-345-3531

kbruggenthies@kellypipe.com



Designed by Deborah Natelson



DENVER LYRIC OPERA GUILD

Marie Belew Weatley, President

14065 W. Virginia Dr.

Lakewood, CO 80228