



COMPETITION *for* COLORADO SINGERS

PRESENTED BY
DENVER LYRIC OPERA GUILD

Master Class

Saturday, February 18, 2023, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. MT

Preliminaries

Saturday, March 4, 2023, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. MT

Finals

Saturday, March 18, 2023, 1 p.m.-5 p.m. MT

All events are held at: Calvary Baptist Church | 6500 E. Girard Avenue | Denver, CO Free
and open to the public.

Master Class and Finals live-streamed and available at www.denverlyricoperaguild.org.



The objective of the Denver Lyric Opera Guild is the encouragement and support of young singers and the continuing education of members in the appreciation and knowledge of opera.

**For more information on DLOG Membership and Member Events
www.denverlyricoperaguild.org**

Denver Lyric Opera Guild

Denver Lyric Opera Guild is a non-profit membership organization. DLOG was founded in 1965 to help support the Denver Lyric Opera Company. The opera company was forced to close in 1968, but the Guild pursued other programs in keeping with **its purpose to encourage and support young singers and provide continuing education to the members in the appreciation and knowledge of opera.**

Competition for Colorado Singers

In 1984, the Guild inaugurated its signature event, the *Competition for Colorado Singers*, to support singers ages 23-32 in pursuing their operatic careers. Since then, the Guild has awarded **over \$940,000 to Competition winners. Hundreds of young singers** have successfully launched their operatic and musical careers since winning the Competition.

Grants

The Guild provides **grants to Colorado's colleges and universities for vocal scholarships, and to apprentice opera programs.** Over the years, these **grants have totaled over \$880,000** from the earnings on our endowment. Grants are given to the voice performance programs at **Colorado State University, Metro State University of Denver, University of Colorado, University of Denver, University of Northern Colorado,** and young artist apprentice programs of **Central City Opera, Opera Colorado, Opera Fort Collins, and Opera Theatre of the Rockies.** In 2022, universities and opera apprentice programs received grants totaling \$39,000.

2023 Board of Directors and Competition Committee

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The Louise C. Conter Master Class

Louise Conter (1924-1998) had a lifelong love of opera and the desire to help aspiring young singers. Upon her death in 1998, Denver Lyric Opera Guild became the recipient of an extraordinary bequest and her gift will ensure the support of young singers through the Guild's program for many years to come. DLOG is proud to salute Louise Conter at the annual DLOG Competition for Colorado Singers by naming the Master Class in her honor.

Louise was the only child of William and Catherine Conter. Her early years were spent in Brighton, Colorado. She graduated from Cathedral High School in Denver and later, embarked on a career in nursing. She trained and worked at Mercy Hospital in Denver before moving to the Colorado Springs Penrose Hospital. Louise returned to Denver in 1956 and worked as a surgical nurse at St. Anthony's Hospital for the next 25 years. She was a founding member of the Denver Association of Operating Nurses. She was a strong supporter of local musical organizations and a participating member of the Denver Lyric Opera Guild for many years. Upon retirement, Louise moved to the dairy farm in Commerce City owned by her grandparents where she lived until her death. Denver Lyric Opera Guild is a beneficiary of Louise Conter's kindness and generosity and we are forever grateful for her living gift!

Master Class Instructor

Matthew Plenk

Tenor



This year's facilitator is [Matthew Plenk](#), Artistic Director of Lamont Opera Theatre at The University of Denver's Lamont School of Music where is also appointed as Assistant Professor of Voice. He made his Metropolitan Opera debut in 2007 while a member of the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program. He holds a Bachelor's degree from the Hartt School of Music, Master's degree from Yale University and is a Samling Scholar. Since returning to the stage in November of 2022, Mr. Plenk has appeared with the Central City Opera as Nemorino and Alftred, performed with the Colorado Symphony in the season finale as a soloist in Bruckner's *Te deum* and Beethoven's *9th Symphony*. Matthew also presented a faculty recital at Lamont, performing the groundbreaking *Die schöne Müllerin* with Keith Ward at piano.

Master Class Pianist

Cody Garrison



Denver-based Cody Guy Garrison enjoys a diverse career as a collaborative pianist. He is on the music staff at the University of Denver as a pianist and vocal coach. He returned for his sixth season as a pianist for Opera Colorado this fall where he serves as the chorus pianist, a repetiteur, and orchestral keyboardist, and has performed arias with principal artists on Colorado Public Radio for multiple shows. Garrison has performed Franz Liszt's *Totentanz* and *Piano Concerto No. 1* with the Boulder Symphony. He is often sought after as a recitalist, including performances for the Ravinia Festival and the Colorado Music Festival.

Accompanist

Preliminary Competition



Beth Nielsen | *Performer and Educator*

Beth Nielsen is a pianist and vocal coach who is equally at ease with opera, art song, chamber music and musical theater. She has served on the faculty at CU Boulder, Metro State University, Northern Arizona University and Azusa Pacific University. She is currently on faculty at the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music and will be teaching diction. Nielsen has served as the vocal coach for the Opera Colorado Young Artists, Land of Enchantment Opera Institute, as well as the young artists at Opera Steamboat (formerly Emerald City Opera). She has also partnered with the Colorado Symphony Orchestra, Arizona Opera, Central City and the Long Beach Symphony. Though her passion is for working

with singers, she can also be found working with several string studios in the Denver area as well as teaching and coaching in her private studio at home. Nielsen received both her doctorate and Masters' degrees from the University of Southern California in keyboard collaborative arts with additional studies in the vocal arts, choral music, and theory.

Final Competition



Dr. Jeremy Reger | *International Performer and Educator*

Jeremy Reger came to the University of Colorado after holding the position of director of keyboard studies and collaborative arts at Christopher Newport University in Virginia. The international performer and educator says although the natural beauty of the region was a big draw, in the end it was the passion of the students and faculty at the College of Music that led him here. "There's something special going on here," says Reger. "The exceptional, creative, inspiring community created between faculty and students is palpable, and it's very exciting to be a part of it."

Teaching and mentorship are Reger's true passions and he's worked with some of the top vocal performers and coaches in the country, including at the Minnesota Opera, Indiana Opera Theater, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and the Ann Arbor Opera. In summer 2014 he was a coach and performer at the Opera Studio de Recife in Brazil. Reger has also been on the faculty of Music Academy of the West, and worked for Virginia Opera. A strong supporter of local arts organizations, he has also played with the Virginia Symphony, the Williamsburg Symphonia and the Cantabile Singers Art Song Project.

Dr. Reger holds degrees from Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and the University of Michigan.

Judges' Dinner

Meet and mingle with our stellar panel of judges!

Saturday, March 18, 2023

5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Glenmoor Country Club

110 Glenmoor Drive

Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

COST: \$90

Reservations must be received by Saturday, March 11, 2023

Register online at www.denverlyricoperaguild.org or

send checks and entrée choice to:

Karen Bruggenthies

4692 S. Field Street

Denver, CO 80123

Opera on Tuesday Awards Luncheon Featuring 2023 Competition Winners

Tuesday, April 4, 2022

10:30 a.m.

Social Hour

11:00 a.m.

*Awards Program and Entertainment
by our Competition Winners!*

12:30 p.m.

Luncheon

Columbine Country Club

17 Fairway Lane, Littleton 80123

COST: \$55

Reservations must be received by Tuesday, March 28, 2023

Register online at www.denverlyricoperaguild.org or

send checks and any dietary restrictions to:

Becky Gantner

2082 Montane Drive East

Golden, CO 80401

Judges - Preliminary Competition

JAMES BOBICK



James Bobick has enjoyed a versatile career, from leading operatic roles in the works of Donizetti, Verdi, Bizet, and Mozart to those in the contemporary operas of composers including Jake Heggie, Mark Adamo, John Eaton, and David T. Little. Mr. Bobick was seen in over twenty roles at New York City Opera including a Primetime Emmy-winning broadcast of *La Bohème*. Mr. Bobick has also appeared with companies including Los Angeles Opera, Seattle Opera, Portland Opera, Opera Colorado, Connecticut Opera, Opera Omaha, Opera Pacific, Opera Delaware, Virginia Opera, Baltimore Opera, Wichita Grand Opera, Dayton Opera, Central City Opera, Fort Worth Opera, and the Bard Festival. James was the 1991 first-place finisher in the DLOG Competition. In addition to his work in the standard operatic repertoire, Mr. Bobick has extensive experience performing the new works of contemporary composers. James Bobick has also been heard frequently as a concert soloist. At Carnegie Hall, he has been heard in Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Mendelssohn's *Die Erste Walpurgisnacht*, Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, and Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*. He has performed at Avery Fisher Hall in *Carmina Burana*, Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, Haydn's *Creation* and *Paukenmesse*, Bach's *Mass in B minor*, and Handel's *Messiah*. Internationally, he has performed *Messiah* in Prague with the Prague Symphony; *Carmina Burana* and *Messiah* in San José, Costa Rica with the San José Symphony; Fauré's *Requiem* in Paris, Reims, and Chartres, with the Orchestre Padeloup; and, Fauré's *Tu es Petrus* in Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris.

NANCY GUSTAFSON



As an opera singer, Nancy Gustafson '80 MMus has been acclaimed in most of the leading opera houses of the world including the Metropolitan Opera, the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Teatro alla Scala, Milan, the Opéra National, Paris, Chicago Lyric Opera, the Bavarian State Opera, Munich, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Hamburg State Opera, the Vienna State Opera and many others. She enjoyed an especially close relationship with the Vienna State Opera; in 2001 she was honored there with the title of Kammersängerin. Born in Evanston, Illinois, Gustafson received her bachelor's degree and an honorary doctorate from Mount Holyoke College and her master's degree from Northwestern University. Her recordings include *Das Rheingold* with Cleveland Orchestra (Decca), Mahler's *Symphony No. 2* with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and *La bohème* (both for Teldec), Lehár's *Der Tsarevitch* and *The Land of Smiles* for Telarc, live recordings of *Herodiade* (opposite Plácido Domingo) and *Guillaume Tell* with the Vienna State Opera and *Pavarotti and Friends 2* with Luciano Pavarotti, Andrea Bocelli, and Bryan Adams. Ms. Gustafson was the general manager of the Castleton Festival with Maestro Lorin Maazel and is currently an Artist-in-Residence at Northwestern University, where she has taught since 2006. She is founder and executive director of the Songs by Heart Foundation, which is dedicated to connecting people with memory loss to the language and joy of music.

GAYLE SHAY



Gayle Shay is associate professor of voice and director of Vanderbilt Opera Theatre at the Blair School. She has performed throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and China in theatre, musical theater, opera and oratorio. Professional stage direction and production credits include those with Wolf Trap Opera, Maryland Opera Studio, Opera/Omaha, Des Moines Drama Workshop, Nashville Opera, Wang People's Theatre (Guangzhou, China), and Prague Summer Nights Music Festival (Prague, Czech Republic). Shay has appeared regularly on the Songfest Art Song Concert Series in Malibu, Calif., working with composers John Harbison and Jake Heggie, and pianists Martin Katz and Graham Johnson, and she has been a member of the International Voice Workshop at the Canadian Banff Centre for the Arts under the direction of Richard Armstrong. She has also been a featured performer at the Vancouver International Song Institute (VISI) and served as the co-director of VISI's innovative SONGFIRE Art Song Theatre Apprenticeship. Additionally, Dr. Shay has written, produced, and directed five original, fully scripted and staged Art Song Theatre works (*That Way Goes the Game*, *Seaworthy*, *Once*, *Babylon*, *Can You Hear Me?*) three of which were premiered at VISI and have had subsequent productions. Shay joined the faculty of the Prague Summer Nights Young Artists Music Festival in 2018, teaching acting and serving as stage director.

Judges - Final Competition

CODY AUSTIN



American tenor Cody Austin is a 2009 graduate of the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia. Past engagements include the Duke in Verdi's *Rigoletto* for Opera Santa Barbara and Alfredo in Verdi's *La Traviata* for Utah Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, and Wichita Grand Opera. Cody also appeared as Faust in Boito's *Mefistofile* with Knoxville Opera and Don Jose in *Carmen* with Sarasota Opera. With Opera Tampa, Cody has performed Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni*, Ferrando in *Così fan Tutte*, Alfredo in *La Traviata*, and Alfred in *Die Fledermaus*. Cody made his European debut as Pinkerton with Opera på Skåret in Sweden, and spent last summer in Central City, Colorado performing the same role. Concert work has taken him from Beijing to Dubai, as well as several cities across the USA. In addition to his work as an active performer, Cody has nearly 10 years teaching experience as a private instructor. Cody and his family are now living in Tampa.

LEONA MITCHELL



Grammy Award-winning soprano who sang for 18 seasons as a leading spinto soprano at the Metropolitan Opera in New York. In 1973, she made her debut as Micaela in Georges Bizet's 1875 opera *Carmen* with the San Francisco Opera, subsequently she made her Metropolitan Opera debut in New York City on December 15, 1975 in the same role. She sang the role of Bess in the first complete recording of George Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* from which she received a Grammy for "Best Opera Recording". She sang at most of the world's best-known opera houses in such roles as Turandot, Aida, Micaela, Manon, Leonora, Amalia Delilah, Mimi, and Musetta, as well as Pamina, Madama Butterfly, Lauretta, and Madame Lidoine. She performed for five U.S. Presidents: Ronald Reagan, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton and George H. W. Bush, along with many dignitaries which include Prince Charles, Princess Anne, The Honourable Sandra Day O'Connor, and Bishop Desmond Tutu. On July 5, 1986, she performed in the New York Philharmonic tribute to the 100th Anniversary of the Statue of Liberty, which was televised live from Central Park on ABC Television.^[3] She sang both the aria "Un bel di vedremo"

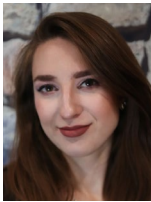
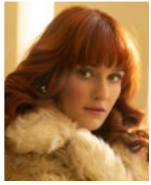
from Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, and the American spiritual "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands". She appeared in a production with each one of the Three Tenors: *Ernani* with Luciano Pavarotti, *Turandot* with Plácido Domingo, and *Carmen* with José Carreras. In her home state of Oklahoma, she received many honors. These include the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame, the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame and the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame. She received honorary doctorates from Oklahoma City University and the University of Oklahoma. In 1983, she was inducted into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame.

GREGORY SPEARS



Mr. Spears is a New York-based composer whose music has been called "astonishingly beautiful" (The New York Times), "coolly entrancing" (The New Yorker), and "some of the most beautifully unsettling music to appear in recent memory" (The Boston Globe). He has been commissioned by The New York Philharmonic, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Santa Fe Opera, Cincinnati Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Seraphic Fire, The Crossing, Volti, BMI/Concert Artists Guild, Vocal Arts DC, New York Polyphony, The New York International Piano Competition, the JACK Quartet, and The New York Youth Symphony among others. His latest opera "Castor and Patience", written in collaboration with former U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith, was commissioned by Cincinnati Opera for their 100th Anniversary and premiered in 2022. In the 2021-2022 season the New York Philharmonic premiered a new work by Spears also written in collaboration with Smith for countertenor and orchestra. They are currently writing a new opera for Santa Fe Opera ("The Righteous") for premiere in summer 2024. Spears' opera, "Fellow Travelers", written in collaboration with Greg Pierce, premiered at Cincinnati Opera in 2016 and was subsequently produced at numerous other opera companies. It will be produced next season at Virginia Opera. It was hailed as "one of the

most accomplished new operas I have seen in recent years" (Chicago Tribune) and an opera that "seems assured of lasting appeal" (The New York Times). The premiere was featured in The New York Times' Best in Classical Music for 2016, and Cincinnati Opera released a commercial CD recording in 2017.

**1. Catherine Jaicks**

Porgi, amor
Enfin, je suis ici
The trees on the mountains
Volate, amori
Come scoglio

Soprano

Le nozze di Figaro
Cendrillon
Susannah
Ariodante
Così fan tutte

Age: 26

Mozart
Massenet
Floyd
Handel
Mozart

2. Megan Pryor

Caro nome che il mio cor
Presentation of the Rose
This is what it is to love an artist
Tornami a vagheggiar
Robert, toi que j'aime

Mezzo

Rigoletto
Der Rosenkavalier
Eurydice
Alcina
Robert le Diable

Age: 23

Verdi
Strauss, R.
Aucoin
Handel
Meyerbeer

3. Allen Adair

La Calunnia
Madamina
Vous qui fates l'endormie
Schweig, Schweig
Let things be like they always was

Bass-Baritone

Il barbiere di Siviglia
Don Giovanni
Faust
Der Freischütz
Street Scene

Age: 26

Rossini
Mozart
Gounod
von Weber
Weill

4. Elizabeth Mirandi

Quando m'en vo'
Chacun le sait
Der Hölle Rache
Willow Song
Tornami a vagheggiar

Soprano

La Bohème
La Fille du Régiment
Die Zauberflöte
The Ballad of Baby Doe
Alcina

Age: 27

Puccini
Donizetti
Mozart
Moore
Handel

5. Paul Wolf

Here I stand
Il mio tesoro
Avete torto! Firenze é come
Dein is mein ganzes Herz!
Lensky's Aria (Kuda, kuda)

Tenor

The Rake's Progress
Don Giovanni
Gianni Schicchi
Das Land des Lächelns
Eugene Onegin

Age: 32

Stravinsky
Mozart
Puccini
Lehár
Tchaikovsky

6. Zoë Spangler

Durch Zärtlichkeit und Schmeicheln
Ah! Douce enfant...pour en faire
Quel guardo, il cavaliere
Tornami a vagheggiar
My Darling Jim

Soprano

Die Entführung aus dem Serail
Cendrillon
Don Pasquale
Alcina
Glory Denied

Age: 28

Mozart
Massenet
Donizetti
Handel
Cipullo

7. Andrea Weidemann

Gold is a fine thing
Caro nome che il mio cor
Obéissons quand leur voix appelle
Presentation of the Rose
Deh, vieni non tardar

Soprano

The Ballad of Baby Doe
Rigoletto
Manon
Der Rosenkavalier
Le nozze di Figaro

Age: 28

Moore
Verdi
Massenet
Strauss, R.
Mozart

8. Emily Anderson

Things change, Jo
Svelgiatevi nel core
Witch's Aria (Hexenlied)
Me voici dans son boudoir
Minskwoman's Aria

Mezzo

Little Women
Giulio Cesare
Hänsel und Gretel
Mignon
Flight

Age: 26

Adamo
Handel
Humperdinck
Thomas
Dove

9. Gloria Palermo

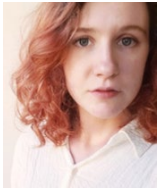
All'afflitto è dolce il pianto
Torna di Tito a lato
Una voce poco fa
Enfin, je suis ici
Carceleras

Mezzo

Roberto Devereux
La Clemenza di Tito
Il Barbiere di Siviglia
Cendrillon
Las Hijas del Zebedeo

Age: 29

Donizetti
Mozart
Rossini
Massenet
Chapí

**10. Elizabeth Arons****Soprano****Age: 23**

Tornami a vagheggiar
O l'égère hirondelle
Durch Zärtlichkeit und Schmeicheln
Gold is a fine thing
Da schlägt des Abschiedsstunde

Alcina
Mireille
Die Entführung aus dem Serail
The Ballad of Baby Doe
Der Schauspieldirektor

Handel
Gounod
Mozart
Moore
Mozart

**11. Nathan Snyder****Tenor****Age: 32**

Torna ai felici di
Lift Off into the Heavens with me
No puede ser
Pourquoi me réveiller
Dein is mein ganzes Herz!

Le Villi
Staggerwing
La Tabernera del Puerto
Werther
Das Land des Lächelns

Puccini
Peters & Despain
Sorozábal
Massenet
Lehár

**12. Alice Del Simone****Soprano****Age: 30**

Down you go
Arrière! Je réchauffe les bons
Die Wiener Herrn verstehn
Ah! Douce enfant...pour en faire
Neghittosi, or via che fate?

Flight
L'enfant et les sortilèges
Arabella
Cendrillon
Ariodante

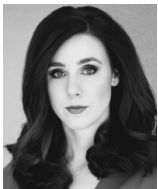
Dove
Ravel
Strauss, R.
Massenet
Handel

**13. Gabrielle Razafinjatovo****Mezzo****Age: 28**

Va! laisse couler mes larmes
Cruda sorte . . . Già so per pratica
Voi, che sapete
Crude furie
Minskwoman's Aria

Werther
L'Italiana in Algeri
Le nozze di Figaro
Serse
Flight

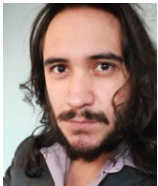
Massenet
Rossini
Mozart
Handel
Dove

**14. Madison Falkenstine****Soprano****Age: 25**

Deh vieni, non tardar
Una voce poco fa
Je marche sur tous les chemins
Kommt ein schlanker Bursch gegangen
Dearest Mama (Letter Aria)

Le nozze di Figaro
Il Barbiere di Siviglia
Manon
Der Freischütz
The Ballad of Baby Doe

Mozart
Rossini
Massenet
von Weber
Moore

**15. Santiago Gutierrez Herrera****Tenor****Age: 30**

Il mio tesoro
Ah! lève-toi
Dein is mein ganzes Herz!
Here I stand
No puede ser

Don Giovanni
Roméo et Juliette
Das Land des Lächelns
The Rake's Progress
La Tabernera del Puerto

Mozart
Gounod
Lehár
Stravinsky
Sorozábal

**16. Sabina Balsamo****Soprano****Age: 28**

Quando m'en vo'
Presentation of the Rose
Gavotte
Willow Song
Saper vorreste

La Bohème
Der Rosenkavalier
Manon
The Ballad of Baby Doe
Un ballo in maschera

Puccini
Strauss, R.
Massenet
Moore
Verdi

**17. Jenna Clark****Mezzo****Age: 31**

Près des remparts de Séville
Werther! Werther! (Letter Aria)
All'afflitto è dolce il pianto
Una voce poco fa
Am I in your light?

Carmen
Werther
Roberto Devereux
Il Barbiere di Siviglia
Doctor Atomic

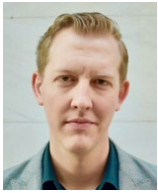
Bizet
Massenet
Donizetti
Rossini
Adams

**18. Melissa Lubecke****Soprano****Age: 32**

Escúchame
Donde lieta
Je dis que rien ne m'épouvante
Casta diva
Somehow, I never could believe

Florencia en el Amazonas
La Bohème
Carmen
Norma
Street Scene

Catan
Puccini
Bizet
Bellini
Weill

**19. Griffen Hogan Tracy****Bass-Baritone****Age: 29**

Vecchia zimarra
 Bottom's Dream
 Gremin's Aria
 Solche hergelaufne Laffen
 Dalle stanze ove Lucia

La Bohème
A Midsummer Night's Dream
Eugene Onegin
Die Entführung aus dem Serail
Lucia di Lammermoor

Puccini
 Britten
 Tchaikovsky
 Mozart
 Donizetti

**20. Miguel Angel Ortega Banales****Tenor****Age: 31**

Angelo casto e bel
 Una furtiva lagrima
 Se di lauri
 Ah! lève-toi
 Salut! demeure chaste et pure

Il duca d'Alba
L'elisir d'amore
Mitridate
Roméo et Juliette
Faust

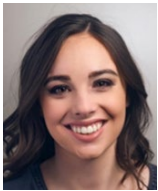
Donizetti
 Donizetti
 Mozart
 Gounod
 Gounod

**21. Kacie Kenton****Soprano****Age: 31**

Prendi, per me sei libero
 Neghittosi, or via che fate?
 Ach, ich fühl's
 Silver Aria (Gold Aria)
 Take me back (Emily's aria)

L'elisir d'amore
Ariodante
Die Zauberflöte
The Ballad of Baby Doe
Our Town

Donizetti
 Handel
 Mozart
 Moore
 Rorem

**22. Melaina Mills****Soprano****Age: 31**

Non si dà follia maggiore
 Comme autrefois
 S'altro che lagrime
 The Tower...How Beautiful It Is
 One Star

Il Turco in Italia
Les Pêcheurs de Perles
La Clemenza di Tito
The Turn of the Screw
The Grapes of Wrath

Rossini
 Bizet
 Mozart
 Britten
 Gordon

**23. Benjamin Boskoff****Tenor****Age: 31**

Ah! mes amis
 Si ritrovarla io giuro
 The Red Carnation
 Scene 8: At Night - "Miles!"
 Tu vivi

La Fille du Régiment
La Cenerentola
Paul's Case
The Turn of the Screw
Ariodante

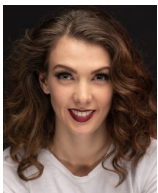
Donizetti
 Rossini
 Spears
 Britten
 Handel

**24. Leslie Ratner****Mezzo****Age: 30**

Vois sous l'archet fremissant
 Chacun à son goût
 Il padre adorato
 O pallida, che un giorno mi guardasti!
 Amour! viens aider ma faiblesse!

Les Contes d'Hoffman
Die Fledermaus
Idomeneo
L' amico Fritz
Samson et Dalila

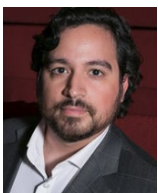
Offenbach
 Strauss, J.
 Mozart
 Mascagni
 Saint-Saëns

**25. Dawna Rae Warren****Soprano****Age: 26**

Quando m'en vo'
 Adieu, notre petite table
 Mein Herr Marquis
 Lady with a Hand Mirror
 Quel guardo, il cavaliere

La Bohème
Manon
Die Fledermaus
Post Card from Morocco
Don Pasquale

Puccini
 Massenet
 Strauss, J.
 Argento
 Donizetti

**26. David Soto Zambrana****Tenor****Age: 29**

Tombe degl'avi miel ...Fra poco a me
 La donna è mobile
 Questa o quella
 Ye People of New England
 Ah! lève-toi

Lucia di Lammermoor
Rigoletto
Rigoletto
The Scarlet Letter
Roméo et Juliette

Donizetti
 Verdi
 Verdi
 Laitman
 Gounod

**27. David Silvano****Tenor****Age: 30**

Addio fiorito asil
 Dein is mein ganzes Herz!
 O paradis sorti de l'onde
 Martin's Song
 De' miei bollenti spiriti

Madama Butterfly
Das Land des Lächelns
L'Africaine
The Tender Land
La Traviata

Puccini
 Lehár
 Meyerbeer
 Copland
 Verdi

**28. Francesca Mehrota**

Caro nome che il mio cor
Deh vieni, non tardar
Se giunge un dispetto
Presentation of the Rose
My Darling Jim

Soprano

Rigoletto
Le nozze di Figaro
Agrippina
Der Rosenkavalier
Glory Denied

Age: 25

Verdi
Mozart
Handel
Strauss, R.
Cipullo

**29. Ingrid Johnson**

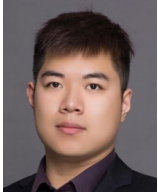
Things change, Jo
Ombra mai fu
Enfin, je suis ici
Non so più cosa son
Chacun à son goût

Mezzo

Little Women
Serse
Cendrillon
Le nozze di Figaro
Die Fledermaus

Age: 27

Adamo
Handel
Massenet
Mozart
Strauss, J.

**30. Junyuan Chen**

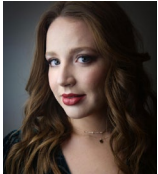
Ella giammai m'amò !
Il lacerato spirito
Épouse quelque brave fille
That Man's a Saint
In diesen heil'gen Hallen

Bass

Don Carlo
Simon Boccanegra
Manon
Tartuffe
Die Zauberflöte

Age: 27

Verdi
Verdi
Massenet
Mechem
Mozart

**31. Shannon Christie**

Non mi dir, bell'idol mio
Take me back (Emily's aria)
Csárdás
Jewel Song
Chi il bel sogno di Doretta

Soprano

Don Giovanni
Our Town
Die Fledermaus
Faust
La Rondine

Age: 28

Mozart
Rorem
Strauss, J.
Gounod
Puccini

**32. Courtney Caston**

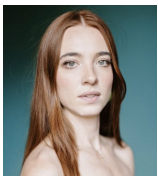
I want magic
Und ob die Wolke
Porgi, amor
Voi lo sapete, o mamma
Donde lieta

Soprano

A Streetcar Named Desire
Der Freischütz
Le nozze di Figaro
Cavalleria rusticana
La Bohème

Age: 27

Previn
von Weber
Mozart
Mascagni
Puccini

**33. Joanne Evans**

Smanie implacabili
Wie du warst!
Non, non, non, vous n'avez jamais
Give him this orchid
Or la tromba

Mezzo

Così fan tutte
Der Rosenkavalier
Les Huguenots
The Rape of Lucretia
Rinaldo

Age: 30

Mozart
Strauss, R.
Meyerbeer
Britten
Handel

**34. Tessa McQueen**

Amour ranime mon courage
Chi il bel sogno di Doretta
Ain't it a pretty night?
Ah, fuggi il traditor
Porgi, amor

Soprano

Roméo et Juliette
La Rondine
Susannah
Don Giovanni
Le nozze di Figaro

Age: 25

Gounod
Puccini
Floyd
Mozart
Mozart

2023 Competition Awards

\$38,000 will be awarded in 2023

First Place: \$10000 GALEN & ADA BELLE SPENCER FOUNDATION AWARD

Recipient _____

Second Place: \$5000 KENNETH KING FOUNDATION AWARD

Recipient _____

Third Place: \$4500 MYRLE F. HOFFMAN MEMORIAL AWARD

Recipient _____

Fourth Place: \$4000 GARY & GAYLE LANDIS AWARD

Recipient _____

Fifth Place: \$3500 SHIRLEY AND MARLIS SMITH AWARD

Recipient _____

Sixth Place: \$3000 CAROLE JOHNSTON AWARD

Recipient _____

Seventh Place: \$2500 MARCIA RAGONETTI AWARD

Recipient _____

3 Certificates of Merit \$1000 Each

LISA CURTIS IN HONOR OF ANNE KOTCH AWARD

Recipient _____

JULIE JOHNSTON IN MEMORY OF HARRY WILLIAMS AWARD

Recipient _____

JACKIE WRITZ TO HONOR THE EXCELLENT 2023 CANDIDATE CHECK-IN CREW

Recipient _____

5 Honorable Mentions \$500 Each

DLOG DONORS IN MEMORY OF LAURA GOTTSCHALK, LIVERPOOL CARD GROUP AND DLOG DONORS

Recipients _____

2021 Competition Winners

First Place Galen & Ada Belle Spencer Foundation Award

Lauren Bumgarner | *Soprano*



Lauren Bumgarner received her BM in Vocal Performance from the University of California – Santa Cruz and is working on her MM in Vocal Performance at Colorado State University. Lauren was the 2020 Emerging Artist for MIOpera and was selected as a 2020 Apprentice Artist at Opera Fort Collins. Roles for MIOpera include Micheala in Carmen and Juliette in Romeo et Juliette.

Second Place Kenneth King Foundation Award

Kelly Riordan | *Mezzo*



Kelly Riordan, mezzo-soprano, has been praised for her “exuberant honesty” onstage as well as her “beautiful vibrancy and warmth” of tone. Originally from Chicago, IL, Kelly is currently pursuing her Master’s in vocal performance and pedagogy at the University of Colorado, Boulder. In addition to the DLOG Competition, Riordan placed second at the national competition of NATS (Upper College Women) where she was congratulated on her “wonderful storytelling, strong musicianship, and professional and confident performance. Most recently, Kelly has been awarded a Fulbright Grant to study in Vienna, Austria for the 2022/2023 academic year.

Third Place Myrle F. Hoffman Memorial Award

Tessa McQueen | *Soprano*



Tessa McQueen received her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Oklahoma City University. She graduated Cum Laude in her 2019 class. She also became a 2022 Midwest Region 3rd place Winner and Tulsa District Winner of the Metropolitan Opera Eric and Dominique Laffont Competition. Tessa was a Metropolitan Opera National Council Encouragement Award winner from the Tulsa District in 2020. Ms. McQueen joined Central City Opera this last season to sing the role of Krystyna Zywułska in Jake Heggie’s Two Remain (Out of Darkness). She was a 2022 Studio Artist with CCO.

2021 Competition Winners

Fourth Place Shirley & Marlis Smith Award

Gabrielle Razafinjatovo | *Mezzo*



Gabrielle Razafinjatovo is a second-year master's student at the University of Colorado Boulder pursuing a MM in voice performance and pedagogy. She is a student of Julie Simson and Abigail Nims. Originally from North Dakota, she earned a BA in voice and piano from Minot State University in 2017. She performed with the Minot Symphony Orchestra as winner of the MSO Senior Honors Competition and as a soloist in Vivaldi's *Gloria*. Past roles include Rosina in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, Mercedes in *Carmen*, and Third Lady in *Die Zauberflöte* with the Western Plains Opera Company.

Fifth Place Gary & Gayle Landis Award

Danielle Lombardi | *Mezzo*



Danielle Lombardi received her bachelor's degree from Oberlin Conservatory and her master's degree from Rice University's Shepherd School of Music. Her operatic roles include Annio in *La clemenza di Tito*, Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*, Mrs. Herring in *Albert Herring*, Ericlea in Monteverdi's *Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria* and Sandman in *Hänsel und Gretel*. Danielle was a 2016/2017 Opera Colorado Young Artist and a 2017 District Winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

Sixth Place Carole Johnson Award

Christina Hazen | *Mezzo*



Colorado-born Mezzo-soprano Christina Hazen is an alumna of the Houston Grand Opera's Young Artists Vocal Academy and received her Artist Diploma at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) where she was a Norman Treigle Award winner at the Corbett Opera Competition. Christina joins Minnesota Opera as a Resident Artist for the 2022-2023 season where she will make her debut singing Goffredo in *Rinaldo*, and cover the roles of the Marquise of Berkenfield in *Daughter of the regiment* and Zerlina in *Don Giovanni*. She holds a BM from the University of Northern Colorado

2021 Competition Winners

Seventh Place Beverly Ann Landis Memorial Award

Paul Wolf | *Tenor*



Paul Wolf is an emerging artist in the Denver area working on his DMA at CU Boulder. Mr. Wolf's recent engagements include the role of Nero in Eklund Opera's production of *Agrippina*. Other past engagements include Opera Birmingham as Spoletta in *Tosca*, Birmingham Music Club as Ralph Rackstraw in *HMS Pinafore*. Mr. Wolf is a former Seagle Festival Fall Artist, a Young Artist Apprentice with Charlottesville Opera, as well as a member of Opera Roanoke's Young Artist Apprentice Program. Mr. Wolf was the 2019 NFMC Young Artist Man's Voice Winner from their 60th Biennial Competition in Jacksonville, Florida. He also placed Second in the 2016 MTNA National Young Artist Vocal Competition in San Antonio, Texas.

Certificates of Merit

*Jackie Writz in Honor
Of Candidate Check-in
Extrordinaire Mary
Sharon Wells, Rosemary
Priester, Jane Gibson &
Jeanette Thrower Award*

*Julie Johnston & Donors
in Honor of Harry
Williams Award*

*Lisa Curtis in Honor of
Anne Kotch Award*



Courtney Caston –
Soprano



Alice DelSimone –
Soprano

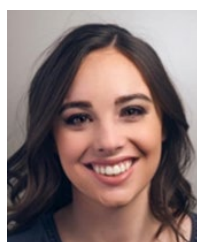


Catherine Swindle –
Soprano

Honorable Mention - *Gene and Linda Young in Honor of Mason Cramer,
Liverpool Card Group, and DLOG Donors*



Kyrie Laybourn



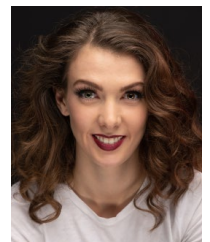
Melaina Mills



Andrea Weidemann



Nathan Snyder



Dawna Rae Warren

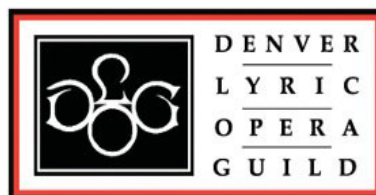
First Place Winners of Past Competitions

1985 Rebecca Lively	1995 Julianne Best	2004 Wendy Jones	2013 Thomas Kittle
1986 Elizabeth Hagedorn	1996 Emily Herrera	2005 Christopher Job	2014 Rebecca Kidnie
1987 Kathryn Garber	1997 Katherine Adam	2006 Jordan Shanahan	2015 Taylor Raven
1988 Geena Jeffries	1998 Amy Lauritzen	2007 Jennifer DeDominici	2016 Sarah Cambidge
1989 Cynthia Lawrence	1999 Li Hui Zhang	2008 Annamarie Zmolek	2017 Ekaterina Kotcherguina
1990 Yalun Zhang	2000 Robert Gardner	2009 Juli Bunyak	2018 Michael Hoffman
1991 James Bobick	2001 Bradley Thompson	2010 Christie Hageman	2019 Matthew Peterson
1992 Curt Peterson	2002 Jennifer Robertson	2011 John Lindsay	2020 Claire McCahan
1993 Helena Biktasheva	2003 Shannon Koonce Magee	2012 Kimberly Render	2021 Anna Montgomery
2022 Lauren Bumgarner			

Since inaugurating the *Competition for Colorado Singers* in 1984, over 250 aspiring young opera singers have won the coveted top awards. DLOG wishes all of the 2023 winners success as their operatic and music careers move forward.

Perhaps one day, they too, will join with other Colorado Competition winners who have achieved Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Santa Fe Opera, and other major national and international opera success.

We honor Competition alumni such as **Sarah Cambidge, Jennifer DeDominici, Christopher Job, Curt Peterson, Cynthia Lawrence, Megan Marino, Mark Van Arsdale, Wei Wu, Kira Dills-Desurra** and others who have reached opera stardom.



DLOG Collegiate and Young Artists Grants

Denver Lyric Opera Guild Grants to universities and young artist training programs are made possible through the generosity of Guild Members and by established funds from the endowment portfolio. In 2023, universities and opera apprentice programs will receive grants totaling **\$40,500**.

2023 Collegiate Grants

**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC**

**EKLUND OPERA
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER**

**METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF
DENVER DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC**

**UNIVERSITY OF DENVER
LAMONT SCHOOL OF MUSIC**

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO OPERA THEATRE

2023 Young Artists Program Grants

**CENTRAL CITY OPERA
YOUNG ARTISTS PROGRAM**

**OPERA FORT COLLINS
APPRENTICE ARTISTS PROGRAM**

**OPERA COLORADO
ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM**

**OPERA THEATRE OF THE ROCKIES
ARTISTS AND OUTREACH ENSEMBLE**

2022 Young Artists Grant Recipients

**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC**
David Silvano

**CENTRAL CITY OPERA
YOUNG ARTISTS PROGRAM**
Gabrielle Barkidjija

**METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF
DENVER DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC**
Chloe Short

**OPERA COLORADO
ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE**
Seven Opera Colorado Artists in Residence

**EKLUND OPERA
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER**
The grant was used toward paying ten student performer fees for Eklund Opera's summer CU NOW (New Opera Workshop). The student singers worked with Kamala Sankaram, Tom Cipullo, and Gene Scheer.

**OPERA FORT COLLINS
APPRENTICE ARTISTS PROGRAM**
Funds were used to sponsor four "Career Paths" Zoom programs. Opera professionals provided insight, personal experience, and professional guidance to prepare for a career.

**UNIVERSITY OF DENVER
LAMONT SCHOOL OF MUSIC**
Oliver Poveda, Leslie Ridout

OPERA THEATRE OF THE ROCKIES
Kacie Kenton, Stephanie Brink, Pablo Romero
Matthew Slipp

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO
OPERA THEATRE**
Reese Cruz, Kristi Muzzio, Jakee Larcqua,
Jasmine Perri-Grice, John Herman,
Junyuan Chen

OPERA STEAMBOAT
Funds were applied to scholarships to participants in the experimental Resident Artist session.

Denver Lyric Opera Guild Major Donors

The following make the Competition for
Colorado Singers possible with their generous gifts

Award Donors and Benefactors

The Galen and Ada Belle Spencer Foundation
The Kenneth King Foundation
Carol Hoffman
Gary & Gayle Landis
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Marlis Smith
Julie Johnston
Lisa Curtis
Jackie Writz
Myrle F. Hoffman Estate
Liverpool Card Group
Members of Denver Lyric Opera Guild

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Becky & Gary Gantner
Carole Johnson
Anne Kotch
Gary & Gayle Landis
Jessica Loving-Campos
Jon & Lynne Montague-Clouse
Trish & Art Pansze
Kevin O'Connor & Janet Raasch
Karen & Andrew Ritz
Christine Shore
Kathy & Peter Van Arsdale
Valerie Wassill & Kevin Rudolph
Jackie Writz
Joan & Randy Zisler

**We gratefully acknowledge and thank all DLOG members and volunteers
who support the Guild with their time, talents and generosity.**



Learn more about DLOG by visiting
www.denverlyricoperaguild.org



Kevin D O'Connor

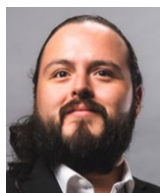
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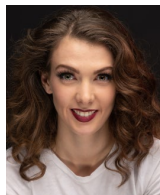
Denver Lyric Opera Guild

Competition for Colorado Singers 2023 Finalists



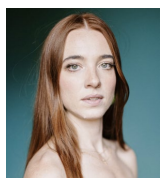
1. Miguel Angel Ortega Banales Tenor Age: 31

Angelo casto e bel	<i>Il duca d'Alba</i>	Donizetti
Una furtiva lagrima	<i>L'elisir d'amore</i>	Donizetti
Se di lauri	<i>Mitridate</i>	Mozart
Ah! lève-toi	<i>Roméo et Juliette</i>	Gounod
Salut! demeure chaste et pure	<i>Faust</i>	Gounod



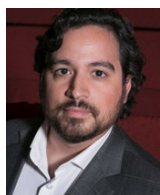
2. Dawna Rae Warren Soprano Age: 26

Quando m'en vo'	<i>La Bohème</i>	Puccini
Adieu, notre petite table	<i>Manon</i>	Massenet
Mein Herr Marquis	<i>Die Fledermaus</i>	Strauss, J.
<i>Lady with a Hand Mirror</i>	<i>Post Card from Morocco</i>	<i>Argento</i>
Quel guardo, il cavaliere	<i>Don Pasquale</i>	Donizetti



3. Joanne Evans Mezzo Age: 30

Smanie implacabili	<i>Così fan tutte</i>	Mozart
Wie du warst!	<i>Der Rosenkavalier</i>	Strauss, R.
<i>Non, non, non, vous n'avez jamais</i>	<i>Les Huguenots</i>	<i>Meyerbeer</i>
Give him this orchid	<i>The Rape of Lucretia</i>	Britten
Or la tromba	<i>Rinaldo</i>	Handel



4. David Soto Zambrana Tenor Age: 29

Tombe degl'avi miel ...Fra poco a me	<i>Lucia di Lammermoor</i>	Donizetti
La donna è mobile	<i>Rigoletto</i>	Verdi
Questa o quella	<i>Rigoletto</i>	Verdi
Ye People of New England	<i>The Scarlet Letter</i>	Laitman
<i>No puede ser</i>	<i>La taberna del puerto</i>	<i>Sorozábal</i>



5. Jenna Clark Mezzo Age: 31

Sein wir wieder gut	<i>Ariadne auf Naxos</i>	R. Strauss
<i>Werther! Werther! (Letter Aria)</i>	<i>Werther</i>	<i>Massenet</i>
All'afflito è dolce il pianto	<i>Roberto Devereux</i>	Donizetti
Una voce poco fa	<i>Il Barbiere di Siviglia</i>	Rossini
Am I in your light?	<i>Doctor Atomic</i>	Adams



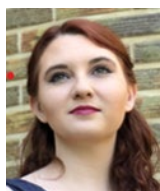
6. Tessa McQueen Soprano Age: 25

<i>Amour ranime mon courage</i>	<i>Roméo et Juliette</i>	<i>Gounod</i>
Chi il bel sogno di Doretta	<i>La Rondine</i>	Puccini
Ain't it a pretty night?	<i>Susannah</i>	Floyd
Ah, fuggi il traditor	<i>Don Giovanni</i>	Mozart
Porgi, amor	<i>Le nozze di Figaro</i>	Mozart



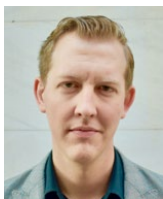
7. David Silvano Tenor Age: 30

Addio fiorito asil	<i>Madama Butterfly</i>	Puccini
Sterben wolit ich oft	<i>Violanta</i>	Korngold
<i>O paradis sorti de l'onde</i>	<i>L'Africaine</i>	<i>Meyerbeer</i>
Martin's Song	<i>The Tender Land</i>	Copland
De' miei bollenti spiriti	<i>La Traviata</i>	Verdi



8. Emily Anderson Mezzo Age: 26

<i>Things change, Jo</i>	<i>Little Women</i>	<i>Adamo</i>
Svelgiatevi nel core	<i>Giulio Cesare</i>	Handel
Witch's Aria (Hexenlied)	<i>Hänsel und Gretel</i>	Humperdinck
Me voici dans son boudoir	<i>Mignon</i>	Thomas
Minskwoman's Aria	<i>Flight</i>	Dove

**9. Griffen Hogan Tracy****Vecchia zimarra**

Bottom's Dream

Gremi's Aria

Solche hergelaufne Laffen

Wie schön ist doch die Musik

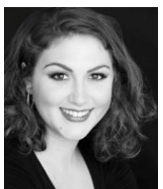
Bass**La Bohème***A Midsummer Night's Dream**Eugene Onegin**Die Entführung aus dem Serail**Die Schweigsame Frau***Age: 30****Puccini**

Britten

Tchaikovsky

Mozart

R. Strauss

**10. Gloria Palermo**

All'afflitto è dolce il pianto

Waiting

Una voce poco fa

Enfin, je suis ici

Carceleras**Mezzo***Roberto Devereux**The Great Gatsby**Il Barbiere di Siviglia**Cendrillon***Las Hijas del Zebedeo****Age: 29**

Donizetti

Harbison

Rossini

Massenet

Chapí**11. Nathan Snyder**

Torna ai felici di

Lift Off into the Heavens with me

No puede ser

Pourquoi me réveiller

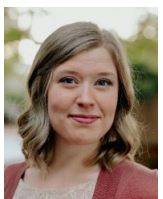
Dein is mein ganzes Herz!**Tenor***Le Villi**Staggerwing**La Tabernera del Puerto**Werther***Das Land des Lächelns****Age: 32**

Puccini

Peters & Despaigne

Sorozábal

Massenet

Lehár**12. Gabrielle Razafinjatovo**

Va! laisse couler mes larmes

Cruda sorte . . . Già so per pratica

Voi, che sapete

Crude furie

Minskwoman's Aria

Mezzo*Werther***L'Italiana in Algeri***Le nozze di Figaro**Serse**Flight***Age: 28**

Massenet

Rossini

Mozart

Handel

Dove

**13. Paul Wolf**

Here I stand

Il mio tesoro

Avete torto! Firenze é come

Dein is mein ganzes Herz!

Lensky's Aria (Kuda, kuda)

Tenor*The Rake's Progress**Don Giovanni**Gianni Schicchi***Das Land des Lächelns***Eugene Onegin***Age: 32**

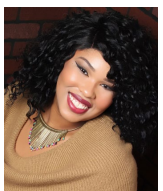
Stravinsky

Mozart

Puccini

Lehár

Tchaikovsky

**14. Courtney Caston**

I want magic

Und ob die Wolke

Porgi, amor

Voi lo sapete, o mamma

Donde lieta

Soprano*A Streetcar Named Desire**Der Freischütz**Le nozze di Figaro***Cavalleria rusticana***La Bohème***Age: 27**

Previn

von Weber

Mozart

Mascagni

Puccini

**Starting arias are in red typeface.*

2023 Competition for Colorado Singers Awards Luncheon

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

10:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Columbine Country Club

17 Fairway Lane

Littleton, CO 80123

For reservations visit our website at www.denverlyricoperaguild.org.