

## 2016-17 Judges

### **BOSTON DISTRICT (Sunday-Monday, Jan. 8-9 at Jordan Hall at New England Conservatory)**

**Cori Ellison**, dramaturg at Glyndebourne Festival Opera, Juilliard School

**Roger Pines**, dramaturg at Lyric Opera of Chicago

**Darren Woods**, General Director, Fort Worth Opera

### **NEW ENGLAND REGION (Sunday, Jan. 29, Jordan Hall at New England Conservatory)**

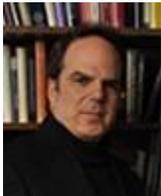
**Michael Heaston**, executive director of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program

**Evans Mirageas**, Artistic Director of Cincinnati Opera

**Laurie Rogers**, Director of Young Artist Programs, Head of Music Staff at Opera Saratoga



Cori Ellison currently serves as dramaturg at Glyndebourne Festival Opera. Was dramaturg at New York City Opera from 1997-2010 and has also served as production dramaturg for projects including Washington National Opera's "Ring" cycle, Opera Boston's *The Nose*, *Offenbach!!!* at Bard Summerscape, and *Così fan tutte: Some Assembly Required* at Operamission (N.Y.C.).



Roger Pines is dramaturg at Lyric Opera of Chicago, where he joined the staff in 1995. Previously he was director of education at San Diego Opera. He has also held positions at The Dallas Opera and Glimmerglass Opera. At Lyric he functions as program editor and associate magazine editor, while also moderating artist roundtables, undertaking lectures throughout Chicago, and serving as special lecturer and consultant for Lyric's young-artist program. This season is his fourth as commentator for the Lyric Opera live opening-night broadcasts.



Darren K. Woods General Director Fort Worth Opera Since being named general director in July 2001, Darren K. Woods has worked tirelessly to establish Fort Worth Opera's reputation for high-quality, dynamic productions. Under his leadership, the company has gained national attention from critics and audiences alike for its artistic quality and willingness to take risks, and it is known throughout the operatic community as an organization that champions new and rarely-performed works. Opera News named him as one of top 25 influencers for the opera industry in 2012, and he received the inaugural "Innovator in the Arts" award from the Arts Council of Fort Worth & Tarrant County in 2013. With Mr. Woods' guidance, in 2013 Fort Worth Opera debuted *Frontiers*, a new works showcase that shines a spotlight on unpublished, original twenty-first century works by composers from the Americas.



Michael Heaston is a respected collaborative pianist, vocal coach, and artistic administrator. He is both the Director of the prestigious Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program and American Opera Initiative, as well as Advisor to the Artistic Director, at Washington National Opera at The Kennedy Center. He is also the Associate Artistic Director of The Glimmerglass Festival, where he oversees the Young Artists Program and all matters of musical administration. Now in his 10th year of appointment at Glimmerglass, Mr. Heaston remains one of the youngest people to assume the directorship of any major training program to date. He was recently named one of Musical America's 30 Professionals of the Year. He spent six seasons at The Dallas Opera, where he was Head of Music Staff and Assistant Conductor for over 25 productions, some of which included: *Salome*, *Porgy & Bess*, *Tristan und Isolde*, *Così fan tutte*, *The Lighthouse*, *Anna Bolena*, *Madama Butterfly*, and the critically-acclaimed world premiere of *Moby-Dick*. He also served as Score Consultant for the Metropolitan Opera's Emmy and Peabody Award-winning Live in HD movie theater transmission series for seven seasons.



Evans Mirageas is in his eleventh season as The Harry T. Wilks Artistic Director of Cincinnati Opera. Widely considered one of the most talented and respected artistic leaders in the classical music industry today, Mirageas brings to Cincinnati Opera a broad range of experience in both opera and symphonic music, as well as a long history of successful partnerships with many of the world's leading singers and conductors. Mirageas's varied career in classical music has included radio production with the nationally renowned WFMT radio station in Chicago, Artistic Administrator to Seiji Ozawa at the Boston Symphony, and Senior Vice President of Artists and Repertoire for the Decca Record Company. In addition, he is an award-winning record producer, lecturer, interviewer, presenter, and awards panelist. He is also the Vice President for Artistic Planning and Operations for The Atlanta Symphony.



**LAURIE ROGERS:** Over 25 years in the opera business both artistically and administratively. Growing career as conductor. Recently conducted *DIALOGUES OF THE CARMELITES* for Texas State University, and a double bill of *LES MAMELLES DE TIRESIAS* and *SUOR ANGELICA* for Land of Enchantment Opera in New Mexico. Have served on the music staff of many US regional companies as assistant/cover conductor, rehearsal pianist and coach, backstage conductor, chorus master, harpsichord continuo accompaniment and other duties as needed. Artistic administration experience including casting, negotiations (both agent and AGMA/AFM CBAs), season planning, and music administration. In 2011 named Director of Young Artists for Opera Saratoga and made my mainstage conducting debut with the company in 2012; conducted on our Broadway gala this summer, 2016. Master classes for singers and coach-accompanists. European experience teaching in Italy summer training program as well as summer production tours.