

The Metropolitan Opera
National Council Auditions
NEW ENGLAND REGION

January 26, 2014
Jordan Hall
New England Conservatory of Music

Metropolitan Opera National Council

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Regional Finals Judges

Peter Russell assumed the artistic and administrative leadership of Vocal Arts DC in Washington, DC in March 2012. He previously served in executive roles as General Director of Opera Colorado in Denver, as Director of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program, and as General Director of Wolf Trap Opera Company in Virginia. A co-founder of Washington Concert Opera, he is also a frequent guest lecturer on opera, including for the Smithsonian Institution's Resident Associates Program and for Georgetown University's Continuing Education Series, and has frequently adjudicated vocal competitions, including for the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, The Richard Tucker Music Foundation, and the Washington International Competition. He graduated magna cum laude from Yale.

Laurie Rogers, Director of Opera Saratoga's Young Artist Program, also serves on the Music Staff at San Francisco Opera and Houston Grand Opera, as Assistant Conductor at Dallas Opera, and has served as assistant conductor for the Opera Company of Philadelphia. She is a New England Conservatory of Music alumna and was a coach and accompanist for Green Mountain Opera, Arizona Opera, Washington National Opera, Boston Lyric Opera, Sarasota Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, and others. Rogers has been a faculty member of The Professional Advantage in Mercatello sul Metauro, Italy; she has also taught at the Lake Placid Institute for the Arts, the Chautauqua Institution Voice School, and the New England Conservatory Opera Department, and accompanies regularly for the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Edward Berkeley is Director of Undergraduate Opera Studies at the Juilliard School. He is also Artistic Director of the Willow Cabin Theater Company and Director of the Aspen Opera Theater Center. He has directed N.Y. premieres of plays by Derek Walcott, Israel Horowitz, Terence McNally, Leonard Melfi, Louise Page, and Tennessee Williams, and N.Y. Shakespeare Festival productions. In addition, he has directed for Houston Grand Opera, Library of Congress, Williamstown Theater Festival, Old Globe Theater, New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Atlanta Symphony, Spoleto, Ravinia, the Brooklyn Philharmonic, BAM, and Juilliard. He has also taught at the Circle in the Square Theater School, the Met's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program, Carleton College, Princeton, and Williams.

Accompanist

Michael Baitzer, pianist, is currently on the Music Staff at Washington National Opera, and is Principal Coach/Diction Coach for Central City Opera. A graduate of Drake University with degrees in both Piano and Vocal Performance, Michael continued studies with John Moriarty and Margo Garrett at New England Conservatory. He has been a member of the Houston Grand Opera studio, an apprentice with Minnesota Opera, and a participant in the Aspen Opera Theater Center and the Merola Opera Program at San Francisco Opera. He has also served on the Music Staffs for Wolf Trap Opera, Spoleto Festival USA, and the Aspen Music Festival. An avid recitalist, Michael has been heard with singers throughout the country under the auspices of The Marilyn Horne Foundation and Young Concert Artists.

Awards

FIRST PLACE	\$6,000
Patrons of New England \$5,200	
Mrs. Edgar Tobin Award of \$800, from the Tobin Endowment	
SECOND PLACE	\$5,000
Sponsored by the patrons of New England	
THIRD PLACE	\$4,000
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Thanks to a contribution in memory of Henry Wyman by his family and to the generosity of all our patrons, all nonplacing finalists will receive stipends of \$1,000.

The Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions program began in Minneapolis/St. Paul in 1954. Over the years, these auditions have expanded to 13 regions of the United States and Canada. There are 41 districts within these regions, each providing an opportunity for talented singers to enter the auditions program at the local level. More than 1,500 singers audition every year. The auditions are administered by National Council members and volunteers in each region.

The purpose of the program is:

1. To discover exceptional young talent.
2. To provide a venue for young opera singers from all over the country and at all different levels of experience to be heard by a representative of the Metropolitan Opera and to assist those with the greatest potential in their development.
3. To search for new talent for the Metropolitan Opera and the Met's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program.

Winners of the district auditions advance to their region's finals, where they compete to win a trip to New York to participate in the National Semi-Finals on the stage of the Metropolitan Opera. Approximately ten Semi-Finalists are selected as National Finalists and compete the following Sunday in the Grand Finals Concert, accompanied by the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. The jury awards approximately five Grand Winner awards of \$15,000 each. The concert is broadcast on the Metropolitan Opera Radio Network. The remaining National Finalists receive \$5,000 each, and singers who were National Semi-Finalists but did not advance to the National Finals will be given \$1,500 to further their studies.

Many of the world's foremost singers, among them Renée Fleming, Susan Graham, Thomas Hampson, Ben Heppner, Jessye Norman, Samuel Ramey, and Deborah Voigt have received awards from the National Council. Annually, approximately 100 former auditioners appear in Metropolitan Opera productions.

2014 New England Regional Finalists

SHELLEY JACKSON, Soprano, age 27

Academy of Vocal Arts

Temple University

Hometown: Philadelphia, PA

- "M'hai resa infelice," *Deidamia*, Handel
- "C'est des contrabandiers...Je dis," *Carmen*, Bizet
- "Amour ranime mon courage," *Roméo et Juliette*, Gounod
- "È strano...sempre libera," *La Traviata*, Verdi
- "Tanto amore segreto...Tu, che di gel," *Turandot*, Puccini

JOSH QUINN, Bass-Baritone, age 25

New England Conservatory

Hometown: Tampa, FL

- "O du mein holder Abendstern," *Tannhäuser*, Wagner
- "Come Paride vezzoso," *L'elisir d'amore*, Donizetti
- "Scintille, diamante," *Les contes d'Hoffmann*, Offenbach
- "Madamina, il catalogo è questo," *Don Giovanni*, Mozart
- "Leave me, loathsome light," *Semele*, Handel

ELISE BRANCHEAU, Soprano, age 25

Mannes College The New School for Music

Westminster Choir College

Hometown: Newton, NJ

- "Giusto ciel," *L'assedio di Corinto*, Rossini
- "Non mi resta," *L'amico Fritz*, Mascagni
- "Je dis que rien ne m'épouvante," *Carmen*, Bizet
- "Ach, ich fühl's," *Die Zauberflöte*, Mozart
- "No word from Tom," *The Rake's Progress*, Stravinsky

ABIGAIL DOCK, Mezzo-Soprano, age 21

Boston Conservatory

Rice University

Hometown: Medford, Oregon

- "Cruda sorte!" *L'Italiana in Algeri*, Rossini
- "Crude furie degl'orridi abissi," *Serse*, Handel
- Olga's Aria, *Eugene Onegin*, Tchaikovsky
- "Ah, mon fils," *Le Prophète*, Meyerbeer
- "Must the winter come so soon?" *Vanessa*, Barber

KIDON CHOI, Baritone, age 28

Hanyang University

Hometown: Seoul, South Korea

- "Hai già vinta la causa," *Le nozze di Figaro*, Mozart
- "Largo al factotum della città," *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Rossini
- "È sogno? O realtà," *Falstaff*, Verdi
- "Si può," *Pagliacci*, Leoncavallo
- "Heiterkeit und Fröhlichkeit," *Der Wildschütz*, Lortzing

ANNA DAVIDSON, Soprano, age 26

Curtis Institute

Juilliard School

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA

- "Una voce poco fa," *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Rossini
- "At dawn by the window," *Elegy for Young Lovers*, Henze
- "Care selve," *Atalanta*, Handel
- "Der Hölle Rache," *Die Zauberflöte*, Mozart
- "Non, Monsieur mon mari," *Les Mamelles de Tiresias*, Poulenc

JOSHUA DENNIS, Tenor, age 28

Stephen F. Austin State University

Hometown: McKinney, TX

- "Questa o quella," *Rigoletto*, Verdi
- "Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön," *Die Zauberflöte*, Mozart
- "Salut! demeure chaste et pure," *Faust*, Gounod
- "New York Lights," *A View from the Bridge*, Bolcolm
- "De' miei bollenti spiriti," *La Traviata*, Verdi

Intermission

To learn more about today's singers, visit us at www.neaudition.org.
Also find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MetAuditionsNE

KATRINA GALKA, Soprano, age 24

Boston University

Southern Methodist University

Hometown: Milwaukee, Wisconsin

- "Come, now aroundel," *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Britten
- "Ah, tardai troppo...O luce di quest'anima," *Linda de Chamounix*, Donizetti
- The Bell Song, *Lakmé*, Delibes
- The Fire Aria, *L'enfant et les sortilèges*, Ravel
- "Durch Zärtlichkeit und Schmeicheln," *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, Mozart

RACHELLE PIKE, Mezzo-Soprano, age 29

Manhattan School of Music

Hometown: Christchurch, New Zealand

- "Quanto più fiera," *Rodelinda*, Handel
- "O mio Fernando," *La Favorita*, Donizetti
- Card Aria, *Carmen*, Bizet
- "Give him this orchid," *The Rape of Lucretia*, Britten
- "Amour! Viens aider ma faiblesse," *Samson et Dalila*, Saint-Saëns

BRAD WALKER, Bass-Baritone, age 25

University of Kansas

Michigan State University

Hometown: Lake Zurich, IL

- "Aprite un po' quel'occhi," *Le nozze di Figaro*, Mozart
- "Hear me, O Lord," *Susannah*, Floyd
- "Voici des roses," *La Damnation de Faust*, Berlioz
- "Vi ravviso," *La Sonnambula*, Bellini
- "Madamina, il catalogo è questo," *Don Giovanni*, Mozart

ALISON KING, Soprano, age 24

Yale University

University of Southern California

Hometown: Portland, OR

- "Come scoglio," *Così fan tutte*, Mozart
- "No word from Tom," *The Rake's Progress*, Stravinsky
- Iolanta's Arioso, *Iolanta*, Tchaikovsky
- "Je dis que rien ne m'épouvante," *Carmen*, Bizet
- "Tornami a vagheggiar," *Alcina*, Handel

CHRISTOPHER LOWREY, Countertenor, age 29

Royal College of Music, London

Brown University

Hometown: Johnston, Rhode Island

- "Pompe vane di morto...Dove sei, amato bene?" *Rodelinda*, Handel
- "Welcome wanderer...I know a bank," *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Britten
- "Furibondo spira il vento," *Partenope*, Handel
- "Deh placatevi con me," *Orfeo ed Euridice*, Gluck
- "Rompo i lacci," *Flavio*, Handel

HEATHER PHILLIPS, Soprano, age 29

University of Cincinnati

Hometown: North Canton, OH

- "Depuis le jour," *Louise*, Charpentier
- Song to the Moon, *Rusalka*, Dvorák
- "Crudele...Non mi dir," *Don Giovanni*, Mozart
- "Quando m'en vo," *La bohème*, Puccini
- "È strano...Ah, fors'è lui...Sempre libera," *La Traviata*, Verdi

This year's **Grand Finals Concert** will take place March 30, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are available through the Met at (212) 362-6000 or www.metopera.org. The concert will feature former MONC winners Lawrence Brownlee as host and Susanna Phillips as guest artist.



Hammond Residential Real Estate, as part of its Performing Arts Series, will sponsor a concert featuring singers selected from those performing this afternoon. The pianist-host will be John Moriarty. This free concert will take place Sunday, April 13 at 3:00pm at Brimmer and May School, 60 Middlesex Road, Chestnut Hill. For reservations, please e-mail performingartsseries@hammondre.com.

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List as of January 15, 2014

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the Boston District audition luncheons.

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