



North Shore Choral Society

***Donald Chen
Young Artist Award***

2016 Competition

February 6, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

**Trinity United Methodist Church
1024 Lake Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois**

WELCOME!

The North Shore Choral Society welcomes you to the Donald Chen Young Artist Award competition.

Dr. Donald Chen retired in 2008 after twenty-four years as the Music Director of the North Shore Choral Society. Donald patiently led the chorus from singing choppy notes to shaping melodic lines; challenged us with repertoire from Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* to Fanshawe's *African Sanctus*; gave us fresh perspective by comparing Brahms to wool and Duruflé to silk; and above all embodied for us the truth that music, learning and joy are intertwined. In his honor, the North Shore Choral Society established the **Donald Chen Young Artist Award**, which rewards a talented young singer with a solo role in one of our concerts each season. Thank you, Donald, for your inspired teaching and superb musicianship.

This year, eight finalists have been selected from applications by young singers who reside in the Chicago area. Each of the finalists will sing an operatic aria and a contrasting art song or oratorio aria of his or her choice. At the conclusion of tonight's competition, a panel of judges will give monetary awards for first, second, and third place. The first-prize winner will also be awarded a solo performance in an upcoming North Shore Choral Society concert.

You are invited to partake of some light refreshments after tonight's recital, while the judges are reaching their decision.

PREVIOUS WINNERS

Chris Albanese, tenor
Sammi Block, mezzo soprano
Corey Grigg, baritone
Elizabeth Jankowski, mezzo soprano
Ashley Nicole Johnson, soprano
Michael Orlinsky, baritone
Simonetta Pacek, soprano
Rebecca Robinson, mezzo soprano
Anne Slovin, soprano
Rachel Sparrow, soprano
Sean Stanton, baritone
Alan Taylor, tenor
Alison Wahl, soprano

Support for the Donald Chen Young Artist Award

The Choral Society maintains a separate fund to support the Donald Chen Young Artist Award. Donations may be made directly to this fund and are acknowledged in our concert program booklets. You can help make future awards possible by putting cash or a check (payable to NSCS) in the designated basket in the narthex, or by sending a contribution to North Shore Choral Society, P.O. Box 103, Evanston, Illinois 60204-0103. We appreciate your support!

For further information about

North Shore Choral Society,

please visit our website, www.northshorechoral.org.

PROGRAM

Welcome Anne Harkonen, North Shore Choral Society President

Emily Barnash, soprano

"I Want Magic" from *A Streetcar Named Desire*

André Previn

Zueignung

Richard Strauss

Sanghun Han, baritone

"Vi ravviso" from *La Sonnambula*

Vincenzo Bellini

Danse Macabre

Camille Saint-Saëns

Stephanie Feigenbaum, mezzo soprano

"Que fais-tu, blanche tourterelle" from *Romeo and Juliet*

Charles Gounod

Stornello

Giuseppe Verdi

Ryan Townsend Strand, tenor

"Il mio Tesoro" from *Don Giovanni*

W. A. Mozart

"Ach senke doch den Geist der Freuden" from BWV 73 J. S. Bach

Alexander York, baritone

Von ewiger Liebe

Johannes Brahms

"Arm, arm, ye brave" from *Judas Maccabeus*

G. F. Handel

Lauren Jacob, mezzo soprano

O del mio amato ben

Stefano Donaudy

"Non so piu cosa son" from *Le nozze di Figaro*

W. A. Mozart

Katherine Gallart, soprano

"Emily's Aria" from *Our Town*

Ned Rorem

La promessa

Gioachino Rossini

Nathan Ward, tenor

"Am Feierabend" from *Die schöne Müllerin*

Franz Schubert

"Prologue" from *The Turn of the Screw*

Benjamin Britten

Closing Remarks

Julia Davids,

North Shore Choral Society Music Director

Awards

Donald Chen

Our Thanks

North Shore Choral Society would like to thank the distinguished panel of judges for tonight's competition: Dr. Donald Chen, Dr. Julia Davids, and Dr. Anne Heider. The Society is grateful to Sharon Rich Peterson, our accompanist for many years, for providing piano accompaniment for all of the competitors. Thanks also to Marcia Bollo, John Darrow, Susan Demaree, Fran Faller, Linda Faller, Anne Harkonen, Anne Heider, Julie McDowell, Scott Paine, Ellen Pullin, Emily Rivera, Jane Scheiber and Steve Warner for their assistance in producing tonight's event. We are grateful to Trinity United Methodist Church for the use of their sanctuary.

STILL TO COME THIS SEASON

International Friendship

Sunday April 3, 3 p.m.

Regina Dominican High School

701 Locust Road, Wilmette

with guest ensembles Kyoto Concert Choir from Japan
and Evanston Children's Choir

***Requiem for Peace* by Larry Nickel**

Saturday May 14, 8 p.m.

Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, Northwestern University
50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston

A Chicago premiere! A large-scale work, performed to rave reviews all over the world! Full orchestra and soloists You-Seong Kim, soprano, Orna Arania, mezzo-soprano, and Sean Stanton, baritone (a past Donald Chen Young Artist award-winner) join NSCS in exciting and moving musical settings of poetry from war-torn nations around the world. Nickel's *Requiem* is a powerful and transcendent work that calls for remembrance and for reconciliation. The composer will join us for a pre-concert talk hosted by NPR's Jerome McDonnell.

TONIGHT'S COMPETITORS

Soprano **Emily Barnash** has been hailed as a young singer with a "large lyric voice with exceptional promise," having "a natural comic sense and personal ease onstage" (Washington Post). She has recently been seen as Mrs. Patrick De Rocher in the fully-staged Chicago premiere of Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking* at Northwestern University. Other roles include Suor Angelica and Suor Dolcina in *Suor Angelica*, Arminda in *La Finta Giardiniera*, Dido in *Dido and Aeneas*, Rosalinda in *Die Fledermaus*, Lady Billows in *Albert Herring*, and Kate Pinkerton in *Madame Butterfly*. Originally from St. Petersburg, Florida, Ms. Barnash completed her B.M. in vocal performance at DePauw University and is currently pursuing a M.M. in vocal performance at Northwestern University, where she studies under W. Stephen Smith. Her upcoming engagements include Countess Almaviva in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro* and the title role in Carlisle Floyd's *Susannah*, both with Northwestern University.

Sanghun Han, bass-baritone, completed his bachelor's degree at the Juilliard School and a master of music degree at Northwestern University. He recently sang as a fellowship singer at Ravinia Music Festival. With Juilliard Opera, he appeared as Nardo in Mozart's *La Finta Giardiniera* and as Snug in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Mr. Han also has sung the roles of Bartolo in *Le nozze di Figaro* with the Chautauqua Music Festival, Zaretsky in *Eugene Onegin* with the Aspen Music Festival, and Don Alfonso in *Così fan tutte* and Gideon March in *Little Women*, both with Northwestern University. In addition to opera, he has performed in concert at Alice Tully Hall of Lincoln Center, Peter Jay Sharp Theater, and the Bruno Walter Auditorium.

Mezzo-soprano **Stephanie Feigenbaum** has been hailed as a singer with "plenty of talent and potential" (Chicago Sun Times). She is a recent graduate of Northwestern University, where she earned both her BM and MM. She was featured there as Mrs. De Rocher in *Dead Man Walking*, Meg in *Little Women*, Valletto in *L'Incoronazione di Poppea*, Mae in *The Grapes of Wrath*, Lucrezia in *Lucrezia*, and Mad Margaret in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Ruddigore*. She has been a soloist at Carnegie Hall with the Hazamir International Choir, singing repertoire by modern Israeli composers. Summer credits include Maestra delle Novizie and Zelatrice in *Suor Angelica* and First Witch in *Dido and Aeneas* at

the Hawai'i Performing Arts Festival, and The Shepherd in *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* and Midinette in *Il Tabarro* at the Castleton Festival. Ms. Feigenbaum spent this past summer as a Young Artist at Chautauqua Opera, and is a 2015-2016 Resident Artist at Indianapolis Opera.

Ryan Townsend Strand, tenor, is a student of Theresa Brancaccio at Northwestern University, where he received his Master's of Voice and Opera. He sang the Evangelist in Bach's *St. John Passion* this past fall at the newly dedicated Galvin Recital Hall on Northwestern's lakefront campus. Recently he was seen onstage as Laurie in Mark Adamo's *Little Women*. Other opera credits include Nerone in Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea* and Al Joad in Ricky Ian Gordon's *The Grapes of Wrath*. He made his professional Chicago debut in Scarlatti's *Gli equivoci nel sembiante* with Haymarket Opera. Strand sings with the contemporary vocal ensemble The Crossing in Philadelphia and with Hollywood Master Chorale and Areté Vocal Ensemble in Los Angeles. Locally he sings with Music of the Baroque, the Chicago Bach Project and the Grant Park Festival Chorus. He is a founding member of the new Constellation Men's Ensemble based in Chicago.

Baritone **Alexander York**, from Muskego, Wisconsin, recently made his professional debut, going on in a last-minute cover situation as Don Quixote/Cervantes in *Man of La Mancha* with Central City Opera in Colorado. A graduate student at Northwestern, York will be seen as the Count in the upcoming production of Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*. Previously at Northwestern, York appeared as Joseph De Rocher in Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking* and played Sam in *Trouble in Tahiti*. A 2014 graduate of Lawrence University, York was seen as Sid in Britten's *Albert Herring* and Harry Easter in Weill's *Street Scene*. He studies with W. Stephen Smith, Alan Darling, and Laurann Gilley.

Praised by Opera Canada as "impressive" and by annarbor.com as "captivating," this season mezzo-soprano **Lauren Jacob** has performed as Ino in *Semele* with Opera Modo and in Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's lecture series *Law in Opera*. Later this season, she can be seen as Suor Zelatrice (Monitor) in *Suor Angelica* with Opera West, Nancy in *Albert Herring* with Opera Modo, and Dorabella in *Così fan tutte* with the Halifax Summer Opera Festival. Additional recent role

highlights include Cendrillon in *Cendrillon*, Cenerentola in *La Cenerentola*, Hänsel in *Hänsel und Gretel*, L'enfant in *L'enfant et les sortilèges*, The Duchess in *The Gondoliers*, Rosina in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, Cherubino in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Mercédès in *Carmen*, Der Trommler in *Der Kaiser von Atlantis*, and Nicklausse in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*. Equally at home on the concert and theater stage, Lauren has performed in several non-opera productions ranging from the mezzo-soprano soloist in Bach's *B Minor Mass* to Callie Pax in Diana Son's play *Stop Kiss*. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Michigan. She has also trained at Opera Modo, Opera West, Opera Nuova, Go! Comedy!, The CoOperative Program, Halifax Summer Opera Festival, Arbor Opera Theater, and the Florence Opera Program.

Katherine Galliard, soprano, is preparing the title role in Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea* to be performed this spring at the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, where she is pursuing her Master of Music degree in Voice Performance under the tutelage of Judith Haddon. This past fall, she sang the role of Claudette in Milton Granger's *Bluebeard's Waiting Room* at CCPA's OperaFest. Other roles include Yum-Yum in *The Mikado*, Emily in *Our Town* (Cover), and Giannetta in *L'elisir d'amore*. Ms. Galliard recently participated in the Astoria Music Festival in Astoria, Oregon, as an Apprentice Artist in 2015. While there, she sang First Spirit in *Die Zauberflöte* and participated in masterclasses with Richard Zeller and Emily Pulley.

Missourian tenor **Nathan Ward** comes from an eclectic musical background, drawing on studies of piano, cello, and composition to inform his singing. Completing a master's degree from Northwestern University under Karen Brunssen, where he has played Howard Boucher in Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking* and Richard Dauntless in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Ruddigore*, Nathan has also appeared in concert as a soloist in Mozart's *Requiem*, Kile Smith's *Vespers* with the Bienen Contemporary/Early Vocal Ensemble, and Britten's *Serenade for Tenor, Horn, and Strings*. Recent stage highlights include Lysander in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Chicago Summer Opera and Peter Quint in *The Turn of the Screw* with Chicago Fringe Opera.