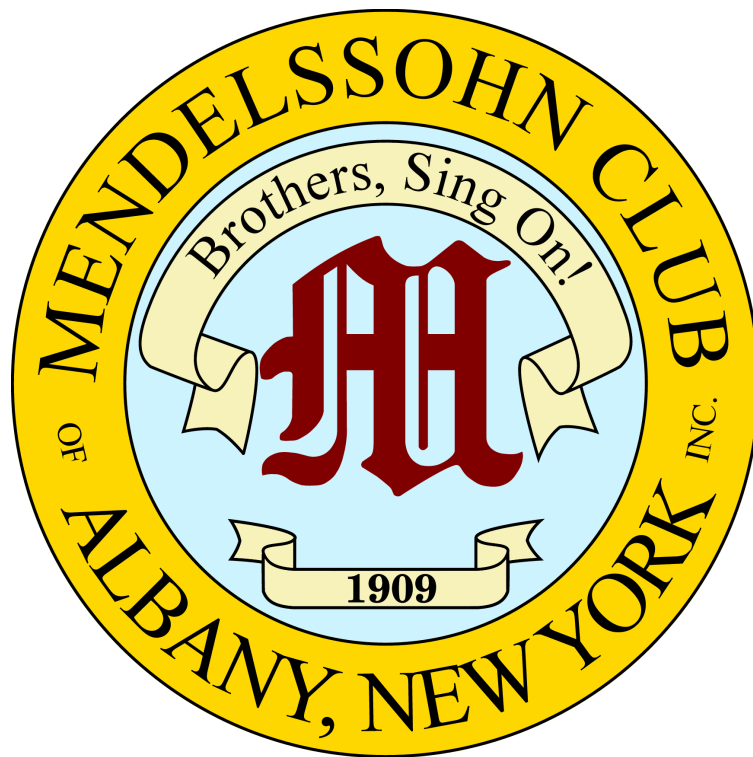


2015 Dolven Award Competition

New Covenant Presbyterian Church
916 Western Avenue, Albany, NY

Saturday, March 21, 2015



<http://mendelssohn.org/>

The Joel Dolven Vocal Awards were established by the Mendelssohn Club of Albany in 1974 to encourage the study of voice. The awards are named for a former conductor of the Mendelssohn Club who directed us from 1952 through 1967. Joel Dolven was also a former member of the club, having joined in 1936.

The competition is open to vocal students, ages 15 through 29, who reside within 60 miles of Albany. There are 3 divisions, based on age, in which an award may be won. The Novice division is for students 15-18; the Intermediate division for those aged 19-22; and the Advanced is for those that are 23-29. In addition to the divisional awards, the Joy B. Misenhimer Encouragement Award may be awarded to a single competitor from any of the above divisions who demonstrates outstanding singing potential.

This year 17 students have entered the competition. There are 6 in the Novice division, 8 in the Intermediate division, and 3 in the Advanced.

Each competitor has 10 minutes in which to give a 2 song recital. The recital performance is judged by two professional musicians. The two judges fill out an evaluation form for each recital. Each competitor will receive by email a scanned or transcribed copy of both evaluations.

At the end of the competition, the judges will make the award decisions. They may decide, given the level of performance in a given division, that an award for that division is not warranted. Each competitor will be notified by email of the results.

The winners are invited to our spring concert on Friday, May 15 at 7:30 PM at Chancellor's Hall in the New York State Education Building to receive their awards and be recognized. If they choose to accept, they will receive two free tickets to the concert. Those that cannot attend will have their awards mailed to them.

This year's judges are Mr. Kerry Henderson and Ms. Kimberly Kahan, whose biographies may be found at the end of the program.

The 2014 winners were: Novice – Annaleigh Lester of Ballston Lake, Intermediate – Elizabeth Tapia, a student at the College of St. Rose, Advanced – Tess Torreggiani of Albany, and Willow Lautenberg of Stillwater won the Misenhimer award.

		Accompanist	Voice Teacher
9:00 Nov	Abbey McGrath Alto	Kathryn Siegenthaler Alessandro Stradella Giovanni Pergolesi	Maureen Hayes <i>Pietà, Signore!</i> <i>Se tu m'ami, se sospiri</i>
9:12 Adv	Kathryn Major Lyric Soprano	Michael Clement P. I. Tchaikovsky Giacomo Puccini	 <i>Iolanta's Aria</i> from <u>Iolanta</u> <i>Quando m'en vo</i> from <u>La bohème</u>
9:24 Adv	Nellie Rustick Soprano	Catherine Sahane-Lydon W. A. Mozart Roger Quilter	Maureen O'Flynn <i>Una donna a quindici anni</i> from <u>Così fan tutte</u> <i>Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal</i>
9:36 Nov	Marissa Scotti Soprano	Michael Clement William Walton Sergei Rachmaninoff	Corine Salon <i>Daphne</i> <i>How Fair this Spot</i>
9:48 Int	Joshua Gurwitz Baritone	Trevor Kahlbaugh W. A. Mozart Maurice Ravel	Frances Wittmann <i>Der Vogelfänger bin ich ja</i> from <u>The Magic Flute</u> <i>Chanson à boire</i>
10:00 Int	Rukan Khondker Soprano	Michael Clement Giuseppe Verdi John Duke	Lucille Beer <i>Caro nome</i> from <u>Rigoletto</u> <i>The Bird</i>
10:12 Int	Taylor Nardone Baritone	Trevor Kahlbaugh Gian Carlo Menotti Martin Hennessy	Heidi Skok <i>When the Air Sings of Summer</i> fr. <u>The Old Maid and the Thief</u> <i>O you whom I often and silently</i> <i>come</i>

	Accompanist	Voice Teacher
10:24 Rachel Newman Int Mezzo Soprano	Michael Clement Georges Bizet Aaron Copland	Lucille Beer <i>En vain pour éviter</i> from <u>Carmen</u> <i>The Little Horses</i>
10:36 Christian Gunn Int Bass	Trevor Kahlbaugh W. A. Mozart Ralph Vaughn Williams	Heidi Skok <i>Ha! Wie will ich triumphieren</i> from <u>Abduction from the</u> <u>Seraglio</u> <i>Silent Noon</i>
10:48 Christopher Benfield Int Baritone	Michael Clement Franz Schubert Gabriel Fauré	Lucille Beer <i>Der Erlkönig</i> <i>En Sourdine</i>
11:00 Caleb Eick Int Baritone	Barbara Musial Georges Bizet Robert Schumann	Dr. Susan Harwood <i>L'orage s'est calmé</i> from <u>The Pearl Fishers</u> <i>Die Beiden Grenadiere</i>
11:12 Annaleigh Lester Nov Soprano	Michael Clement G. B. Mazzaferata Robert Schumann	Corine Salon <i>Presto, presto io m'innamoro</i> <i>Widmung</i>
11:24 Alysya Dutson Nov Soprano	Marigay Harkins Giacomo Puccini Ivor Novello	Marigay Harkins <i>O mio babbino caro</i> from <u>Gianni Schicchi</u> <i>The Little Damozel</i>
11:36 Olivia Kim Nov Soprano	Julianna Port Theodore Baker Fred Weatherly	Christina Pizzino-Catalano <i>Danza, danza, fanciulla gentile</i> <i>Danny Boy</i>

	Accompanist	Voice Teacher
11:48 Joshua Bouillon Adv Tenor	Michael Clement Samuel Barber Giacomo Puccini	Robert Swensen <i>Sure on this Shinging Night</i> <i>Che gelida manina</i> from <u>La bohème</u>
12:00 Zoe Lynds Nov Mezzo Soprano	Maria Elmer Alessandro Stradella Erroll Garner	Christina Pizzino-Catalano <i>Pietà, Signore!</i> <i>Misty</i>
12:12 Claire Haile Int Soprano	Michael Clement César Franck Aaron Copland	Lucille Beer <i>Nocturne</i> <i>Thought (Laurie's aria)</i> from <u>The Tender Land</u>



Kerry Henderson

***Founder & Executive Director,
Kingston Festival of the Arts***

New Zealand born opera singer Kerry Henderson's early career was in film and television. As a budding filmmaker, he shared first place with Peter Jackson in a Television New Zealand film competition while still at high school. Singing won the day however, and after a stint with the Broadway touring production of *The Pirates of Penzance* he traveled to Australia to study opera.

Kerry became a principal soloist with Opera Australia at the Sydney Opera House when only 26 years old, where he sang such varied roles as Figaro in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Count de Thore in *Les Huguenots* with Dame Joan Sutherland in her final operatic performance.

He received a nomination for the Sydney Critics' Circle Awards for creating the title role in the world premiere of *The Golem* by Larry Sitsky. This was the largest opera ever to be mounted on the Opera House stage ~ "Kerry Henderson is simply magnificent. His singing is of unfailing strength and his physical presence and vitality are extraordinary" - Sydney Sun Herald.

While in Sydney, Kerry created his own chamber opera company, Opera Apollo and garnered national media attention for his multi media production of "Wilde Alone" – exploring Oscar Wilde's experiences in Reading Gaol.

Kerry won a scholarship from the Goethe Institut to study German language and opera in Munich, Germany. After living and working in Europe for a few years, he moved to New York in 2000. Recent opera engagements include Demetrius in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Teatro di San Carlo in Naples, Italy, *Die Fledermaus* with the Monterey Symphony, and Ford in *Falstaff* and Leporello and the Don in *Don Giovanni* with The Phoenicia International Festival of the Voice. He has performed as soloist with the orchestras of Detroit, Alabama, Charlotte, and Illinois, and several times at Carnegie Hall.

Kerry and his wife, Rebecca moved to Phoenicia, NY in 2007, where he had the idea of staging opera in the Parish Field behind his home. This concert was so successful it led to overwhelming public support for more vocally inspired events. The Phoenicia International Festival of the Voice was born, and Kerry served as Executive Director from 2009 to 2012 and played a leading role in helping the Festival of the Voice become one of most successful cultural events in upstate New York. In 2011, Kerry organised Voices for Christchurch, and brought together some of the leading New Zealand and Australian operatic artists resident in the States to raise funds for earthquake relief in his home town.

He recently formed his own company, *LiederWorks* to promote and breathe new life into the art of the song recital. A self declared "operapreneur" Mr Henderson recently founded Kingston Festival of the Arts, an all inclusive city wide celebration of the arts and culture in Kingston, NY and Opera Theater of Kingston, with the aim of producing world class performances of lesser know and new operas, offering compelling opportunities to some of the most promising young professional classical singers in the world today.

Kimberly Kahan

Lyric Soprano Kimberly Kahan enjoys an accomplished career with opera companies and orchestras throughout the country. She has earned great acclaim for her musical and dramatic interpretations for such signature roles such as Violetta in Traviata and Donna Elvira in Don Giovanni as well as title roles in Susannah and Arrabella.

In a recent production of Merry Widow it was written "Golden-voiced soprano Kimberly Kahan brings to life the title role of Hanna Glawari". Cynthia O. Topps reviewed "Kahan's lilting and soaring soprano is perfection. A treat to the eye as well as the ear" says the Times Herald-Record, "Ms. Kahan is stunning. She has a beautiful voice and tremendous stage presence. When she sings, it appears effortless." wrote Vincent Alexander.



Ms. Kahan performs regularly as a soloist at Bard college, The Lord Nelson Mass under the baton of James Bagwell, The Respigi Nativita with conductor Sharon Bjorndal and with Ed Lundergen as the soprano soloist in the Brahms Requiem. She sang in the world premier of Kyle Gann's opera Cinderella's Bad Magic in Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia. Ms. Kahan portrayed Micaela in Bizet's Carmen in Tel Aviv, Israel with Josh Majors directing.

A frequent soloist with the Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Kathleen Beckman. Kimberly has performed the title roles in L'Elisir d'Amore, La Traviata, and Le Nozze di Figaro. She has appeared as a guest artist with the Rhinebeck Chamber Music Society along with renowned pianist Babette Hierholzer, The Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey in Das Rheingold, and most recently she performed at the Phoenicia International Festival of the Voice with acclaimed singers Barry Banks, Toby Newman, and Kerry Henderson accompanied by Ms. Hierholzer and Jurgen Appell.

A favorite of European audiences, Ms. Kahan has appeared in concert in many cities, including Helsinki, Copenhagen, Nice, Naples, Istanbul, and Athens where she has performed such pieces as Brahms' Liebeslieder Waltzes, Debussy's Arriette Oubliee, and Canteloubes' Chants D'Auvergne.

Equally comfortable in the Oratorio venue, she performed as the soprano soloist in works by Beethoven, Mass in C, and the Ninth Symphony, as well as Bach's B Minor Mass and Magnificent, Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass and the Requiems of Brahms, Faure, Mozart, and Verdi.

Ms. Kahan maintains a private voice studio in New York City and is an adjunct teacher at Bard College in the undergraduate vocal program. She graduated from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana with a degree in Vocal Performance. She now resides in New York City and in the Hudson Valley.