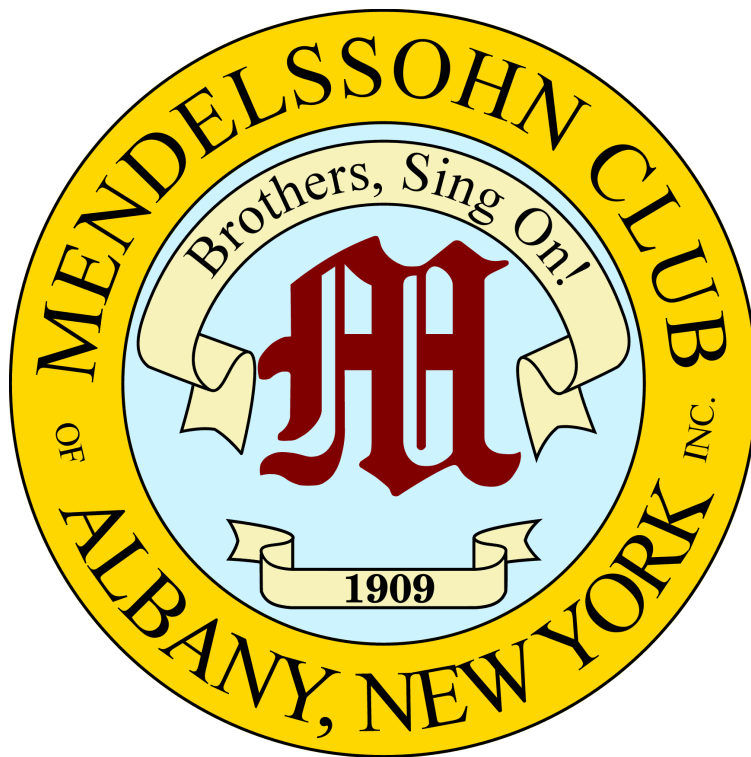


# 2016 Dolven Award Competition

New Covenant Presbyterian Church  
916 Western Avenue, Albany, NY

Saturday, April 2, 2016



<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 21 students have entered the competition. There are 10 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 13 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 Ms. Alexina Jones and Mr. Kevin Kees, whose biographies may be found at the end of the program.

The 2015 winners were: Intermediate – Claire Haile, a student of Lucille Beer at the College of St. Rose, Advanced – Joshua Bouillon of Greenville, a student of Robert Swensen, and Zoe Lynds of Niskayuna, a student of Christina Pizzino-Catalano, won the Misenhimer award.

|       |                  | <b>Accompanist</b>                               | <b>Voice Teacher</b>                                    |
|-------|------------------|--|---|
| 9:00  | Avril Guity      | Ryan Guo   | Karen Amedio  |
| Nov   | Alto / Mezzo     | G. F. Handel<br>Ernest Charles                   | <i>Ombra mai fu</i><br><i>When I Have Sung My Songs</i> |
| 9:12  | Genevieve Hudson | Michael Clement                                  | Michael Clement   |
| Int   | Soprano          | Ben Moore<br>Joaquín Turina                      | <i>On Music</i><br><i>Cantares</i>                      |
| 9:24  | Kaeli Heffner    | Adrienne Sherman                                 | Michael Lotano  |
| Nov   | Mezzo Soprano    | G. B. Pergolesi<br>Stephen Sondheim              | <i>Se tu m'ami</i><br><i>The Miller's Son</i>           |
| 9:36  | Alec Hicks       | Michael Clement                                  | Susan Harwood   |
| Int   | Tenor            | G. F. Handel<br>Robert Schumann                  | <i>Ch'io mai vi possa</i><br><i>Waldesgespräch</i>      |
| 9:48  | Katie Paniccia   | Adrienne Sherman                                 | Michael Lotano  |
| Nov   | Mezzo Soprano    | Gian Carlo Menotti<br>Claude-Michel<br>Schönberg | <i>The Black Swan</i><br><i>On My Own</i>               |
| 10:00 | Taylor Nardone   | Michael Clement                                  | Anneliese von Goerken                                   |
| Int   | Baritone         | Robert Schumann<br>Ernesto De Curtis             | <i>Ich Grolle Nicht</i><br><i>Torna a Surriento</i>     |
| 10:12 | Lauren Namkoong  | Brian Axford                                     | Frances Wittman   |
| Nov   | Soprano          | Henry Purcell<br>Claude Debussy                  | <i>Dido's Lament</i><br><i>Mandoline</i>                |
| 10:24 | Randall Marr     | Adrienne Sherman                                 | Michael Lotano  |
| Nov   | Bass-Baritone    | Ralph Vaughn Williams<br>Gilbert & Sullivan      | <i>Whither Must I Wander</i><br><i>Tit-Willow</i>       |

|   | <b>Accompanist</b>  | <b>Voice Teacher</b>  |
|---|---|---|
| 10:36 Elizabeth Potts<br>Int Soprano      | Michael Clement<br><br>Douglas Moore<br>W. A. Mozart                                    | Michael Clement<br><br><i>Willow Song</i><br><i>Ridente la calma</i>                  |
| 10:48 Sarah-Jane Fawcett<br>Adv Soprano   | Adrienne Sherman<br><br>Giovanni Pergolesi<br>Richard Rodgers /<br>Oscar Hammerstein II | Michael Lotano<br><br><i>Stizzoso mio stizzoso</i><br><i>Something Wonderful</i>      |
| 11:00 Monica Enright<br>Int Mezzo Soprano | Michael Clement<br><br>Gioachino Rossini<br>Jake Heggie                                 | Lucille Beer<br><br><i>Una voce poco fa</i><br><i>A Lucky Child</i>                   |
| 11:12 Zoe Lynds<br>Nov Alto               | Jennifer Clemente<br><br>W. A. Mozart<br>Hoagy Carmichael                               | Christina Pizzino-Catalano<br><br><i>Voi che sapete</i><br><i>The Nearness of You</i> |
| 11:24 Rocky Sellers<br>Adv Bass           | Michael Clement<br><br>Jerome Kerns /<br>Oscar Hammerstein II<br>Gioachino Rossini      | Jason Stearns / Mark Oswald<br><br><i>Oi' Man River</i><br><i>La calunnia</i>         |
| 11:36 Lydia Martin<br>Nov Mezzo Soprano   | Mellenie Booth<br><br>Stefan Donaudy<br>Richard Hundley                                 | Holly McCormack<br><br><i>O del mio amato ben</i><br><i>Come Ready and See Me</i>     |
| 11:48 Rukan Khondker<br>Int Soprano       | Michael Clement<br><br>Charles Gounod<br>Hugo Wolf                                      | Lucille Beer<br><br><i>Je veux vivre</i><br><i>Verborgenheit</i>                      |

12:00

**Lunch Break**

|  | <b>Accompanist</b>   | <b>Voice Teacher</b>   |
|--|--|--|
| 13:00 Marissa Scotti<br>Nov Soprano        | Michael Clement<br><br>S. Rachmaninoff<br><br>Joaquín Rodrigo          | Corine Salon<br><br><i>В молчаньи ночи тайной</i><br><i>(In the Silence of the Night)</i><br><i>De los álamos vengo, madre</i> |
| 13:12 Nellie Rustick<br><br>Adv Soprano    | Catherine Schane-<br>Lyndon<br><br>Herbert Kingsley<br>Stefano Donaudy | Maureen O'Flynn<br><br><i>The Green Dog</i><br><i>O del mio amato ben</i>  |
| 13:24 Justin Gerard<br>Int Bass-Baritone   | Carol Ann Elze<br><br>Ralph Vaughn Williams<br>G. F. Handel            | Sylvia Stoner-Hawkins<br><br><i>The Vagabond</i><br><i>Soggetto al mio volere</i>  |
| 13:36 Louise Sullivan<br>Int Soprano       | Carol Ann Elze<br><br>John Duke<br>Ernest Chausson                     | Sylvia Stoner-Hawkins<br><br><i>The Bird</i><br><i>Le colibri</i>  |
| 13:48 Ashley Wimble<br>Nov Soprano         | Stephen Musso<br><br>Giacomo Puccini<br>Gabriel Fauré                  | Maureen Hayes<br><br><i>O mio babbino caro</i><br><i>Après un rêve</i>   |
| 14:00 Lindsey Weissman<br>Nov Mezzo / Alto | Ryan Guo<br><br>Giulio Caccini<br>Gabriel Fauré                        | Karen Amedio<br><br><i>Amarilli, mia bella</i><br><i>Les berceaux</i>  |



## Kevin Kees

"If light could shine through wavy glass made of dark velvet, the result would be the visual equivalent of Kees' vocal color", raved the Boston Musical Intelligencer about Kevin Kees' appearance with Commonwealth Lyric Theater as Robert in Iolantha in Boston.

A graduate of Northwestern University, American baritone Kevin Kees has made his Chicago Lyric Opera debut in Amistad in his early twenties and continued to embark on an exciting opera career which led him to main stage engagements with Virginia Opera, Nashville Opera, Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, Opera North, Ash Lawn Opera, Opera Illinois, and Opera Fairbanks, among others.

Mr. Kees has quickly established himself as a leading singer-actor in New England, after kicking off his Bostonian era by performing Don Giovanni with Metro West Opera, Falstaff with Boston Opera Collaborative, Mizgir with Lowell House Opera of Harvard University and Hajduk with Juventas New Music Ensemble, all to much critical acclaim. One of his most recent endeavors saw him portraying the enigmatic Frank Lloyd Wright in Daron Hagon's opera Shining Brow with Opera Theater Pittsburgh, where he was praised for "charismatic presence and well drawn characterization" by Pittsburgh Tribune. This has been the first time an opera performance took place at the legendary Falling Water Building created by the famous architect.

Last summer Mr. Kees made his Northern European debut performing at Harpa National Concert Hall with Opera Skagafjordur in Reykjavik, Iceland. Mr. Kees's favorite roles include Figaro in Il Barbiere di Siviglia, Count Almaviva in Le Nozze di Figaro, Silvio in I Pagliacci, Friedrich Bhaer in Little Women and Escamillo in Carmen.

In addition to his operatic career, Mr. Kees is currently serving as an Adjunct Professor of Voice at The College of Saint Rose in Upstate New York. Locally, Kevin was last seen as Karas in Commonwealth Lyric Theater's Cossack Beyond the Danube, playing opposite his wife, Irina Petrik.

## **Alexina Jones**

***Founder & Director***

***Hubbard Hall Opera Theater***



Ms. Jones founded the Hubbard Hall Opera Theater (HHOT) (a Hubbard Hall Program) in 2008 with the goal of making high-art accessible to people in the rural farming community of Cambridge, NY. She has built the company from a single orchestra production performed per year to a blossoming double bill summer festival presenting both international and local professionally acclaimed musicians. Ms. Jones has also developed a fellowship program for singers still in training which is fully funded by several community and corporate foundations. She has successfully produced regional touring works with orchestra and has created specialty piano reductions which travel year round as outreach performances. Under Ms Jones' guidance, HHOT has become a two time honoree of the coveted American Prize and has been inducted as a professional member of Opera America.

Ms. Jones is also the director of First Night Saratoga which is presented by Saratoga Arts. First Night Saratoga is a family friendly New Year's Eve celebration that draws upwards of 15,000 people to the region and employs over 70 different multi-genre performing arts groups. This year alone the estimated direct economic impact for the event was 2 million dollars generated for the city of Saratoga Springs.

Ms Jones is a partner with the University at Albany where she produces their opera workshop program and is on the board of directors of Resonance Works, a Pittsburgh based non-profit organization presenting a wide range of classical genres in unique locations throughout the city. She is a graduate of Skidmore College where she studied English, and New York University where she studied Classical Vocal Performance.