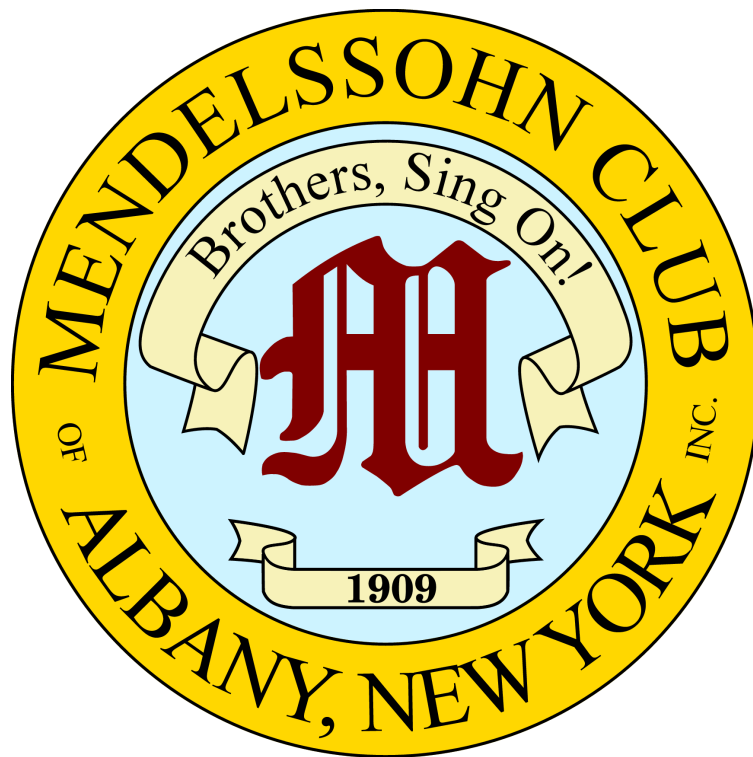


2017 Dolven Award Competition

New Covenant Presbyterian Church
916 Western Avenue, Albany, NY

Saturday, April 1, 2017



<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 10 in the Novice division, 3 in the Intermediate division, and 4 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 19 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 2016 winners were: Novice – Marissa Scotti of Slingerlands, Intermediate – Monica Enright from the College of St. Rose, Advanced – Rocky Sellers of Clifton Park, and Alec Hicks from the College of St. Rose won the Misenhimer Encouragement award.

		Accompanist	Voice Teacher
9:00	Nadia Ashman Nov Soprano	Michael Clement P. I. Tchaikovsky Giacomo Puccini	Frances Wittman <i>Would like into a Single Word</i> <i>O mio babbino caro</i>
9:12	Nellie Rustick Adv Soprano	Michael Clement Gian Carlo Menotti Richard Strauss	Maureen O'Flynn <i>Papers</i> <i>Zueignung</i>
9:24	Daniel Xie Adv Baritone	Trevor Kahlbaugh Gabriel Fauré W. A. Mozart	Frances Wittman <i>Les Roses d'Ispahan</i> <i>Non più andrai</i>
9:36	Sarah-Jane Fawcett Adv Soprano	Michael Clement Adam Guettel Claude Debussy	Michael Lotano <i>The Beauty Is</i> <i>Nuit D'etoiles</i>
9:48	Monica Enright Int Soprano	Trevor Kahlbaugh W. A. Mozart Reynaldo Hahn	Susan Boddie <i>Chi sà, chi sà, qual sia</i> <i>Si mes vers avaient des ailes</i>
10:00	Avery Heaney Nov Tenor	Meyer Nam Antonio Lotti G.F. Handel	Rae Jean Teeter <i>Pur di cesti, o bocca bella</i> <i>Where ere you walk</i>
10:12	Lucelly Orrego Int Soprano	Trevor Kahlbaugh W. A. Mozart Gabriel Fauré	Anneliese von Goerken <i>Dove sono I bei momenti</i> <i>Toujours</i>
10:24	Kaeli Heffner Nov Mezzo Soprano	Michael Clement Adam Guettel Reynaldo Hahn	Michael Lotano <i>The Beauty Is</i> <i>L'Heure exquise</i>

	Accompanist	Voice Teacher
10:36 Francesca Primeggia Int Soprano	Trevor Kahlbaugh G. F. Handel Fran Schubert	Irina Petrik & Susan Boddie <i>Tornami a vagheggiar</i> <i>Die Forelle</i>
10:48 Samantha Stern Nov Soprano	Michael Clement Reynaldo Hahn Giovanni Pergolesi	Michael Clement <i>Si mes vers avaient des ailes</i> <i>Se tu m'ami</i>
11:00 Ellsbeth Hvizdak Nov Mezzo Soprano	Sherri Hvizdak W. A. Mozart Johann Strauss	Mimi O'Neill <i>Voi, che sapete</i> <i>Chacon a son gout</i>
11:12 Paul Tan Nov Tenor	Gioacchino Longobardi Franz Schubert Giulio Caccini	Yiping Wu <i>Ständchen</i> <i>Amarilli Mia Bella</i>
11:24 Capri VanDerwerken Nov Soprano	Mark Pracher Vincenzo Bellini W. A. Mozart	Rae Jean Teeter <i>Ma rendi pur contento</i> <i>Alleluia</i>
11:36 Savannah Gordon Adv Soprano	Trevor Kahlbaugh W. A. Mozart Robert Schumann	Frances Wittman <i>Da viene non tardar</i> <i>Er, der Herrlichste von Allen</i>

11:50

Lunch Break

	Accompanist	Voice Teacher
13:00 Marissa Scotti Nov Soprano	Michael Clement Aaron Copland Robert Schumann	Corine Salon & Rae Jean Teeter <i>Laurie's Song</i> <i>Widmung</i>
13:12 Logan Briscoe Nov Baritone	Kathleen McCarty Giacomo Puccini G. F. Handel	Kathleen McCarty <i>Crucifixus</i> <i>Si, tra i ceppi</i>
13:24 Justin Jasiewicz Nov Baritone	Michael Clement Ralph Vaughan Williams Michael Head	Corine Salon <i>The Vagabond</i> <i>Money, O!</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.

Two summers ago 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

First Night Director, Saratoga Arts

Ms. Jones is the director and producer of First Night Saratoga which is presented by Saratoga Arts. First Night Saratoga is an all-ages New Year's Eve celebration that employs over 70 different multi-genre performing arts groups who perform in 30 venues in downtown Saratoga Springs. Included in the festivities is the popular First Night 5K roadrace and the midnight firework show in congress park. The event draws more than 15,000 people to the city annually from 17 different states and 3 countries and is known as one of the oldest and largest New Year's Eve events in the country. Artists Applications are now currently open and can be found on at www.saratoga-arts.org.



Prior to joining the Saratoga Arts team, Ms. Jones founded and led the Hubbard Hall Opera Theater whose mission was to provide key opportunities for up and coming classical singers while engaging and building rural audiences for the art form. In her 9 year tenure, HHOT grew from a single orchestra production to a blossoming double bill summer festival presenting both international and local professionally acclaimed musicians. Ms. Jones developed a fully funded fellowship program for singers still in training and successfully produced regional touring works with orchestra and specialty piano reductions which traveled year round as outreach performances.

Currently she still freelances as an opera producer as time allows but otherwise lives peacefully with her husband, daughter and German Shepherd in White Creek, NY.