We start the new year and this newsletter by expressing our profound gratitude for all the support we received in 2014. Thanks to the kindness of friends like Shahin Mafi, we celebrated our first anniversary in great style at her residence last May. In June, Isin Ludlow hosted our potluck dinner and opera quiz poolside at her home. The Mehlers’ house was the site of the lecture by Sorab Modi and Colleen Fay in September to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Richard Strauss. The year culminated with our Second Vocal Awards Competition in October. Once again, thanks to the generosity of our members, not only were the three first prizes donated but also several members contributed to the encouragement awards given to the other finalists (please see pages 3 and 5 for the names of the winners and donors). Representatives of PARTNERS’ partners—Maryland Lyric Opera, the National Philharmonic at Strathmore, UrbanArias, and Washington Concert Opera—and of the American Wagner Project and Washington National Opera judged the singers in the competition. Frank Conlon was the accompanist for both rounds of the competition. There are not words enough to thank the many people who enabled all this to happen.

2014 was a year to remember! 2015 has just begun and PARTNERS want to move forward with our mission on a firm financial footing. It is our members’ steadfast support that will provide us with this strong foundation. This year, we hope to increase the prizes awarded in the vocal competition and to give again an encouragement award to those finalists who do not win one of the top three prizes. Your dedication as a member will make these goals become realities. (A membership form is enclosed.)

Exciting programs are planned. Please watch your mail for details of the following events and join us for as many of them as you can:

March: 2nd Anniversary Celebration
April: I Due Foscari-cocktail preview
May: PARTNERS’ trip to Spain June: Potluck dinner
September: Rienzi—a lecture
October: 3rd Vocal Competition

Together, we can make great things happen. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity and commitment to PARTNERS.
Thanks to the generosity of the following members, we were able to give an encouragement award to the finalists who did not win one of the top three prizes.

Rachel Abraham  Thomas Helinski  Roger & Patricia Plaskett
Jean Arnold  Traudel Lange  Eva Salmoiraghi
Marvin Burge  Anne McLean  Tom & Diane Stanley
Elizabeth Crompton  Venice Molivadas  Paula Verdun
Michael Daniels  Antonio Monroig  Suzanne Zunzer
Freda Facey  Bill & Cathy Pastor

FINALISTS

Soprano
Grace Gilday
Baritone
Andrew Pardini
Tenor
Brendan Sliger
Tenor
Brent Turner
Soprano
Callie Wohletz

Thank you PARTNERS’ PARTNERS

Brendan and Julia Cooke BALTIMORE CONCERT OPERA
James Harp LYRIC OPERA BALTIMORE
Henriette Lund and Brad Clark MARYLAND LYRIC OPERA
Brendan Cooke OPERADELAWARE
Ryan Brown OPERA LAFAYETTE
Robert Wood URBANARIAS
Russell Allen VIRGINIA OPERA
Antony Walker and Bruce Stasyna WASHINGTON CONCERT OPERA
Piotr Gajewski and Stan Engebretson THE NATIONAL PHILHARMONIC
Ivo Kaltchev BULGARIAN MUSIC SOCIETY
We are grateful for the many contributions from our board and family of donors.
You made it possible! Our most sincere THANK YOU!

Ms. Rachel H. M. Abraham
Ms. Alison Adler
Ms. Mahvash Ardalan
Mrs. Jean Arnold
Ms. Barbara Bahni
Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Bauers
Mr. and Mrs. John Bedard
Ms. Cynthia Bianchi
Mrs. Diana Bohn
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph V. Braddock
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond J. Braicht
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Burge
Ms. Carole Butler
Ms. Nancie Coan
Ms. Marilyn Courtot
Ms. Anne Marie Crawford
Ms. Elizabeth Crompton
Ms. Sandra Crow
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Daniels
Ms. Debra Decko
Mr. and Mrs. David Donohoe
Ms. Vicki Doyle
Mrs. Margaret Dudas
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Daniel
Ms. Carolyn Duignan and Mr. Milan Valuch
Ms. Jan DuPlain
Ms. Nancy Dutton
Ms. Su Kim Eisenberg
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Faron
Mrs. Betty Farrell
Mr. and Mrs. Aurelius Fernandez
Ms. Mary Catherine Fischer
Ms. Nancy Ford
Dr. Bennett Frankel
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Fuller
Mr. Douglas Gold and Mr. Stephen Merrill
Mrs. Charlotte Gollobin
Mrs. Nisha Govindani
Mr. William Grote
Mr. Frederic Harwood
Mr. Benedict Hastings
Ms. Jacqueline Havener
Mr. Austin Hay
Mr. Thomas Helinski, Jr. and Dr. Robert Miller
Mrs. Betty Hinson
Mrs. Celia Hoke
Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Holman
Mr. and Mrs. Ira A. Hunt
Mr. Jeffrey Jones and Ms. Alice McElfresh
Mrs. Carla Jones-Batka
Mr. Michael Joy and Ms. Deborah Fischer
Mrs. Barbara Kalin
Mrs. S. D. Kearney
Ms. Anne Kennedy
Ms. Charlotte Kingsley Weihe
Mrs. Patricia Kirkham
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Kursch
Mrs. Traudel Lange
Ms. Claire Lent
Ms. Martha Lewis
Ms. Vibeke Thune Lofft
Ms. Joan Larson
Ms. Darlene Lebedev
Ms. Shirley Loo
Mrs. Shahin Mafi
Ms. Patricia Marvil
Ms. Anne McLean and Mr. Mel Kultuer
Dr. Christa McClure
Ms. Mary Lynne McElroy
Ms. Kathleen W. Mereness
Ms. Miriam Miller
Dr. and Mrs. Julian Minghi
Dr. Ruth Mitchell
Mr. Sorab K. Modi
Mrs. Venice Molivadas
Mr. Antonio Monroig
Mrs. Laurie Nakamoto
Cdr. Susan Merritt Nelsen
Ms. Nancy O'Hara
Mr. Oscar J. Olson
Mr. and Mrs. William Pastor
Ms. Robin Phillips
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Plaskett
Ms. Dorothy Prentice
Ms. Clara Register
Mrs. Patricia Reisen
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Rokni
Ms. Marilyn H. Rose
Mr. and Mrs. Fernando van Reigersberg
Mr. and Mrs. Felipe Rodriguez
Mr. David Ryan
Dr. and Mrs. Giancarlo Salmoiraghi
Family Savada-Stevenson
Mrs. Mary W. Schlendorf
Ms. Victoria Sheffield
Mr. and Dr. Charles Silverman
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sippel
Mr. James Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Stanley
Mrs. Dotsy Steele
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sulser
Mrs. Meena Thamaratnam
Mrs. Mary Helen Thompson
Ms. Pauline Thompson
Ms. Annie Totah
Dr. Wanda O'Brien Trefil
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Truitt
Mrs. Paula Verdun
Mrs. Sherry Watkins
Dr. Marjorie Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Wheeler
Mr. and Mrs. John White
Mrs. Suzanne Zunzer
PARTNERS’ VOCAL COMPETITION
FIRST PRIZEWINNER

Soprano Jennifer Cherest

First prize—$2,500
The Misbin Family Memorial Award

SECOND PRIZEWINNER

Soprano Emily Casey

Second prize—$1,500
The Vincent P. Walter, Jr. Memorial Award

THIRD PRIZEWINNER

Baritone Joseph Chee

Third prize—$750
The Holly Bianchi Memorial Award

BARCELONA and VALENCIA BECKON!

Join us for a jaunt to sunny Spain!

It is not too late to sign up for PARTNERS’ trip to Barcelona and Valencia from May 2 - 11, 2015. Highlights include hearing Placido Domingo in I Due Foscari, Martha Argerich, Nabucco, and the Orquesta de Valencia.

For details and a reservation form, please visit our website: partners4thearts.org or contact Audrey Pendergast at apenderg8@aol.com or 703/356-8265.

Judges of the Final Round of the Competition

Dr. Stan Engebretson
Artistic director of the National Philharmonic Chorale

Dr. Henriette Lund
Artistic director of Maryland Lyric Opera

Maestro Robert Wood
Executive and artistic director of UrbanArias

Judges of the Semifinal Round of the Competition

Andrew Jorgensen
Director of artistic planning for Washington National Opera

Maestro John E. Niles
Program director of the American Wagner Project

Maestro Bruce Stasyna
Chorus master of Washington Concert Opera
Baltimore Concert Opera
Feb. 27, Mar. 1
This Little Light of Mine
May 1, 3 Lakmé
baltimoreconcertopera.com

Lyric Opera Baltimore
Program to be announced
lyricoperahouse.com

OperaDelaware
Feb. 13 Love and Death
Feb. 20, 22
This Little Light of Mine
May 8, 16 Lakmé
May 9, 15, 17
La Tragédie de Carmen
May 13, 16
Wine, Women, and Food in Song!
operade.org

UrbanArias
Jan. 31, Feb. 1
Blue Viola Workshop
Feb. 21, 27, and 28
The Whole Truth - World premiere UrbanArias commission
Mar. 20-29 Blue Viola
urbanarias.org

Virginia Opera
Feb. 14-15 Salome
Mar. 21-22 La Traviata
vaopera.org

Washington Concert Opera
Mar. 1 Guntram
concertopera.org

The National Philharmonic at Strathmore
Feb. 8
10th Anniversary Concert: Beethoven’s 9th Symphony featuring PARTNERS’ 2013 First Prizewinner baritone Norman Garrett
For more of their extensive season, please visit nationalphilharmonic.org

Virginia Opera
Feb. 14-15 Salome
Mar. 21-22 La Traviata
vaopera.org

Washington Concert Opera
Mar. 1 Guntram
concertopera.org

The National Philharmonic at Strathmore
Feb. 8
10th Anniversary Concert: Beethoven’s 9th Symphony featuring PARTNERS’ 2013 First Prizewinner baritone Norman Garrett
For more of their extensive season, please visit nationalphilharmonic.org

Bulgarian Music Society
April 17 Opera Gala with Prizewinners of PARTNERS’ 2nd Vocal Awards Competition

PARTNERS’ PARTNERS PRODUCTIONS—2015

WITH GRATITUDE

PARTNERS for the Arts, Inc.
6858 Grande Lane, Falls Church, VA 22043  -  Tel: 703/241-5496 - Fax: 703/241-0584
E-mail: partners4thearts@aol.com - Web site: partners4thearts.org
PARTNERS for the Arts, Inc. is a nonprofit organization qualified under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).
Contributions to PARTNERS for the Arts, Inc. are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.