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NEWSLETTER

2015

Vol.2, No.3

One more year and stronger! THANKS TO YOU!

And what a year we had! In March, **PARTNERS** celebrated its anniversary at **Twin Oaks**, the elegant residence of Taipei's Economic and Cultural Representative to the United States (TECRO), thanks to the graciousness of **His Excellency Dr. Lyushun Shen and Mrs. Shen**. Winners of the vocal competition of 2014 as well as a finalist of the competition in 2013 delighted the audience.

The **Bulgarian Music Society** presented our 2014 competition winners and a finalist in a recital at the Bulgarian Embassy in April. In so doing, one more platform was presented to our stars to perform.

In May, a group from **PARTNERS** went to Spain on a deluxe trip that included wonderful operas and concerts. We thank **Audrey Pendergast** and **Alan Savada**, our travel agent, for arranging the trip. After a performance of *I Due Foscari*, we toasted the performance with **Christina Scheppelmann**, artistic director of the Barcelona Opera, and the cast that included **Plácido Domingo**.

Our traditional Potluck gathering took place in June at the **Savada-Stevenson's** residence in D.C. . We had great fun trying to solve opera charades. **Will Stevenson, Dr. Wanda O'Brien Trefil** and **Linda Petravogi** were the charade winners!

The prizes for the 2015 vocal awards competition were raised thanks to generosity of members **Dr. Robert Misbin, Dr. Elaine Walter**, and **Cynthia Bianchi**. This year **Drs. James and Wanda Trefil** have big-heartedly donated all the Encouragement Awards. We are immensely grateful to all of them.

PARTNERS 3rd Vocal Awards Competition finals, on October 24 and 25 at the Lyceum, was an exciting event with gifted emerging singers. We received applicants from all over the US and even had questions from Seoul and Nigeria. Partners is rocking! Of course, we are talking classical "rocking"!

Our next vocal competition is scheduled for April 16 and 17, 2016, again at the Lyceum . So... save the date, more stars are in the horizon!

It is your continued support that enables our mission to be a reality. Thank you. Visit our web site to learn more about **PARTNERS** events: [www: partners4thearts.org](http://www.partners4thearts.org). Furthermore, please continue your support by attending **PARTNERS'** partners productions.

Partners for the Arts encourages and promotes emerging performing artists not under professional management by sponsoring competitions and public presentations, promotes and interacts with performing arts organizations and schools of music in mutually beneficial activities and awards, and collaborates with others to develop educational programs that nurture audience development and love of classical music and the arts.

MARCH: ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AT TWIN OAKS



Leilane G. Mehler, Ambassador Shen and Mrs. Shen.



Sue Kim Eisenberg, Mrs Shen and Cyd Everett

Our singers: (left to right) baritone Johnathan McCullough, a finalist in Vocal Competition 2013; soprano Jennifer Cherest, the first prizewinner in Vocal Competition 2014; soprano Emily Casey, the second prizewinner in Vocal Competition 2014; and baritone Andrew Pardini, a finalist in Vocal Competition 2014, sang opera arias and were the stars of the night. Joy Schreier accompanied them.

APRIL: BULGARIAN EMBASSY

JUNE: POTLUCK AT THE SAVADA-STEVENSON RESIDENCE

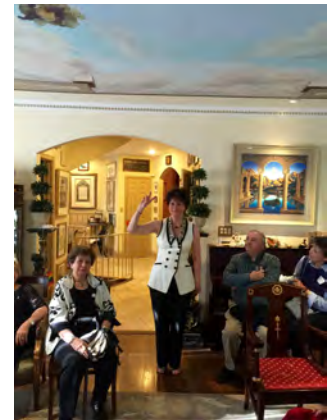


Soprano Grace Gilday, a finalist in Vocal Competition 2013; soprano Emily Casey, the second prizewinner in Vocal Competition 2014; and bass Joseph Chee, the third prizewinner in Vocal Competition 2014.

Among others presenting the opera charades:



Alan Savada



Dr. Wanda O'Brien Trefil

OCTOBER : VOCAL COMPETITION



1st prizewinner tenor Christopher Magiera



Dr. Elaine Walter and 2nd prizewinner counter-tenor Mathew Reese.



3rd prizewinner bass Anthony Schneider and Cynthia Bianchi.



Finalists and recipients of the Drs. James and Wanda Trefil Encouragement Award: Bass Timothy Bruno, mezzo-soprano Natalie Havens, soprano Colleen Daly, mezzo soprano Olivia Vote, and tenor Brent Turner.

Photo credit for the anniversary celebration and the final round of the competition: Neshan H. Nailtchayan Photography

We are grateful for the many contributions from our family of donors throughout the year. You made it possible! Our most sincere THANK YOU!

Composer

Leilane Grimaldi Mehler

Impresario

Dr. Robert Misbin

Maestro

Cynthia Bianchi

Drs. James and Wanda Trefil

The Savada Stevenson Family

Mrs. F. Victoria Tresansky

Mrs. Audrey Pendergast

Dr. Elaine Walter

Artist

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Dr. Marjory Williams

as of November 2015

JOIN US!

Membership dues and donations are **PARTNERS FOR THE ARTS'** main sources of funding for the entire process of mounting the vocal awards competition and for the financial support offered to emerging singers through competition awards, musicales, and concerts.

PARTNERS pays no administrative salaries. All income is used to further the organization's goals.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Please check the boxes that apply

- Composer \$5,000 and up
- Impresario \$2,500 to \$4,999
- Maestro \$1,000 to \$2,499
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- Sustainer \$350 to \$499
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- Supporter \$100 to \$249
- Dual membership \$90
- Individual membership \$60
- Employer matching grant form enclosed
- Donation \$_____
- I prefer to remain anonymous

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

Please return this completed form with your check made payable to **PARTNERS FOR THE ARTS, INC.** to
6858 Grande Lane, Falls Church, VA 22043.
partners4thearts@aol.com --- 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.

MAY: PARTNERS TRIP TO SPAIN



Front left: Su Kim Eisenberg, Linda Deramus, Jean Arnold, and Audrey Pendergast. Second row from left Robert Misbin, Leilane Mehler. Third row from left: Barry Mehler, Fernando Van Reigersberg, Oscar Olson. Fourth row Stephanie Van Reigersberg. Top row our guide Marc Balcells.



Cocktails after the performance of Verdi's *I due Foscari*. Plácido Domingo with our group at the Grand Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona.



Beth Krynicki, Christina Scheppelmann, and Jean Arnold.



Martha Argerich, piano, and Mireia Farrés, trumpet, with Orquesta Da Camera: Palau de la Música in Barcelona.

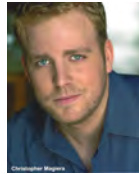


Orquesta de Valencia with Maestro Yaron Traub.



Verdi's *Nabucco* at the Palau de Les Arts Reina Sofia in Valencia.

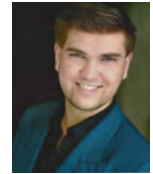
3RD VOCAL AWARDS COMPETITION



First Prizewinner
Christopher Magiera



2nd Prizewinner
Mathew Reese

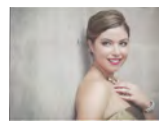


3rd Prizewinner
Anthony Schneider

FINALISTS



Timothy
Bruno



Coleen
Daly



Natalie
Havens



Brent
Turner



Olivia
Vote

OUR JUDGES:

FINALS



Maestro
Ryan Brown
Lafayette Opera



Maestro
Bruce Stasyna
Washington
Concert Opera



Peter Russell
Vocal Arts DC



Joe Banno
Director and
classical music
critic



Maestro
John Edward Niles
The Wagner Society of
Washington D.C.



Maestro
Stan Engebretson
National Philharmonic



Frank Conlon, Accompanist for Semi finals and Finals.



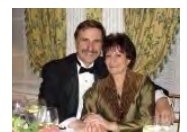
1st Prize
The Misbin
Family
Memorial
Award



2nd Prize
The Vincent
P. Walter Jr.
Memorial
Award



3rd Prize
The Holly
Bianchi
Memorial
Award



Drs. James and
Wanda Trefil
Encouragement
Awards

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baltimoreconcertopera.com



UrbanArias
urbanarias.org



Lyric Opera Baltimore
lyricoperahouse.com



Virginia Opera
vaopera.org



OperaDelaware
operade.org



Washington Concert Opera
concertopera.org



Opera Lafayette
operalafayette.org



The National Philharmonic at Strathmore
nationalphilharmonic.org



Maryland Lyric Opera
marylandlyricopera.org



Bulgarian Music Society

THANK YOU **PARTNERS** PARTNERS

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WASHINGTON CONCERT OPERA: John Walker and Bruce Stasyna

THE NATIONAL PHILHARMONIC: Piotr Gajewsky and Stan Engebretson

BULGARIAN MUSIC SOCIETY: Dr. Ivo Kaltchev

Our heartfelt thank you to:

Alan Savada, Travel Agent, Frosch

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Donnie Nesaw, Woodbridge Printing Co, LLC



WITH APPRECIATION



Alan J. Savada
Certified Travel Consultant

PARTNERS 4th Vocal Awards Competition 2016

Semifinal round: Saturday, April 16 - 1:30 pm

Final round: Sunday, April 17 - 2:30 pm

The Lyceum: 201 St. S., Washington Street, Alexandria, VA

Free and open to the public

PARTNERS for the Arts, Inc.

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E-mail: partners4thearts@aol.com - Web site: partners4thearts.org

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