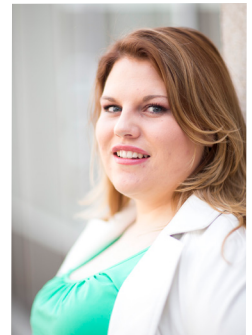


Institute for Young Dramatic Voices



As we embark on our seventh Institute, I wanted to share with you some of the ways in which your generous contribution has enhanced our program and to thank you for your continued support. Through gifts like yours, The Institute for Young Dramatic Voices has changed the lives of a number of young singers.

In March 2013 at only twenty-one, soprano **Rebecca Pedersen** became one of the youngest singers ever to win the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and has subsequently been accepted into the Houston Grand Opera's Young Artists Vocal Academy. Rebecca, like many of our young artists, has had to overcome personal and family challenges in order to pursue her dream to become a professional opera singer. Without the assistance provided by the Institute, she would not have been able to afford the kind of preparation necessary for such intense auditions. We welcome her back this summer and will continue to work with her over the next years, ensuring that her mainstage opera debut, wherever and whenever that may be, will be a great success.



Another of our participants, bass **Solomon Howard** is currently in his second year of the Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program at Washington National Opera. His path was not an easy one. Growing up in Washington, DC, his path was not an easy one. Solomon discovered he had a voice and was determined to follow a different course, to become an opera singer. His future now looks bright and secure in part because the Institute was able to get him what he needed at a critical time in his training.



We are tremendously proud of tenor **Issachah Savage's** developing career. A long-time participant of the Institute, Issachah auditioned for, and was accepted, into the San Francisco Opera's prestigious Merola Opera Program. Additionally, he has been engaged by the Houston Grand Opera to sing two performances as Radames in their production of Aida with me as Amneris.

Soprano **Rachel Willis-Sørensen** is another great Institute success story. Already firmly established on the international opera stage, Rachel is quickly gaining international recognition as one of the most outstanding voices of her generation. She is scheduled to sing Elsa in Lohengrin at the Salzburg Festival with super-star Jonas Kaufmann.



The success of these young artists means a great deal to me personally and to the coaches, directors, staff, and volunteers of the Institute. We are thrilled that the program is working.

Your support has enabled us to make a difference for these talented singers, and in time, a major contribution to the opera world.

MOVING FORWARD

The Institute has recently formalized its close relationship with the Wagner Society of Washington DC. This partnership, called the American Wagner Project, will continue its support the ongoing training of future Wagnerian singers as well as presenting annual Wagner concerts in Washington and a series of symposia. At the request of the late Evelyn Lear, the Institute has absorbed the Evelyn Lear and Thomas Stewart Emerging Singers Program. The new Wagner Department of the Institute will be funded by the Wagner Society, and will include role study, German, and specialized coaching and classes. The program will be launched this summer and will be fully in place in the summer of 2014. The Institute is honored to welcome the wonderful Wagnerian and voice teacher, **Luana DeVol** as head the new Wagner Department of our Institute.

The 2013 Institute also sees the newly created Professional Program, spear-headed by baritone and voice teacher **Darrell Babidge**, designed to provide guidance to emerging singers making their stage debuts as the last part of their training.

ADMINISTRATION

The expansion of the Institute has necessitated the addition of an administrator/development officer to our organizational structure. While managing the Institute has been a wonderfully fulfilling experience, this staff member will help me balance the growing needs of the program with my full-time singing career. The interview process is in progress to find the right individual to grow with the organization and take us into the future.

THE FUTURE

Over the last six years, we have established a program that will guide young singers with dramatic or unusual voices through all steps of their development, from the high school level to their first performances and beyond. The collaborations, joint projects, and professional relationships we develop with other institutions strengthen the career development of our young singers by providing support at multiple levels wherever they perform.

We have effectively become a school without walls, linking together the best and brightest in the business even outside the three-week timeframe of the summer Institute. When you connect the best young talent with the best coaches and teachers, you create a winning combination.

INSTITUTE 2013

This summer's Institute (June 24 – July 13) will welcome 25 students, ranging from 15 to 36 years old. We have relocated from Orem, Utah to the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, a collaboration that will allow larger public access to the Institute's activities. During the three weeks, the Institute offers the public several chances to hear these young performers before they make their mark on the world stage. Two student recitals, two masterclasses, and the final concert on Saturday, July 13th featuring our amazing singers in a program of arias, duets, and scenes, are offered to the public free.

In addition to embarking on the first phase of our new partnership with the Wagner Society of Washington DC and developing a structured Professional Program through the work of Darrell Babidge, we welcome the return of our world-renowned faculty of experts and specialized professionals. Sharing their knowledge with the students is key to the success of the program and ensures that the Institute's students receive the best possible initiation into their future opera careers.

Thank you for helping these young singers pursue their dreams and for guaranteeing that the opera world will be blessed with great dramatic voices in the years to come.

May 2013



Dolora Zajick

