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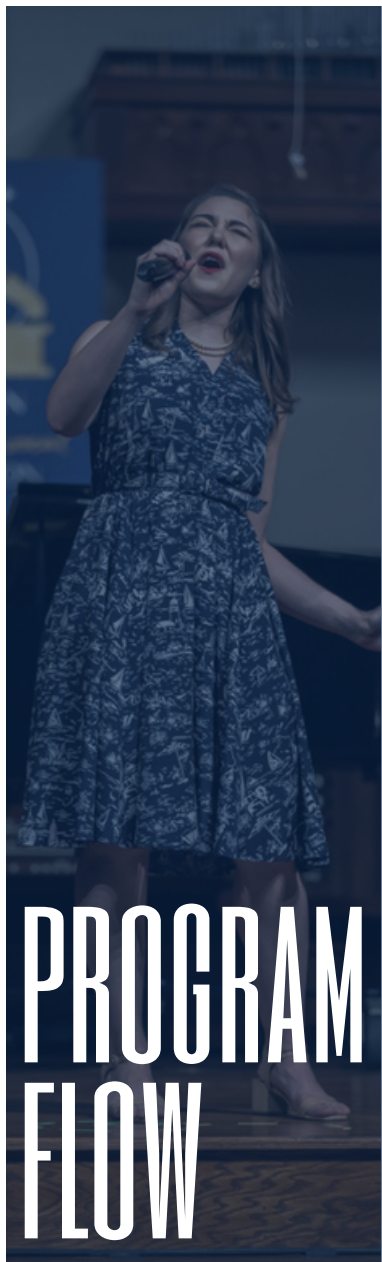
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MONDAY-SATURDAY 10-5

SUNDAY 11-4



This year's events will take place at District Live at Plant Riverside District. Ticket options include single tickets, Full Week Passes (grants access to all events for \$140) and Premium Full Week Passes (grants access to premium seating at all events for \$160).



MONDAY FEB. 20

Judges' Concert - 7:30pm | Tickets \$30/each

Featuring performances by and interviews with Grammy-nominated jazz artist Cyrille Aimée, symphonic conductor John Gennaro Devlin and Broadway actress and symphonic vocalist Capathia Jenkins.

Sponsored by The Charles C. Taylor and Samir Nikocevic Charitable foundation

TUESDAY FEB. 21

Quarterfinals 1 - Rounds at 4:00 & 7:30pm | \$25 Day Pass

Featuring performances by our first 12 competitors singing their first musical programs. **Sponsored by The Courtney Knight Gaines Foundation in Honor of Elizabeth Oxnard and**

WEDNESDAY FEB. 22

Quarterfinals 2 - Rounds at 4:00 & 7:30pm | \$25 Day Pass

Featuring performances by our second 12 competitors. Semifinalists who will be moving on are announced at the conclusion of the 7:30pm round. **Sponsored by xx and Richard Beattie and Ted Gale**

THURSDAY FEB. 23

Semifinals - Rounds at 4:00 & 7:30pm | \$35 Day Pass

Featuring performances by our 12 Semifinalists singing their second programs. The five 2023 finalists will be announced at the conclusion of the 7:30pm round.

Sponsored by

FRIDAY FEB. 24

Finals - Begins at 8:00pm

\$50 General Admission/\$75 Premium Seating

**District Live at Plant Riverside District
400 W River St.**

Featuring performances by our five finalists with a trio, entertainment by specialty prize winners, and a special performance by 2022 Gold Medalist Andrea Ross, This event is NOT to be missed!

Sponsored by WJCL News 22

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Photo by John Carrington

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WELCOME TO THE 30TH YEAR OF ATC

A NOTE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

As we mark the 30th year of the American Traditions Vocal Collection, I think it is important to recognize and celebrate the longevity of this organization.

First, I must acknowledge the incredible efforts of the founder, Elizabeth Oxnard. She believed that the ATC could hold its own, separate from being part of the Savannah Music Festival. And she was right! Her passion, vision and tenacity made it happen. We honor her and mourn her passing last year.

This organization is truly a family. We strive to provide that experience to contestants. To quote a repeat contestant, "It's like coming home". Certainly, this magical city contributes to that, but it is the efforts of the board, volunteers, sponsors, and Executive Director that complete this. The fact that our dynamic Executive Director was a winner in 2014 and became our Artistic Director a few years later is testament to the passion and loyalty this competition creates.

While carefully preserving the original intent of the ATC, we also have expanded over the past 30 years. In 2019 we launched the Junior ATC as part of educational outreach of the ATC, which provides a forum for local high school students to develop, and frequently launch, their vocal talents. We also provide concerts throughout the year featuring past contestants in a variety of formats both free and paid.

It is an honor for me to serve on the Board of this incredible organization and I thank all the amazing Board members for their commitment and dedication to ATC. It wouldn't happen without their support. And it certainly would not happen without YOUR support and your generous contributions to this worthy cause. Thank you!

Enjoy our 30th Anniversary season!

Sincerely,
Daniel Rizzo
ATC Board Chair 2023



A MILESTONE YEAR

A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Our 2022–2023 year has been a year of celebration, growth and change.

This year, we embarked upon a new partnership with Plant Riverside District. This offered us opportunities and challenges as we have adapted to our organization's move to downtown Savannah. We are thrilled at the possibilities of our new location at Plant Riverside District, for this special collaboration we have called ATC x PRD and are so glad you have joined us!

This year, we honor our late founder, Elizabeth M. Oxnard, and all she provided and worked for at the ATC. She was a tough cookie and a great friend to have in your corner. She fought tirelessly for our organization and supported us with love, care and great enthusiasm. She truly believed in the mission and importance of ATC, and we will be forever grateful to her.

This year, we are grateful to all of our symphonic friends who reach out to us for soloists, acknowledging our competition as the most professional grouping of multi-talented vocalists in the world: we have been the source of talent for the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Asheville Symphony, the Jacksonville Symphony, the Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra, The Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra, and of course, our very own Savannah Philharmonic. Additionally, Savannah Voice Festival continues to engage several ATC artists each season, beyond each year's Sherrill Milnes American Opera Award winner. SVF loves ATC talent and recognizes the important addition our multi-talented artists add to their classical vocal offerings.

This year has been a year of celebration, as we celebrate 30 years of our professional vocal competition. Always ahead of its time, the first ATC was a celebration of Black Women performing Black American Music, back in 1994. For that vision, we must thank Mr. Gordon Stewart, the original Artistic Director. Today, we continue the tradition of progressive thought, acknowledging all styles of music as equally valid and non-hierarchical.

With our partners, The Savannah Philharmonic, we kicked off our 30th Anniversary with a celebratory concert of American Song on January 21, 2023, featuring two ATC Gold Medalists, Andrew Garland (2003) and Ann Marie McPhail (2012). It was received with resounding enthusiasm, and we know you will enjoy our upcoming competition just as much.

Who will win? We are never sure, but we are glad to share the journey with our wonderful audience of supportive music lovers.

Thank you for supporting us, and cheers to 30 more years!

With Gratitude,
Mikki Sodergren
Executive and Artistic Director



ABOUT THE ATC

Now celebrating its 30th year, the American Traditions Vocal Competition (ATC) is Savannah's premiere destination for professional, multi-genre vocalists. Established long before tv competitions like *American Idol*, this vibrant event has showcased competition winners and genres of music from around the world, furthering our mission to celebrate and preserve all styles of classic American music. Our 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization awards over \$40,000 in cash prizes. Winners have gone on to Broadway, the Metropolitan Opera, recording careers, and other exciting professional opportunities in the musical world. As part of our community-driven service initiative, we provide musical education, free community events, and performances for Savannah locals of all ages.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Caroline B. Smith



2023 Junior ATC Finalists
Photo by Sal Andrade

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

This year, we hired a new staff member to help lead a very important role: Director of Education. We tapped two-time ATC contestant **Tegan Miller**. As a resident of Savannah, a wonderful artist and an experienced educator, Tegan has been the perfect choice.

Originally from Kentucky, Tegan Miller is a voice teacher, conductor, music director, and performer. She believes with her whole being that music is for everyone and that everyone can sing. Tegan is the Founder and Owner of MTC Music Academy, a boutique voice studio specializing in dedicated singers who want to take their instrument to the next level. She is also the founder of Savannah's newest ensemble: Spectra Choir.

Tegan holds a degree in Music Education from the University of Kentucky and has studied Conducting and Ear Training at Juilliard School of Music and the European American Musical Alliance in Paris with Mark Shapiro and Dr. Kyle Blaha, and recently completed her Master's in Choral Conducting at Simpson College. Tegan is a member of ACDA, NATS and the Speakeasy Cooperative.



"I CANNOT IMAGINE MY LIFE IF I DIDN'T HAVE A MUSIC PROGRAM AT MY SCHOOL"

- *Beyoncé Carter Knowles*

JUNIOR ATC AND EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

Through performances in the community and schools, as well as the Junior ATC Vocal Competition, the ATC is engaging tomorrow's educators, performers and music lovers in the Chatham County area. We teach them a respect and appreciation for American music that spans all different genres and time periods as well as how all American music has deep roots in black American music. We also put an emphasis on growth, offering workshops and Individual coachings for the Junior ATC. With investment from the City of Savannah and Gulfstream, we are excited to further expand our curriculum and reach more students bringing engaging and fun programming to our schools and our community.



2021 Junior ATC winner, Colleen Allard-Smith (L) with 2019 winner, Quiana Morris (R). Photo by David Guggenheim.



2023 winners Ben Templeton, Tamarious Jackson, and Jayden Muncy
Photos by Salvador Andrade

This year, with our new partnership with Plant Riverside District, our Junior ATC competition was held at District Live, allowing our contestants a chance to perform on a professional stage in an incredible venue. Each contestant was also offered two individual coachings leading up to their final performance.

To truly preserve our history of American song, we have to plant seeds of appreciation in our American youth and continue to nurture their love of American music. We must also foster an environment that supports camaraderie and community amongst peers, as well as a focus on progress, not perfection.

Interested in getting involved?

Email Tegan at education@atcsavannah.org





IN-KIND = KINDNESS

MANY IN-KIND DONATIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE ATC FOR COMPETITION WEEK. THESE EVENTS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR COMMUNITY.

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Thank you to **Charlotte "Starr" Hagenmeyer**, our Judges' hospitality sponsor for 2023.

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THE HEART OF A VOLUNTEER

WITHOUT OUR VOLUNTEERS,
OUR WORK CANNOT BE DONE.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR
DEVOTION TO THE ATC AND
FOR SHARING YOUR TIME AND
TALENTS WITH US. YOU TRULY
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A special thank you to our **Tunes on Taylor Street** hosts:
Sharon and Murray Galin





DONORS

THANKS FOR MAKING THE
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COMPETITION HAPPEN YEAR AFTER
YEAR!

This list is reflective of donations received from April 1, 2021
to February 1, 2022

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Ann and Charles Koepke
Pamela and Marek Lewanda
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Helen Steward
Ann and John Tatum

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CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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All donations as of February 10, 2023



Consider becoming part of our dedicated focus to highlight and preserve the diversity of American vocal music and ensure the continued growth of the ATC through a donation to the Endowment Fund. As the ATC expands its reach in a variety of ways such as sharing the wonderful diversity of American vocal music with the K-12 students of our community, your financial help will support the mission of the ATC for generations to come. Visit our website to donate today!

www.atcsavannah.org/donate

AWARDS

GOLD MEDAL - \$12,000 Sponsored by Daniel C. Cohen

SILVER MEDAL - \$6,000 Sponsored by Diana Langer

BRONZE MEDAL - \$3,000 Sponsored by Kathie and Les Anderson

4TH PLACE MEDAL - \$2,000 Sponsored by Diana and Steve Graham

5TH PLACE MEDAL - \$1,500 Sponsored by xx

THE BEN TUCKER JAZZ AWARD

Sponsored by Hedy Foreman Fawcett

The Ben Tucker Jazz Award, which includes a \$500 stipend, is given to the contestant who the ATC Judges determine sings the best Jazz performance during the Quarterfinal or Semifinal rounds of competition. The award is given in memory of former ATC Board member and international jazz bassist Ben Tucker, who loved this competition.

THE RICHARD CHAMBLESS PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Sponsored by Swann Seiler

The monetary prize of \$500 each is presented to two lucky singers who do not advance from the quarterfinal and semifinal rounds based on votes from you, our audience! The prize money, generously donated by Swann Seiler, honors the memory of long-time ATC supporter Richard Chambless. Audience members will be able to text votes for their favorite contestants!

THE SHERRILL MILNES AMERICAN OPERA AWARD

Sponsored by Naomi & Barry Cohen, Toby Hollenberg, Sherrill Milnes and Maria Zouves

The Sherrill Milnes American Opera Award is presented to the vocalist who sings the best American opera aria during the Quarterfinal or Semifinal rounds. In addition to the \$500 award, the winner is invited to participate at a Savannah Voice Festival event during the 2022-2023 season. This year, The Sherrill Milnes American Opera Award is sponsored by Naomi and Barry Cohen, Toby Hollenberg and Maria Zouves and Sherrill Milnes, himself!

THE JOHNNY MERCER AWARD

Sponsored by The Friends of Johnny Mercer and Georgia Southern University-Armstrong Campus

This monetary award of \$750 is presented to the vocalist who performs the best Johnny Mercer song during the Quarterfinal or Semifinal rounds of competition. Georgia Southern University, Armstrong Campus and the Friends of Johnny Mercer annually donate this award and will present it to the winner at the Finals.

THE TOIAN BOWSER - ALEXANDER CONTESTANT AWARD

Sponsored by James Edward Alexander

This award is given in memory of Ms. Toian Alexander, the first Treasurer of the American Traditions Vocal Competition. She and her husband, James Alexander, were moved by the spirit of this competition and the camaraderie between contestants. To foster this inclusive spirit, this award is traditionally voted on by contestants to reward a fellow contestant who exhibits helpfulness to others, encouragement and supportiveness: embodying the very heart of this vocal competition.

THE SAVANNAH PHILHARMONIC AWARD

Sponsored by The Savannah Philharmonic Orchestra

In collaboration with the Savannah Philharmonic, the Gold Medal Winner of the American Traditions Vocal Competition will be invited to sing with the Savannah Philharmonic during the upcoming season. This is the 11th year that our arts organizations have worked together to celebrate the diversity of American music through song!

THE KIMMIE AWARD



The Kimmie is awarded at the discretion of the ATC Board to an individual who exemplifies professionalism in craft, service to the ATC, as well as dedication to the ATC's mission to celebrate and preserve the diversity of American music.

2023 WINNER Winner announced at evening Semifinal Round

2022 WINNER Les and Kathie Anderson

2021 WINNER David Shenton

2020 WINNER Susan Kleine

2019 WINNER David Friedman

2018 WINNER Kim Michael Polote



PAST GOLD-MEDAL WINNERS

2023

2022 • Andrea Christine Ross

2021 • Nicole Zuraitis

2020 • Carole J. Bufford

2019 • Mykal Kilgore

2018 • Erica Gabriel

2017 • Julie Benko

2016 • Michael Maliakel

2015 • Alexa Grae

2014 • Mikki Sodergren

2013 • Kimberly Hawkey

2012 • Joshua Carswell & Ann Marie McPhail

2011 • Douglas Carpenter

2010 • Maria McDaniel Willathgamuwa

2009 • Todd William Donovan

2008 • Kiley Watson

2007 • Sharon Clark

2006 • Vale Rideout

2005 • Andre McRae

2004 • Maria Clark

2003 • Andrew Garland

2002 • Alice Tillotson

2001 • Kim Michael Polote

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1996 • Darryl Williams

1995 • Deborah Ford

1994 • Ernestine Dillard



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107.5 SAVANNAH

In Memoriam: Elizabeth M. Oxnard



Elizabeth McCafferty Oxnard was born in Mobile, AL and later moved to New York, where she met and married the late Ben Oxnard. In 1983, she and Ben moved to Savannah where they made their home.

Elizabeth made a lasting contribution in the Arts, Health, Preservation, and Education in the Savannah community. She was a member of the Junior League of Savannah and served on many boards, including Historic Savannah Foundation, Lucas Theatre of the Arts, Savannah Country Day School, Savannah Symphony Organization, and Savannah Symphony Women's Guild. Elizabeth devoted her time to Hospice Savannah for many years, including serving as President of the Foundation Board and co-chair of the Grief and Loss Center Fundraiser.

Elizabeth also served on the board and was a founding member of the American Traditions Vocal Competition.

Elizabeth served in many capacities as a member of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America. She was very proud to serve as the State of Georgia's President from 1999 until 2003.

Thank you to those who contributed in Elizabeth's memory:

Karen and Marvin Campbell
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JUDGES

CYRILLE AIMEE



Improvisation is not just a technique for Grammy nominated artist **Cyrille Aimée**, it's a way of life. The acclaimed vocalist ventured from singing on street corners in Europe to dazzling audiences at the world's most prestigious jazz festivals; from sneaking out to sing in gypsy encampments in her native France to acting on Broadway; from braving the notoriously tough audiences at New York's Apollo Theatre to being called a "rising star in the galaxy of jazz singers" by The New York Times. Among countless accolades, Aimée won the Montreux Jazz Festival Vocal Competition and the Sarah Vaughn International Jazz Vocal Competition.

As an actress, Aimée co-starred with Bernadette Peters in a Stephen Sondheim tribute at New York's City Center which inspired her to dig deeper into Sondheim's repertoire, resulting in her fourth and most recent album, *Move On: A Sondheim Adventure*. She's shared her story via master classes, a TEDx talk, and a few addresses at the Conference on World Affairs.

JOHN GENNARO DEVLIN



Conductor **John Gennaro Devlin** is an ardent champion of American music, an innovator of concert design, and a thought leader in the field of classical music. In his third season as Music Director of the Wheeling Symphony Orchestra, Devlin is only the ninth conductor in its 90-year history to hold that title and, at 36, is one of the nation's youngest music directors to lead a professional symphony orchestra.

Devlin's artistry and versatility make him a sought-after guest conductor with major orchestras across the nation. His engagements include performances with the National Symphony Orchestra, the symphony orchestras of Louisville, Virginia and Hawaii, to name a few. Of his debut with the National Symphony Orchestra and violin soloist Joshua Bell, Anne Midgette of *The Washington Post* wrote that Devlin "led the evening with flair ... and was visibly in his element."

Devlin spent three seasons from 2015–2018 apprenticing with some of the world's best conductors, soloists, and orchestras while based in Washington, D.C. During that time, he was the exclusive Cover Conductor for the National Symphony Orchestra, where he served as assistant to world-renowned Music Directors Christoph Eschenbach and Gianandrea Noseda, accompanying the orchestra on its historic 2018 tour of Russia.

A strong advocate for American music, Devlin has made it a programmatic focus, and has premiered over 40 new American works. His artistic partnerships with contemporary American composers include a decade-long relationship with Eric Nathan, from whom he has commissioned works that he performed at Carnegie Hall and with the National Symphony Orchestra. Devlin has also premiered works by a number of American composers, including Adolphus Hailstork, Enrico Lopez-Yañez, Alexandra Bryant.

John Gennaro Devlin is an American conductor of Italian and Irish heritage. He completed his master's and doctoral degrees in orchestral conducting at the University of Maryland, and graduated summa cum laude with a double major in Clarinet Performance and Latin from Emory University. As a student, Devlin benefitted enormously from his time as a member of the New York Youth Symphony, at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, and at the Pierre Monteux School. www.johndevlinmusic.com



CAPATHIA JENKINS

This Brooklyn-born and raised, actress and singer starred as 'Medda' in the hit Disney production of *Newsies* on Broadway. **Capathia Jenkins** made her Broadway debut in *The Civil War*, creating the role of Harriet Jackson. Starring in the Off-Broadway 2000 revival of *Godspell*, she wowed audiences with her stirring rendition of 'Turn Back, O Man'. A proud accomplishment, still available on the original cast recording. Her performances, in the Bacharach/David Broadway hit *The Look of Love*, won her critical acclaim. Under the direction of George C. Wolfe, Ms. Jenkins created the role of 'The Washing Machine' in *Caroline, Or Change*. As 'Frieda May' in *Martin Short-Fame Becomes Me*, where she sang 'Stop the Show', Capathia brought the house down Every night.

In 2007, her relationship with Broadway secured, she starred in the Off-Broadway production of (*mis*) *Understanding Mamma-The Hattie McDaniel Story*, for which she was nominated for a Drama Desk Award.

She was also a proud member of the cast of Nora Ephron's *Love, Loss, and What I Wore*.

An active concert artist, Ms. Jenkins has appeared with orchestras around the world including the Cleveland and Minnesota Orchestras. Her Symphonic appearances also include the Houston, Atlanta, Seattle, Utah, San Antonio, Memphis, Nashville, Toledo, Colorado, San Diego, Toronto, Kansas City, Edmonton, The National Symphony and The Pittsburgh Symphony (with Marvin Hamlisch). Capathia's international credits include The Calgary and The Hong Kong Philharmonic, along with a solo performance at the Festival Cesky Krumlov in the Czech Republic. Ms. Jenkins has also appeared in Moscow and Saint Petersburg Russia with Big Bands.

In 2011 Capathia had the great honor of performing in the 'Broadway Ambassadors to Cuba' concert as part of the *Festival De Teatro De La Habana*. Ms. Jenkins was a guest soloist with Peter Nero and The Philly Pops, with John Morris Russell and The Cincinnati Pops and Steven Reineke and the New York Pops at Carnegie Hall.

In 2018 Capathia released *Phenomenal Woman: The Maya Angelou Songs* with her long time collaborator Louis Rosen and in 2021 she released a single *I Am Strong* which is available on all streaming platforms.

Her Television credits include *The Wiz Live on NBC*, *30 Rock*, *the Practice*, *Law & Order SVU*, *the Sopranos* and *Law & Order*. She can be seen in the film 'Musical Chairs' directed by Susan Seidelman. She can be heard on the following film soundtracks: *Nine*, *Chicago* and *Legally Blonde 2*.



EMCEE

Born and raised in the Philadelphia suburbs, **Rebecca "Bex" Odorisio** arrived in New York at the age of eighteen to pursue her dramatic education. Since earning her BFA from NYU Tisch, she has worked her way across a wide theatrical and musical spectrum - performing in everything from a Grateful Dead cover band to an Andrews Sisters-style swing trio, all while developing new works of musical theater in NYC and beyond. She is three-time finalist and silver medalist at the American Traditions Competition, as well as a recipient of their Johnny Mercer Award, their Out Of The Box Musical Theater award, and a three-time recipient of their Ben Tucker Jazz award. Bex is currently on the first national tour of the Tony-award-winning musical *HADESTOWN*, coming soon to a city near you!



PIANISTS

ASSAF GLEIZNER

SPONSORED BY DANIEL C. COHEN

Born and raised in Israel, Grammy®-nominated Assaf Gleizner has been working as a composer, music director, orchestrator/arranger and pianist both in NYC and around the world for the past 15 years. He's a member of BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop and Founder and Artistic Director of the organization, Arts for Immigrants. On Broadway stages, Assaf's work has been seen at the Hudson Theater and the Gerswhin Theater, as an Orchestrator and Arranger for Stephen Schwartz's 70th Birthday Concert, and for the very notable Arts for Autism Fundraising concert. Assaf has written several musicals that have toured nationally, and will soon begin international productions, as well. Assaf now lives in Savannah, Georgia, and recently founded his most delicious enterprise yet: IsREALLY Hummus!



AARON LEHRIAN

SPONSORED BY BARBARA SCHNABEL

Aaron Lehrian, a Florida native, began playing the piano at the age of five, first taking lessons from his grandmother. He started by learning the classical repertoire, but soon found another passion in the jazz idiom. He was the winner of the 2014 Jacksonville Jazz Piano Competition and graduated with a Bachelor's in jazz studies from the University of North Florida. Now, he performs regularly with symphony orchestras and jazz ensembles across the United States and is also an adept composer/arranger. Currently, he serves as pianist and principal arranger for The Fabulous Equinox Orchestra and has a residency at the newly-opened Plant Riverside District hotel.

Aaron has worked with the Florida Orchestra, the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, the Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra, and the Coastal Symphony of Georgia, to name a few. He has also performed with such artists as: Randy Brecker, Christian McBride, Christian Sands, Ulysses Owens Jr, Wallace Roney, Alon Yavnai, and Dick Oatts. Aaron's integration of the classical and jazz traditions keeps him as one of the most in-demand pianists in the Southeast.



DAVID SHENTON

SPONSORED BY TRICIA AND DAVID GUGGENHEIM

David Shenton is an English-born pianist, violinist, composer, and arranger based in New York City. As pianist/music director David has worked with renowned members of the music profession in all genres, including Vanessa Williams, Tony Bennett, Norm Lewis, Zach Levi, Sierra Boggess, Denyce Graves, Alfie Boe, Renée Fleming, Sherrill Milnes, Marilyn Maye, Liz Callaway, Sir André Previn, Michael Feinstein, Amanda McBroom, Katie Couric, Alan Menken, and Stephen Schwartz. David's proficiency in multiples genres has allowed him to work at prestigious venues, in various guises, all over the world. He gave his Carnegie Hall début in 2014 when he conducted (from the piano) his own orchestra/big band in front of a sold out house. David's Jazz @ Lincoln Center début was at The Rose Theater as jazz pianist in 2008, and two years later he gave his classical piano début at Lincoln Center's Rubenstein Atrium performing Schumann and Chopin as part of the 200th year anniversary celebrations of these two composers. David teaches extensively and, as a coach, accompanist and teaching professor, has been on the faculties of NYU, The New School, The Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute He is also a composer in residence in the advanced class of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theater Workshop.

A prolific arranger, David has worked for Abbey Road & CTS Studios (London), on Hollywood movies, West End & Broadway shows. Born in Rotherham (South Yorkshire), England, David studied violin and piano at The Royal College of Music, London from where he graduated with the highest honours.

SPECIAL INSTRUMENTALISTS

MARC CHESANOW



Marc Chesanow holds a Master's Degree from the University of Memphis in addition to a Bachelor's Degree from the Eastman School of Music in Double Bass performance. He has studied with world-renowned soloist James VanDemark, John Chiego from the University of Memphis, Louis Kosma from the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, James Clute from the Minnesota Orchestra as well as others. Currently residing in Savannah, Georgia, Marc can be seen regularly performing with the Savannah Philharmonic and The Hilton Head Symphony as well as regular performances at jazz venues such as the Good Times Jazz Bar and The Jazz Corner. Marc was formerly on the faculty of Coastal Carolina University

and was the program coordinator for music at Southeastern Community College. Prior to this, he was Music Director for Legends in Concert in Myrtle Beach and performed with the Long Bay Symphony. An avid jazz musician, Marc has studied jazz bass with Rufus Reid, Michael Moore, and Tim Goodwin as well as jazz composition with Rayburn Wright and Bill Dobbins. His arrangements have been performed by the Long Bay Symphony, Charleston Symphony, and the Savannah Philharmonic. In 1993, Marc was awarded a Grammy award in the Student Jazz/Big Band category. Marc has performed with many artists including Tom Scott, Wycliffe Gordon, Rod Stewart, Bernadette Peters, Isaac Hayes, Maureen McGovern, Eddy Arnold, the Marvelettes, Joel Grey, Tommy Tedesco, The Moody Blues plus many others.



XAVIER BREAKER

A native of South Carolina, Xavier Breaker has been honing his drumming skills since the age of five. He picked up his musical talents in the church by watching the musicians, including his father, play. Later on, he joined the band in middle school and played in various ensembles throughout high school. Xavier attended the University of South Carolina where he graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Music Performance. While there, he started his professional career playing gigs within the Columbia area, which led to him getting the gig with pianist, Joe Sample. Xavier then moved to Illinois where he pursued his Master's degree in Jazz Studies at Northern Illinois University. While there, he continued playing with Sample and began to make a name within the Chicago music scene.

Xavier Breaker played with notable artists such as the Chicago Jazz Orchestra, Corey Wilkes, Dee Alexander, Kahil El Zabar, Marquis Hill, Victor Garcia, Chicago Yestet, Ernie Watts, Bobby Watson, Donny McCaslin, Joe Locke, Alicia Olatuja, Joey DeFrancesco, Dr. Lonnie Smith, and a host of many others.



2022 GOLD MEDALIST ANDREA CHRISTINE ROSS

Andrea Ross is an internationally recognized vocalist, theater performer, and recording artist. Ms. Ross has been singing professionally for 20 years as an interpreter of musical theatre repertoire, bringing Broadway classics and the American Songbook to leading venues across the world, both in symphony settings and in recital. Ms. Ross's career began in her hometown of Boston, MA where she was the youngest recipient of the prestigious Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Actress. She then caught the attention of legendary Broadway and West End composer, Andrew Lloyd Webber, who became her mentor and took Ms. Ross under his wing for several years. Andrew Lloyd Webber and Universal Music Group: Classics and Jazz, produced Andrea's solo album, *Moon River*, which debuted on the Top 50 UK Charts.

Ms. Ross has performed as a soloist at prominent UK venues including the Royal Albert Hall, Hampton Court Palace, St. Martin- In-The-Fields, and Andrew Lloyd Webber's Sydmonton Festival. Andrea also performed at Wembley Stadium, where she was a guest artist for Concert for Diana, hosted by the Royal Family to commemorate Princess Diana.

Ms. Ross has developed an international reputation as a soloist of the highest caliber, having worked with conductors such as Simon Lee, Keith Lockhart, and Andy Einhorn. Ms. Ross has sung with top symphony orchestras including the symphonies of Boston, Baltimore, Detroit, Utah, Phoenix and overseas with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and the KBS Symphony Orchestra in Seoul, South Korea. With Walt Disney's music director and arranger, Ted Ricketts, Ms. Ross also performs symphonic Disney concerts throughout the country and internationally.

Theatrically, Andrea was handpicked by Andrew Lloyd Webber to originate the lead role of 'Swallow' in the US tour of *Whistle Down The Wind*. Andrea then went on to perform in the Broadway Tour of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*, directed by Jack O'Brien and music directed by Andy Einhorn. She has performed leading roles across the country with professional theater companies, including Theatre Aspen, Arizona Theatre Company, Trinity Repertory Company in Providence, Wheelock Family Theater and the Lyric Stage Company in Boston.

Ms. Ross was awarded silver medal for the 2021 American Traditions Vocal Competition (ATC), and returned to win the Gold Medal in 2022. Through her work with the ATC, Andrea has made symphonic debuts with the Savannah Philharmonic and the Asheville Symphony Orchestra. Andrea is a frequent soloist with the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra, and has performed concerts at the 92nd Street Y in New York City, the Pasadena Playhouse, the Grand Teton Music Festival in Jackson, WY. Ms. Ross additionally developed her *Judy Garland Tribute Concert* with the Lakes Area Music Festival this year and performed it throughout Judy Garland's home state of Minnesota.

Andrea's recording credits include her solo album, *Moon River*, produced by Universal Classics and Jazz, multiple tracks on *Andrew Lloyd Webber 60*, produced by Universal Music Group, and *Over the Rainbow* charity album, which peaked at No. 1 on the UK Compilation Charts.

JAIME BARCELON, TENOR

SPONSORED BY RICHARD BEATTIE AND TED GALE
PIANIST: ASSAF GLEIZNER
TO VOTE: TEXT 1 TO (912) 214-3618



Jaime Barcelon is a Los Angeles based vocalist and actor. Jaime began his musical journey as an original member of award winning group- The Ryan Cayabyab Singers (RCS). It was an honor for him to hone his musicality under the guidance of Mr. Cayabyab, a National Artist of The Philippines. He recorded an album with the group under Sony Music Philippines and toured globally with them for almost three years.

Upon moving to the U.S., he has appeared in both musical productions and concert galas for the nation's first professional Asian American theater organization, East West Players. His most recent musical performance was as part of the gospel-pop choir RAISE for Emmy-award winning filmmakers Jeff MacIntyre and ABC-7 News Anchor David Ono as part of their immersive production "Defining Courage," a gripping and emotional journey into the legacy of the Nisei Soldier.

He has acted in several network television shows such as Criminal Minds, Mom, The Rookie and 9-1-1. Currently, he stars in "The Interview," which just wrapped a successful film festival run. He has worked with theater companies such as Repertory Philippines and Los Angeles' Boston Court, Artists at Play, Coeurage Theatre Co. and Playwrights' Arena.

Jaime attended the Interlochen Arts Academy and Boston University Tanglewood Institute for vocal performance. He is a graduate of Ateneo De Manila University.

Jaime is so thankful and excited to be taking part in the 2023 American Traditions Vocal Competition.

QUARTERFINALS

1. The Heart Of The Matter – Mike Campbell, Don Henley, J.D. Souther – Singer-Songwriters 1980–Today
2. I Need To Be In Love – Richard Carpenter, Albert Hammond, John Bettis – Popular Music of 1950–1980
3. Wondering (*Bridges Of Madison County*) – Jason Robert Brown – Musical Theatre

SEMIFINALS

1. When October Goes – Barry Manilow, Johnny Mercer – Songs of Johnny Mercer
2. Since I Fell For You – Woodrow Wilson "Buddy" Johnson – Blues
3. House Of Love – Jeremy Schonfeld – Story Songs

FINALS

1. When I'm Gone – Sandy Lawrence – Country
2. Up To The Mountain – Patty Griffin – Folk
3. Is That Alright? (*A Star Is Born*) – Lady Gaga, Mark Nilan, Jr., Nick Monson, Paul Blair, Lukas Nelson, Aaron Ratiere – Hollywood

SARA ZOE BUDNIK, MEZZO-SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY STARR HOLLAND AND RICK DURKEE
PIANIST: DAVID SHENTON
TO VOTE: TEXT 2 TO (912) 214-3618



Sara Zoe Budnik's "lovely" singing "exudes a warmth that is hard to describe" (Taylor Clemons, *Broadway World*), and has granted her a colorful and diverse musical career. Sara Zoe's vocals have been heard in cabarets, regional theatres, and symphonic orchestras - and as a leading vocalist on a national tour of the Tony Award-nominated musical *A Christmas Story*, internationally on Regent Seven Seas cruiseline, and everywhere in between as a select member of the USO Show Troupe.

Sara Zoe has enjoyed performing as a soloist with several symphonic orchestras on a variety of programs. Those include the El Paso Symphony Orchestra, Firelands Symphony Orchestra, and Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra. Sara Zoe thrives on diverse musical programming and is known for hopping from genre to genre. As a proud member of the USO Show Troupe, Sara Zoe has the honor of saluting the USA through music that ranges from Americana to today's top 40 hits. After a humbling back-to-back success where she placed in the top 20 for Miss NY USA and then as a semifinalist in The American Traditions Competition in 2020, she fell in love with Savannah's charm. She performs with The Savannah Theatre, The Tybee Post Theatre, Savannah Voice Festival, and The American Traditions Collection.

Recent performances include the world premier of "What Happens in Vegas" at The Fireside Theatre, a variety show where Sara Zoe's vocals joined the cast as Peggy Lee and Cher. She has also been seen in several Savannah Voice Festival programs. Other recent engagements include "Lights Up on Broadway" at the Tybee Post Theater, "A Christmas Tradition" at The Savannah Theater, and "The Birth of Jazz" as the solo vocalist with the Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra. Sara Zoe made her opera debut earlier in 2022, performing in both "Alice Riley" and "Anna Hunter" by innovative composer and Savannah favorite, Michael Ching.

Sara Zoe now resides in Savannah with her husband and her two cherished cats, Babs & Greyson.

QUARTERFINALS

1. Opening Up (*Waitress*) - Sara Bareilles - Musical Theatre
2. On The Atchison, Topeka, And The Santa Fe (*The Harvey Girls*) - Harry Warren, Johnny Mercer - Songs of Johnny Mercer
3. Bill (*Showboat*) - Jerome Kern, Oscar Hammerstein II, P.G. Wodehouse - Great American Songbook

SEMIFINALS

1. My Heart Belongs to Daddy (*Let's Make Love*) - Cole Porter - Hollywood
2. Don't Miss You At All - Duke Ellington, Norah Jones - Jazz
3. They Don't Let You In The Opera (If You're A Country Star) - Dan Lipton, David Rossmer - Story Songs

FINALS

1. Bounce Me Brother With A Solid Four - Huggies Prince, Don Raye - Blues
2. Cowboy Take Me Away - Margie Maguire, Marcus Hummon - Country
3. I Feel The Earth Move - Carole King - Popular Music of the 1950-1980

ARYSSA BURRS, MEZZO-SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY KELLEE AND DON HASELTON
PIANIST: AARON LEHRIAN
TO VOTE: TEXT 3 TO (912) 214-3618



Vocalist Aryssa Leigh Burrs is hailed for her "rich sound and thoughtful musical ideas" while "transcending vocal styles and genres with flexibility and ease." Ms. Burrs has performed with InSeries Opera as Orpheus/Speranza (*Nightsong of Orpheus*), and within *Requiem*. As a Resident Artist with Opera Columbus-Capital University, Ms. Burrs has been seen as Ramona (*Vanqui*) and Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*). Other recent engagements include being an Apprentice Artist with Central City Opera, alto soloist with the Apollo's Chorus for Stacy Garrop's *Terra Nostra*, Elvis Costello's *The Juliet Letters* (UrbanArias), Mame Dennis in *Mame* (The Seagle Festival). Ms. Burrs obtained a Masters of Music in Voice and Opera Performance from Northwestern University where she was seen as Orlofsky (*Die Fledermaus*), Captain (*Dog Days*), Baba the Turk (*The Rake's Progress*), as well as a soloist with various choral and orchestral ensembles (*Am I born*, David T. Little; *Terra Nostra*, Stacy Garrop; *The Branch Will Not Break*, Christopher Cerrone). Aryssa was a 2022 American Traditions Competition Quarterfinalist and is the founder of *ALB Produces*. Ms. Burrs is a choral artist at the National Shrine, with The Thirteen, and with the Crossing, and holds a B. Music in Voice Performance and a B. Music Education from the University of Maryland, College Park.

QUARTERFINALS

1. Am I In Your Light? (*Doctor Atomic*) - John Adams - Opera
2. Bridge Over Troubled Water - Paul Simon - Popular Music of 1950-1980
3. His Eye Is On The Sparrow - Charles H. Gabriel, Civilla D. Martin - Gospel

SEMIFINALS

1. Skylark- Hoagy Carmichael, Johnny Mercer - Songs of Johnny Mercer
2. He's Gone Away - Traditional - Folk
3. Meadowlark (*The Baker's Wife*) - Stephen Schwartz - Musical Theatre

FINALS

1. Kiss - Prince - Singer-Songwriters 1980-Today
2. Alfie (*Alfie*) - Burt Bacharach, Hal David - Hollywood
3. How Can I Keep From Singing? - Robert Lowry, Arr. Leslie Savoy Burrs - Religious

EMILY CURNUTTE, MEZZO-SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY DIANA LEE LANGER JONES
PIANIST: ASSAF GLEIZNER
TO VOTE: TEXT 4 TO (912) 214-3618



Emily Curnutte has been a professional performer in New York City for over 15 years, having sung in opera, recital, cabaret, musical theater, and rock venues throughout the US and Canada. She won the Bronze medal for ATC's first virtual competition in 2021 and is thrilled to return this year. As a concert performer, Emily has been featured duetting alongside Broadway sensation Linda Eder and Grammy award winner Larnelle Harris. She recently sang the "Star Spangled Banner" and "Oh Canada" at the Madison Square Garden for the New York Rangers and the New York Knicks. Emily has gained notoriety as a songwriter with her band, Emily Danger. Her music has been featured in V Magazine, Bust Magazine, and Amy Poehler's Smart Girls. Emily's original song "War Torn" was featured in a commercial starring Gigi Hadid and directed by Inez+Vinoodh in The Wall Street Journal. V Magazine stated about Emily's voice, "Be forewarned, this opera trained indie musician's honed howl is going to blow your mind." Her original music can be found on all online streaming platforms. Emily owns and operates a private voice and therapy practice in New York specializing in music therapy, trauma work, and somatic healing. She is a frequent master class teacher for "Tu Experiencia Broadway" and various arts programs throughout the city. Her thesis, "How Singing Helped Me Heal" has been featured in several research panels and conferences by the American Music Therapy Association. Emily has a master's degree in classical voice from the Manhattan School of Music as well as a master's degree in music therapy from SUNY New Paltz. She loves Savannah, books, psychology, her husband Joe, and helping people who have been told they should "never sing" to find their inner rock star.

QUARTERFINALS

1. Goody, Goody - Matty Malneck, Johnny Mercer - Songs of Johnny Mercer
2. Easy To Be Hard (*Hair*) - Galt MacDermot, James Rado, Gerome Ragni - Musical Theatre
3. Must The Winter Come So Soon? (*Vanessa*) - Samuel Barber - Opera

SEMIFINALS

1. On A Clear Day (*On A Clear Day*) - Burton Lane, Alan Jay Lerner - Hollywood
2. Easy - Emily Danger - Singer-Songwriters 1980-Today
3. Me And Bobby McGee - Kris Kristofferson - Folk

FINALS

1. Just In Time - Jule Styne, Betty Comden, Adolph Green - Great American Songbook
2. Bang Bang (*My Baby Shot Me Down*) - Sonny Bono - Story Songs
3. River Deep, Mountain High - Phil Spector, Jeff Barry, Ellie Greenwich - Popular Music of 1950-1980

SARAH DYER, ALTO

SPONSORED BY KATHIE AND LES ANDERSON
PIANIST: DAVID SHENTON
TO VOTE: TEXT 5 TO (912) 214-3618



Sarah Dyer, contralto, is a native Nebraskan currently based in Houston, Texas where she is earning a Certificate of Performance in Voice at The University of Houston Moores School of Music. This season, she will perform the leading role of Frederico Garcíá Lorca in Osvaldo Golijov's *Ainadamar* and perform in *Sondheim on Sondheim*, both with the Moores Opera Center. In Summer 2023 Ms Dyer will debut with Central City Opera as Hattie in *Kiss Me Kate*. Some of her recent performances include Madame Larina in *Eugene Onegin* with Music Academy of the West, Second Witch in *Dido and Aeneas* with Ars Lyrica, and Cornelia in *Giulio Cesare* with the MOC. In 2022, Ms Dyer received the silver prize in The 37th Annual Young Texas Artist Competition and was voted Audience Choice Winner in the Houston Saengerbund Competition.

QUARTERFINALS

1. Will There Really Be A Morning? - Lori Laitman, Emily Dickinson - Art Song
2. Vodka (*The Song Of The Flame*) - George Gershwin, Herbert Stothart - Musical Theatre
3. I Bought This Suitcase In New York (*Flight*) - Jonathan Dove - Opera

SEMIFINALS

1. Whatever Lola Wants (*Damn Yankees*) - Richard Adler, Jerry Ross - Jazz
2. Landslide - Stephanie Lynn "Stevie" Nicks - Country
3. R'tzei - Stephen Richards - Religious

FINALS

1. Deep River - H.T. Burleigh arr. by Boyd Bacon - Spirituals
2. Poor Unfortunate Souls (*The Little Mermaid*) - Howard Ashman, Alan Menken - Hollywood
3. Alto's Lament - Zina Goldrich, Marcy Heisler - Story Songs

JESSICA FISHENFELD, SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY WES KRULIC
PIANIST: ASSAF GLEIZNER
TO VOTE: TEXT 6 TO (912) 214-3618



Singer, actor, and athlete Jessica Fishenfeld recently put a bizarre combination of skills to the test when she was featured on *America's Got Talent* as an opera-singing aerialist. She "triumphed" (NY Observer) in New York City Opera's World Premiere of *Stonewall*, with "clean coloratura," (Opera News) and "spunky personality" (Opera Wire), made a "stand out" (New York Times) off-Broadway debut in *Das Barbecü*, and appeared in the series premiere of Sony Pictures' *Panhandle*. She recently released her debut EP *The Nothing Lamp* with Crossover Records, as well as several singles available on all streaming platforms. She produced and performed in *Grateful: The Songs of John Bucchino, 20th Anniversary Concert*, "one of the slickest, best-produced virtual concerts to come out of the last ten months" (Broadway World), earning her accolades as "a new favorite" and "a revelation" (Broadway World) alongside Stephen Schwartz, Leslie Odom Jr., Toni Tennille, Ann Hampton Callaway, and other Broadway and Cabaret legends. Fishenfeld holds Semi-Finalist prizes in the 2021 American Traditions Competition and 2019 Lotte Lenya Competition. Additional soloist appearances include national and international venues such as Carnegie Hall, Circle in the Square, National Sawdust, Palm Beach Opera, Helena Symphony, Hartford Symphony, St. Bart's Music Festival, Orquesta Filarmonía de Xalapa, Festival de Órgano de Morelia, Palazzo Vecchio, Minton's Playhouse, Birdland Theater, Savannah's own Savannah VOICE Festival and Savannah Theater, and more!

Connect with Jessica and stay in the loop! www.jessicafishenfeld.com // IG: @jecafish

QUARTERFINALS

1. The Song With The Violins - John Bucchino - Story Songs
2. The Spy - Lecco Morris, Justin Rivers - Art Song
3. I Got Rhythm (*Girl Crazy*) - Ira Gershwin, George Gershwin - Jazz

SEMIFINALS

1. R'tzei - Stephen Richards - Religious
2. That Old Black Magic - Harold Arlen, Johnny Mercer - Songs of Johnny Mercer
3. Yadwiga's Aria (*Enemies, A Love Story*) - Ben Moore, Nahma Sandrow - Opera

FINALS

1. The Moon Is A Kite - Ann Hampton Callaway - Singer-Songwriters 1980-Today
2. Stars And The Moon (*Songs For A New World*) - Jason Robert Brown - Musical Theatre
3. I Could Have Danced All Night (*My Fair Lady*) - Fredrick Loewe, Alan Jay Lerner - Great American Songbook

DANIELLE GRABIANOWSKI, SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY CAROL AND DR. JOEL GREENBERG
PIANIST: DAVID SHENTON
TO VOTE: TEXT 7 TO (912) 214-3618



Danielle Grabianowski is an award-winning singing actress whose performances have been likened to "Barbra Streisand at the Bon Soir and Bette Midler at the Continental Baths" (Village Voice). Some of her favorite theater roles include Fiona in *Brigadoon*, Thea in *Fiorello*, The Porter in *Macbeth* and the jazz singer Josephine Grant in the award-winning Off-Broadway sensation, *Sleep No More*.

Danielle is also a clinical social worker who works with new parents, parents of children with special needs and neurodiverse children and young adults. She recently began combining her interests in singing and mental health with vocal workshops that focus on the psychological aspects of performing. She currently lives in Sunnyside, Queens.

QUARTERFINALS

1. Bumble Bee - Lizzie Douglas, aka Memphis Minnie - Blues
2. On The Street Where You Live (*My Fair Lady*) - Fredrick Loewe, Alan Jay Lerner - Hollywood
3. Always Better (*The Bridges of Madison County*) - Jason Robert Brown - Musical Theatre

SEMIFINALS

1. Je ne t'aime pas - Kurt Weill - Story Songs
2. Wicked Game - Chris Isaak - Country
3. Accentuate The Positive - Johnny Mercer, Harold Arlen - Songs of Johnny Mercer

FINALS

1. Oh, Death - Lloyd Chandler - Folk
2. Iconic Legacies: Eleanor Roosevelt: Marian Anderson's Mink Coat - Jake Heggie, Geen Scheer - Art Song
3. I Will Survive/Survivor - Freddie Perrin, Dino Ferakis, Beyoncé Knowles, Anthony Dent, Matthew Knowles - Singer-Songwriters 1980-Today

COOPER GRODIN, BARITONE

SPONSORED BY JOE ROGERS AND MICHAEL MERRILL
PIANIST: ASSAF GLEIZNER
TO VOTE: TEXT 8 TO (912) 214-3618



Actor, singer, musician and composer. Born and raised in New York City, Cooper received his Master's Degree from the Manhattan School of Music. He has been featured in title roles in *Phantom of the Opera* National Tour, *Les Misérables* National Tour, *The Band's Visit* Lab directed by Hal Prince, Shakespeare in the Park's *Into the Woods*, *Annie* at Paper Mill Playhouse, Carbonell-nominated Best Actor in the Carbonell-winning Best Musical *Sunday in the Park with George*, Drama Desk-nominated *The Golden Land*, Henry Award-winning Best Musical *Oklahoma!* at the Denver Performing Arts Center, Helen Hayes-nominated Best Musical *Carousel* at the Olney Theater, *A Little Night Music* at Barington Stage, *The Bridges of Madison County* at the Broward Center, NBC's *The Blacklist*, ABC's *Deception*. Original album *It's the Little Things* available on iTunes. With The Price Group. @CooperGrodinOfficial

QUARTERFINALS

1. Hello - Cooper Grodin - Singer-Songwriters 1980-Today
2. In Praise Of Women (*A Little Night Music*) - Stephen Sondheim - Musical Theatre
3. That's Life - Dean Kay, Kelly Gordon - Popular Music of 1950-1980

SEMIFINALS

1. Walls Of Zion - arr. Aaron Copland - Art Song
2. Once Upon A Time (*All American*)- Charles Strouse, Lee Adams - Great American Songbook
3. Avinu Malkeinu - Max Janowski - Religious

FINALS

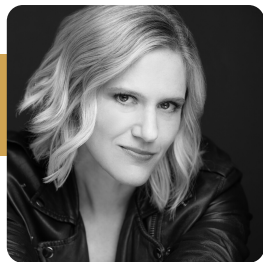
1. Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On - Dave "Curlee" Williams - Blues
2. The Star Spangled Banner - John Stafford, Francis Scott Key - Americana
3. I Can't Make You Love Me - Mike Reid, Allen Shamblin - Folk

AMY JUSTMAN, SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY TRICIA AND DAVID GUGGENHEIM

PIANIST: DAVID SHENTON

TO VOTE: TEXT 9 TO (912) 214-3618



New York City-based singer Amy Justman has built a career that spans musical theater, classical music, jazz and beyond. She was profiled in *Classical Singer* magazine, which called her the “leading lady of crossover”.

Amy is a Broadway veteran, most recently covering and performing for both Renée Fleming and Jessie Mueller in the revival of *Carousel*. She made her Broadway debut in the 2006 revival of *Company*. Other theatrical credits include *In Transit*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder*, and *Irving Berlin's White Christmas* on Broadway; covering Carlotta in both the Broadway and the 25th Anniversary National Tour of *Phantom of the Opera*; and playing Clara in the off-Broadway revival of Sondheim's *Passion*.

Recently, Amy was seen on PBS Great Performances' broadcast of Bernstein's *Mass* with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and made her principal debut with the New York Philharmonic covering the Assistant in David Lang's *Prisoner of the State*. Major concert credits include Handel's *Messiah* with Musica Sacra at Carnegie Hall, Glacier Symphony, Symphoria, and Hudson Valley Symphony; Haydn's *The Creation* with Winston-Salem Symphony, Dan Forrest's *Requiem for the Living* at Carnegie Hall, and Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer's Night Dream* with New York City Ballet.

Amy can be heard on the original revival cast recordings of *Company* and *Carousel*, Bernstein's *Mass* with Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, and in voice work for *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*. She has also appeared on-camera as Adult Nicole Fosse in FX's *Fosse/Verdon*, Apple TV's *Dickinson*, and can be seen in season 3 of *The Gilded Age* on HBO.

A first prize winner of the Lotte Lenya Competition for the Kurt Weill Foundation, Amy received her MM from Manhattan School of Music and her BA from Yale University. She is a voice instructor for Yale's Shen Curriculum for Musical Theater and adjunct private voice instructor for Marymount Manhattan College.

QUARTERFINALS

1. Please Like Me (*Up Here*) - Robert Lopez, Kristen Anderson-Lopez - Musical Theatre
2. Thank You (*Mass*) - Leonard Bernstein - Religious
3. Spring Can Really Hang You Up The Most - Tommy Wolf, Fran Landesman - Jazz

SEMIFINALS

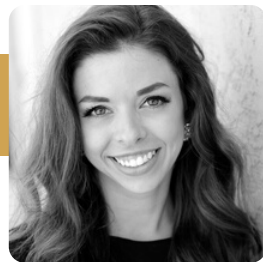
1. I Was A Woman Once (*Prisoner of the State*) - David Lang - Opera
2. Surface Pressure (*Encanto*) - Lin Manuel Miranda - Hollywood
3. You'll Never Walk Alone (*Carousel*) - Richard Rogers, Oscar Hammerstein II - Great American Songbook

FINALS

1. Many The Miles - Sara Bareilles - Singer-Songwriters 1980-Today
2. Wayfaring Stranger - Traditional - Folk
3. Almost Real (*The Bridges of Madison County*) - Jason Robert Brown - Story Songs

MARY KETTLEWELL, SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY WINSTON WILLIS
PIANIST: DAVID SHENTON
TO VOTE: TEXT 10 TO (912) 214-3618



Hailed as a “revelation on the stage” (*Boulder Daily Camera*) whose “gorgeous soprano soars” (*The Austin Chronicle*), Mary Kettlewell is a versatile and effervescent soprano praised for her vibrant vocal tone as well as her charming and coquettish comic acting abilities. Ms. Kettlewell holds a Bachelor of Art in Music from the University of Missouri Columbia (2016) and a Masters in Voice Performance from the University of Colorado Boulder (2018). Originally from Columbia, Missouri, she has performed across the Midwest and beyond with Opera in the Ozarks, Opera NEO, Missouri Symphony Society, Boulder Opera, Boulder Bach Festival, Loveland Opera Theater, Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra, and many others. Ms. Kettlewell has executed a wide variety of operatic roles including Lauretta (*Gianni Schicchi*), Susanna (*Le nozze di Figaro*), Despina (*Così fan tutte*), Adele (*Die Fledermaus*), Second Lady and Papagena (*Die Zauberflöte*), and many others.

In 2018 Ms. Kettlewell was featured as guest alumni soprano soloist in Handel’s *Messiah* with the University of Missouri Choral Union, and has performed as the Soprano soloist in Minneapolis, as well. Ms. Kettlewell is also an avid art song enthusiast and was a finalist in the NATS Artist Awards competition in 2018 (Colorado-Wyoming), 2020 (Texoma), and 2022 (Texoma), achieving First Runner Up in 2018 and 2022.

Although a seasoned performer of standard repertoire, Ms. Kettlewell’s true passion lies with new music and experimental works. While at the University of Colorado Boulder, she had the pleasure of participating in the 2018 and 2019 seasons of the CU New Opera Workshop, during which she worked with living composers Mark Adamo and Jake Heggie on their new works. She frequently enjoys collaborating with young, budding composers in her network.

Outside of singing, Ms. Kettlewell is a passionate arts administrator at the nonprofit, collegiate, and state government level, specializing in executive support, grant writing, grant management, event planning, and fundraising. She has provided administrative services for Boulder Opera, Boulder Bach Festival, University of Colorado Boulder, Inversion Ensemble, LOLA – Local Opera Local Artists, and the Texas Commission on the Arts. Ms. Kettlewell recently relocated to Saint Paul, Minnesota and currently serves as Director of Academic Administration at the Minneapolis College of Art & Design. When not performing, Mary loves to cook, craft, and slay at cornhole.

QUARTERFINALS

1. Emily’s Aria (*Our Town*) – Ned Rorem – Opera
2. That’ll Show Him (*A Funny Thing...*) – Stephen Sondheim – Musical Theatre
3. The Serpent (*Songs For Leontyne*) – Lee Hoiby – Art Song

SEMIFINALS

1. Part Of Your World (*The Little Mermaid*) – Alan Menken, Howard Ashman – Hollywood
2. A Perfect Day – Carrie Jacobs Bond – Americana
3. Ordinary Day – Vanessa Carlton – Singer-Songwriters 1980–Today

FINALS

1. The Sound of Music (*The Sound of Music*) – Richard Rodgers, Oscar Hammerstein, II – Great American Songbook
2. The House That Built Me – Tom Douglas, Allen Shamblin– Country
3. The Lord’s Prayer – Albert Hay Malotte – Religious

JACOB KHALIL, TENOR

SPONSORED BY DAN RIZZO AND SILVIO TRIONI
PIANIST: ASSAF GLEIZNER
TO VOTE: TEXT 11 TO (912) 214-3618



Jacob Khalil is a Palestinian American singer-songwriter and pianist who effectively blurs the lines between jazz and modern popular music. His original songs have been hailed by *Broadway World* as, “radio ready...chart toppers,” characterized by infectious hooks and soulful improvisation reminiscent of John Legend, Jamie Cullum, and Coldplay. Jacob’s charismatic showmanship lifts the spirits of any audience, causing what *Broadway World* referred to as a “joyful experiencing of the music,” with patrons clapping, singing, and swaying along.

Jacob holds Thursday residency at the historic Mimi’s Piano Bar, where he has a regular following of energetic music lovers. Jacob also regularly performs at NYC venues such as Birdland, 54 Below, Minton’s Playhouse, Mimi’s, Groove, Rockwood Music Hall, The Cutting Room, Bo Peep, Bowery Electric, Don’t Tell Mama, and Melody’s.

Jacob is in the process of producing his first original album entitled *All For You*, which will be released in 2023.

For years Jacob has been called upon as a song interpreter, being featured on hundreds of recordings including the feature films *Cryo* (2022), T.C. Christensen’s *The Fighting Preacher* (2019), and a special XM Radio performance of Frank Wildhorn’s “This Is The Moment,” with the composer at the piano.

Jacob holds a Bachelor of Music in voice performance from Brigham Young University, where he performed leading opera roles, toured internationally with the BYU Singers and Young Ambassadors, and performed with BYU’s premier big band Synthesis.”

QUARTERFINALS

1. Misty - Erroll Garner - Jazz
2. Tennessee Whiskey - Dean Dillon, Linda Hargrove - Country
3. Rest Of My Life - Jacob Khalil - Singer-Songwriters 1980-Today

SEMIFINALS

1. I Won’t Send Roses (*Mack and Mabel*) - Jerry Herman - Musical Theatre
2. Today Is Gonna Be A Great Day (*Phineas and Ferb*) - Dan Povenmire, Jeff Marsh, Michael Culross, Jr., Michael Walker, Carl Williams, Jaret Reddick - Hollywood
3. Knocks Me Off My Feet - Stevie Wonder - Popular Music of 1950-1980

FINALS

1. I Thought About You - Jimmy Van Heusen, Johnny Mercer - Great American Songbook
2. It Is Well With My Soul - Horatio Spafford - Religious
3. Dream - Johnny Mercer - Songs of Johnny Mercer

SARAH KRAUSS, MEZZO-SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY SUZAN KIEPPER KRANNICH AND RON KRANNICH
PIANIST: AARON LEHRMAN
TO VOTE: TEXT 12 TO (912) 214-3618



Sarah Krauss is an award winning performer and storytelling living in New York City. A graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and a proud Equity member, Sarah has made her name singing and acting across the country performing everything from Shakespeare to Rodgers and Hammerstein. Favorite shows include *Man of La Mancha*, *The Sound of Music*, and *The Fantasticks*. Awards and recognitions include: The Eugene O'Neil Theatre Center's Cabaret Fellowship, Winner of the Australian Discovery Orchestra's Vocal Competition, Winner of the Be Wicked Singing Competition hosted by the producers of *Wicked*, and 2020 Semifinalist at the American Traditions Vocal Competition. When not performing, Sarah produces stories with StoryCorps whose mission is to preserve and share humanity's stories in order to create a more just and compassionate world. You can hear StoryCorps' weekly broadcasts on NPR Morning Edition every Friday.

QUARTERFINALS

1. I Got Out Of Bed On The Right Side - Johnny Mercer, Arthur Schwartz, Chris Cornell, arr.
Lyrics Sarah Krauss - Songs of Johnny Mercer
2. Diamonds and Rust - Joan Baez - Folk
3. Back To Before (*Ragtime*) - Stephen Flaherty, Lynn Ahrens - Musical Theatre

SEMIFINALS

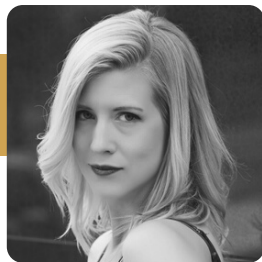
1. I Remember Sky (*Evening Primrose*) - Stephen Sondheim - Hollywood
2. Rhode Island Is Famous For You - Arthur Schwartz, Howard Dietz - Jazz
3. Solitaire - Neil Sedaka, Phil Cody - Story Songs

FINALS

1. I Have Dreamt (*Wuthering Heights*) - Bernard Herrmann - Opera
2. Someone To Watch Over Me (*Oh, Kay!*) - George Gershwin, Ira Gershwin - Great American Songbook
3. Revenge Medley - Chris Tompkins, Josh Kear, Carly Simon, Lee Hazelwood arr. Krauss - Country

JENNA MCLEAN, MEZZO-SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY ARLENE AND ALLAN RATNER
PIANIST: AARON LEHRMAN
TO VOTE: TEXT 13 TO (912) 214-3618



Jenna McLean is an accomplished vocalist and educator currently living in Tennessee where she is Assistant Professor of Practice at the University of Memphis Lambuth. Originally from Colorado, Jenna performs regularly at renowned venues across the United States, and was the 2019 winner of the Downbeat Student Music Awards Graduate Vocal Soloist Category. She was also a 2019 recipient of the Pathways to Jazz Grant that helped her release her debut jazz album, *Brighter Day*.

Jenna has a Doctor of Arts degree in Jazz Studies with a secondary emphasis in Vocal Pedagogy from the University of Northern Colorado where she completed a dissertation entitled *A Study in Effective Teaching Methods in Jazz Voice Technique in Higher Education*. She also completed her Master of Music Degree in Jazz Studies at UNC, and has a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Wyoming.

QUARTERFINALS

1. *The Girls of Summer (Marry Me a Little)* - Stephen Sondheim - Musical Theatre
2. *Gravity* - Sara Bareilles - Singer-Songwriters 1980-Today
3. *I Remember You* - Victor Schertzinger, Johnny Mercer - Songs of Johnny Mercer

SEMIFINALS

1. *Heart, We Will Forget Him* - Aaron Copland, Emily Dickinson - Art Song
2. *Doodlin'* - Horace Silver, Jon Hendricks - Jazz
3. *December Day* - Willie Nelson - Country

FINALS

1. *Close To You* - Burt Bacharach, Hal David - Popular Music 1950-1980
2. *Lover Man* - Jimmy Davis, Roger Ramirez, James Sherman (Vocalese Lyrics by Jenna McLean Based on Stan Getz' Solo) - Great American Songbook
3. *If I Should Lose You (Rose Of The Rancho)* - Ralph Rainger, Leo Robin - Hollywood

EMILY REDDEN, SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY TRISH AND GIFF LORENZ
PIANIST: AARON LEHRIAN
TO VOTE: TEXT 14 TO (912) 214-3618



Emily Redden is excited to be back in Savannah after making semi-finals at ATC in 2022. She comes from a family of singers and has performed in concerts and shows for most of her life. At age 11 she was cast on her first professional gig as the title role in *Annie* with the Stephen Foster Drama Association in Bardstown, KY. After that, the theater bug took hold and Emily has since been in numerous other professional and school productions including *Ragtime* (UKOT), *Seussical the Musical* (SFDA), *Beauty and the Beast* (SFDA), *La Traviata* (UKOT), and many more. Additionally, Emily made finals in several competitions throughout college including the Orpheus Vocal Competition (2018-'19), the Tri-State Vocal Competition (2016 & 2019), and the Audrey Rooney Vocal Competition (2018-'19). However, her biggest win was the 1st place prize in the University of Kentucky's All-Tech Vocal Competition.

A newer pursuit for Emily is a career in film. Working as a film actor has been a longtime dream for and it is a big reason why she chose to move from her hometown of Louisville, KY down to Atlanta. This move took place in 2019 after Emily graduated from the University of Kentucky with a BM in Voice Performance. She has spent the last 3 years pursuing careers as a teacher and performer in opera, musical theater, and film. She currently teaches private voice with Woodward Academy, sings for Glenn United Methodist Church, and recently started a job as a gymnastics coach. In the coming years, she hopes to continue doing the work that brings her joy.

QUARTERFINALS

1. Always Remember Us This Way (*A Star Is Born*) - Stefanie Joanne Germanotta, Natalie Hemby, Hillary Lindsey, Lori McKenna - Country
2. Good night, Moon - Eric Whitacre, Margaret Wise Brown - Art Song
3. So This Is Love (*Cinderella*) - Jerry Livingston, Mack David, Al Hoffman - Hollywood

SEMIFINALS

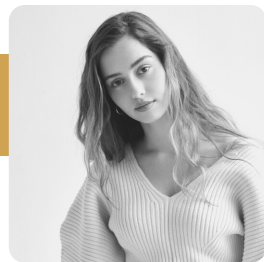
1. Cups (When I'm Gone) - Carter Family - Folk
2. You're No Good - Clinton Ballard, Jr. - Popular Music of 1950-1980
3. Children Of The Wind (*Rags*) - Charles Strouse, Stephen Schwartz - Story Songs

FINALS

1. Blue Skies - Irving Berlin - Jazz
2. Gentle Annie - Stephen Foster - Americana
3. I Say No! (*Heathers*) - Laurence O'Keefe, Kevin Murphy - Musical Theatre

ANAÏS RENO, ALTO

SPONSORED BY BRENDA RUCKER
PIANIST: AARON LEHRIAN
TO VOTE: TEXT 15 TO (912) 214-3618



Anaïs Reno is a 19-year-old LaGuardia High School graduate who is currently attending SUNY Purchase as a jazz major. Winning the Forté International Competition, Great American Songbook Competition, The Mabel Mercer Competition, the Julie Wilson award and being a winner and Finalist in YoungArts, Anaïs has performed in New York at important venues such as Birdland, Carnegie Hall, David Geffen Hall, The Django, Dizzy's, Chris' Jazz Café in Philadelphia, and many others. Her album, "Lovesome Thing: Anaïs Reno Sings Ellington & Strayhorn", which was recorded with Emmet Cohen when Anaïs was 16, received critical acclaim and rose to number 6 on the jazz chart. She was featured in the "New York State of Mind" video with Idina Menzel and Stephen Colbert and was on national television singing "America the beautiful" for the Mets/Yankees 9/11 game last year. She performed in Houston, Cleveland, Buffalo, Philadelphia, and London this last spring, and opened the baseball season on April 15th at Citi Field for the Mets. Additionally, Anaïs will be coming out with a new album soon, featuring Peter Bernstein, David Wong, and Joe Farnsworth.

QUARTERFINALS

1. I Ain't Got Nothing But The Blues – Duke Ellington, Don George – Great American Songbook
2. Chelsea Bridge/A Flower Is A Lovesome Thing – Billy Strayhorn – Jazz
3. Autumn Leaves – Joseph Kosma, Johnny Mercer – Songs of Johnny Mercer

SEMIFINALS

1. I Love You (*Mexican Hayride*) – Cole Porter – Musical Theatre
2. Vienna – Billy Joel – Popular Music Of 1950-1980
3. Orange Blossoms in Summertime – Curtis Lundy, Kurt Elling – Singer-Songwriters 1980-Today

FINALS

1. Days Of Wine and Roses – Henry Mancini, Johnny Mercer – Hollywood
2. American Anthem – Gene Scheer – Americana
3. I Don't Worry About A Thing – Mose Allison – Blues

KYAUNNEE RICHARDSON, SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY TOBY HOLLENBERG
PIANIST: DAVID SHENTON
TO VOTE: TEXT 16 TO (912) 214-3618



Kyaunnee Richardson made her professional debut as Papagena in *The Magic Flute* with Festival of the Arts Boca in 2016. Recently, Kyaunnee starred as Calpurnia in the world premiere of *The Secret River* with Opera Orlando and made her debut as Adele in *Die Fledermaus* last season. Other favorite roles include Despina (*Così fan tutte*), Juliette (*Roméo et Juliette*), Maria (*West Side Story*), Clara (*Porgy and Bess*), Gretel (*Hansel and Gretel*), Nella in *Gianni Schicchi*, Monica in *The Medium*, Pamina in *The Magic Flute* and many others. Savannah audiences may remember her from participating with the Savannah VOICE Festival as a Festival Artist.

Her performances as a soloist with orchestra include Handel's *Messiah* with the Civic Chorale of Greater Miami and the Alhambra Orchestra and Vivaldi's *Gloria* with the Delray Orchestra. She has also been a featured soloist with the Symphony of the Americas, Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, the South Florida Symphony, Coral Gables Chamber Orchestra and many others.

Kyaunnee placed third in both the New York Lyric Opera Theatre and Opera Ebony's Benjamin Matthews Vocal Competition and won the Audience Favorite Award in the Harlem Opera Theater Competition. Other awards include being a finalist in SAS Performing Arts Company Vocal Competition, Orchestra Noir's International Medallion Competition and the Michael Ballam Concorso Lirico Opera Competition, Encouragement Award from the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and Stuart Smith Audience Favorite Award from Opera Ebony.

Kyaunnee counts among her highest honors singing for President Barack Obama and other dignitaries at the funeral of South Carolina Senator and Rev. Clementa Pinckney.

Upcoming engagements for the 2022/23 season include her debut with the Brevard Symphony Orchestra in *Inspired By Bach Concert* and immediately following, she'll be making her First Coast Opera debut in the role of Monica in Menotti's *The Medium*. Then, Kyaunnee returns with Opera in Williamsburg in the role of Donna Elvira in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*.

QUARTERFINALS

1. Guess Who I Saw Today - Murray Grand, Elisse Boyd - Jazz
2. Italian Street Song (*Naughty Marietta*) - Victor Herbert, Rida Johnson - Musical Theatre
3. Glitter and Be Gay (*Candide*) - Leonard Bernstein, Richard Wilbur - Opera

SEMIFINALS

1. The Lord's Prayer - Albert Hay Malotte - Religious
2. Joy - Ricky Ian Gordon, Langston Hughes - Art song
3. Come Rain or Come Shine - Johnny Mercer, Harold Arlen - Songs of Johnny Mercer

FINALS

1. You're Nobody Til Somebody Loves You - Russ Morgan, Larry Stock, James Cavanaugh - Great American Songbook
2. Colors Of The Wind (*Pocahontas*) - Alan Menken, Stephen Schwartz - Hollywood
3. Lord, How Come Me Here? - Traditional - Spiritual

JOSEPHINE SANGES, MEZZO-SOPRANO



SPONSORED BY DIANA AND STEVE GRAHAM
PIANIST: JOHN M. COOK
TO VOTE: TEXT 17 TO (912) 214-3618

Josephine Sanges, a native of NYC, is a multi-award winning cabaret artist. Having created several critically acclaimed shows, including tributes to jazz singer Ann Hampton Callaway and legendary composer Harold Arlen, her most recent show *THE FUNNY GIRL IN ME* honors the legacy of Fanny Brice and the music both written for and inspired by her life. Stephen Mosher of *Broadway World* called it "...one of the best, most seamlessly crafted and executed tribute shows this writer has ever seen." Under the sponsorship of the Mabel Mercer Foundation, she has been a regularly featured artist at Town Hall, Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. Her albums, *FINDING BEAUTY: The Music of Ann Hampton Callaway* and *COLOR ME BLUE* are available on all major media outlets. A pottery enthusiast, she also finds great joy in creating both functional and decorative pieces at her local ceramics studio. www.josephinesanges.com

QUARTERFINALS

1. That Old Black Magic - Johnny Mercer, Harold Arlen - Songs of Johnny Mercer
2. The Man That Got Away (*A Star Is Born*) - Harold Arlen, Ira Gershwin - Popular Music of 1950-1980
3. Don't Rain On My Parade (*Funny Girl*) - Jule Styne, Bob Merrill - Musical Theatre

SEMIFINALS

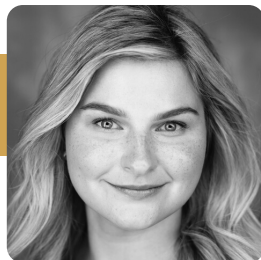
1. A Simple Song (*Mass*) - Leonard Bernstein - Religious
2. Meadowlark (*The Baker's Wife*) - Stephen Schwartz - Story Songs
3. How High The Moon - Morgan Lewis, Nancy Hamilton - Jazz

FINALS

1. Music - Ann Hampton Callaway - Singer-Songwriters 1980-Today
2. When Did You Leave Heaven? (*Sing Baby, Sing*) - Richard Whiting, Walter Bullock - Great American Songbook
3. Ding Dong, The Witch Is Dead (*The Wizard of Oz*) - Harold Arlen, E.Y. Harburg arr. Sanges - Hollywood

JACKIE SCHIFFER, SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY NANCY MCGIRR AND DAVID GOSLIN
PIANIST: AARON LEHRMAN
TO VOTE: TEXT 18 TO (912) 214-3618



Jackie Schiffer (soprano) has performed at many noted NYC venues including 54 Below, United Palace of Cultural Arts, The Morgan Library and Museum, Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning, The Manor Club, The Duplex, Don't Tell Mama, and the Metropolitan Room.

Dedicated to the exploration of new works, she premiered Alon Nechustan's jazz opera *Survival Codes* and Dominic Gustaferra's opera *The Dream Maker*. She has also worked to develop several new musicals in collaboration with Theater Resources Unlimited.

NYC theater credits include: *Into the Woods and Company* (The Laurie Beechman Theater), *The Events* (New York Theater Workshop), *The Christians* (Playwrights Horizons), *C'est la Vie* (The Duplex), and many others.

Originally from Chicago, Jackie holds a BM in Voice Performance from the University of Illinois where she attended on full scholarship. She was a semifinalist for the Ernst Bacon Memorial Award in 2019/20.

Jackie is also passionate about the role the arts play in cultural exchange. She is the Director of Institutional Development at NYC's new Performing Arts Center at the World Trade Center, a current masters student in diplomacy at University for Peace and a cultural diplomacy fellow at the Edward R. Murrow Center at Tufts University.

For more information visit: www.jackieschiffer.com

QUARTERFINALS

1. How Far I'll Go (*Moana*) - Lin-Manuel Miranda - Hollywood
2. Anything Worth Holding On To - Scott Alan - Story Songs
3. Astonishing (*Little Women*) - Jason Howland, Mindi Dickstein - Musical Theatre

SEMIFINALS

1. There Was Jesus - Casey Beathard, Jonathan Smith, Zach Williams - Religious
2. Jealous of the Angels - Jennifer Bostic, Jimmy Fortune, Zach Rundquist, Barrett Yeretsian - Country
3. Say Something - Ian Axel, Mike Campbell, Chad King - Singer-Songwriters 1980-Today

FINALS

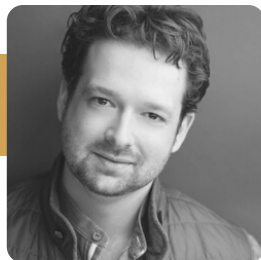
1. If You Hadn't But You Did (*Two on the Aisle*) - Betty Comden, Jule Styne, Adolph Green - Great American Songbook
2. You Don't Own Me - John Madara, David White - Popular Music of 1950-Today
3. Come Rain or Come Shine/I Don't Care If It Rains All Night - Harold Arlen, Johnny Mercer, Jule Styne, Sammy Cahn - Songs of Johnny Mercer

DANIEL SCHWAIT, BARITONE

SPONSORED BY TRICIA AND DAVID GUGGENHEIM

PIANIST: DAVID SHENTON

TO VOTE: TEXT 19 TO (912) 214-3618



Daniel Schwait is a New York based actor and singer. His New York theater credits include *Love Live*, *The Most Happy Fella*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Brigadoon*, and *The New Yorkers* with City Center Encores!, *Caesar & Cleopatra* and *Androcles and the Lion* with Project Shaw, *I am Harvey Milk*, *Ancient History* and *The Girl, The Ghosts*, and *The Minotaur*.

Daniel's regional credits have taken him across the country and include *Carousel*, *Kiss Me, Kate*, *Love Life*, *Les Miserables*, *Ancient History*, *The Secret Garden*, *Evita*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Side Show*.

Daniel has also sung with the New York Philharmonic led by Alan Gilbert, The Boston Pops led by John Williams, and The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra conducted by Marin Alsop. He has performed over a dozen concerts at Carnegie Hall including the New York premiere of Osvaldo Golijov's *La Pasion Según San Marcos*.

He is an active recording artist who can be heard on the cast albums of *Brigadoon* and *The New Yorkers*. He has also released many solo recordings, the most recent being a five-song EP entitled *Bound* featuring world premiere recordings of songs by Timo Andres.

QUARTERFINALS

1. If You Can Find Me, I'm Here (*Evening Primrose*) - Stephen Sondheim - Hollywood
2. II. I Am Bound (*Two River Songs*) - Timo Andres, Henry David Thoreau - Art Song
3. Cloudburst - Jon Hendricks, Jimmy Harris, Leroy Kirkland - Jazz

SEMIFINALS

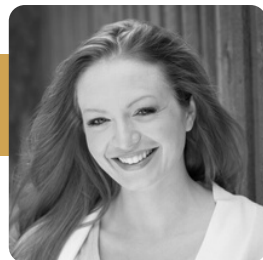
1. Still Within The Sound Of My Voice - Jimmy Webb - Country
2. When October Goes - Barry Manilow, Johnny Mercer - Songs of Johnny Mercer
3. The Schmuel Song (*The Last Five Years*) - Jason Robert Brown - Story Songs

FINALS

1. Cheering For Me Now - John Kander, Lin-Manuel Miranda - Singer-Songwriters 1980-Today
2. The Two Lonely People - Bill Evans, Carole Hall - Great American Songbook
3. Dust and Ashes (...*The Great Comet*...) - Dave Malloy - Musical Theatre

RACHEL SPARROW, SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY GAIL AND MICHAEL SIEGEL
PIANIST: DAVID SHENTON
TO VOTE: TEXT 20 TO (912) 214-3618



Soprano Rachel Sparrow is honored to be back at the ATC in Savannah, having previously been awarded People's Choice in the semifinal rounds in both 2016 and 2017. Sparrow also performed at the Savannah Voice Festival (2016) as Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute* (quite a feat while six months along with her first child). Rachel has won several awards in national and international competitions. In 2014, Sparrow won first prize in the Alexander & Buono International Vocal Competition and her subsequent Carnegie Hall debut showcased her love of American music.

Sparrow holds two bachelor's degrees from Idaho State University: Music Education & Vocal Performance, on scholarship for academics, voice, and violin her secondary instrument. She then earned a Master of Arts on scholarship, studying Opera at Northwestern University. With parenthood, she earned certification from Music Together® in early childhood music.

Having performed many operatic and musical theater shows, Sparrow has recently focused on concert work. Her versatility is frequently featured in world premieres of new works. Particularly Rachel is interested in projects that inspire change or positive social purpose, or offer children exposure to classical music. Pushing the genre envelope even further between 2021-22, Rachel took on rock band gems that span the decades, gigging with one of the best cover bands in the Chicagoland area while playing the synth/keys.

Sparrow also enjoys arranging sacred songs; her debut album titled "Sparrow Songs: Balms for the Soul" will present several of her arrangements. Please visit www.rachelsparrow.com to sign-up to be notified of its release. God bless.

QUARTERFINALS

1. She Used To Be Mine (*Waitress*) - Sara Bareilles - Musical Theatre
2. Tale Of The Oyster (*Fifty Million Frenchmen*) - Cole Porter - Great American Songbook
3. Were You There? - Spiritual, arr. Sparrow - Spirituals

SEMIFINALS

1. Misty - Erroll Garner, Johnny Burke - Jazz
2. Kiss Me Again (*Mademoiselle Modiste*) - Victor Herbert, Henry Blossom - Opera
3. Mary Did You Know? - Buddy Green, Mark Lowry - Religious

FINALS

1. His Eye Is On The Sparrow - Charles Gabriel, Civilla Martin arr. Sparrow - Gospel
2. They Don't Let You In The Opera (If You're A Country Star) - Dan Lipton, David Rossmer - Story Songs
3. America, The Beautiful - Samuel A. Ward, Katherine Lee Bates arr. Sparrow - Americana

LIZZIE THOMAS, ALTO

SPONSORED BY BEVERLY AND BILL JAQUES
PIANIST: AARON LEHRMAN
TO VOTE: TEXT 21 TO (912) 214-3618



Lizzie Thomas is a Pittsburgh-born jazz vocalist who paid her dues in Nashville, deepening her jazz vocals, maintaining a piano studio and gigging at many of the great Nashville venues. Following her Nashville years, Thomas moved to NYC where she is known for her famed monthly residency at 90 Thompson St in Soho which lasted a decade, as well as her sold out performances at iconic jazz venues Birdland, the Triad Theatre, and Chelsea table & Stage.

No stranger to recording, Lizzie made her recording debut in 2010 with her debut *More Than You Know*, featuring clarinetist Attilio Troiano, pianist Michael Kanan, bassist Pat O'Leary, and drummer Frank Levatino. The song choices for this quartet recording were inspired by Nat King Cole and Billie Holiday. Ms. Thomas followed her debut with the 2013 *Easy To Love*, and in 2020, released *New Sounds From the Jazz Age*. The critically-acclaimed album, which featured Ms. Thomas alongside pianist-arranger John Colianni, guitarist Russell Malone and bassist Jay Leonhart, demonstrates Thomas' attractive musical personality and stunning vocal facility whether scatting at fast tempos or caressing a tender ballad.

On March 24, 2023, Lizzie will release her new project *Duo Encounters* on Dot Time Records. On *Duo Encounters*, the inventive jazz vocalist will demonstrate her warm, sultry vocal stylings and swing sensibility alongside a dozen of her favorite collaborators for a set of intimate and adventurous duets.

Lizzie studied Commercial Vocal Jazz Performance at Belmont University, graduating with a BA and continuing on towards graduate studies in Music Education with an emphasis on piano pedagogy.

QUARTERFINALS

1. You're Getting To Ba A Habit With Me - Henry Warren, Al Dubin - Great American Songbook
2. Vincent (Starry, Starry Night) - Don McLean - Folk
3. Mama, He's Crazy - Kenny O'Dell - Country

SEMIFINALS

1. Star Of Wonder - Terre Roche - Religious
2. Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious (*Mary Poppins*) - Richard Sherman, Robert Sherman - Hollywood
3. Lush Life - Billy Strayhorn - Jazz

FINALS

1. I Remember You - Victor Schertzinger, Johnny Mercer - Songs of Johnny Mercer
2. Hurt So Bad - Teddy Randazzo, Bobby Weinstein, Bobby Hart - Popular Music of 1950-1980
3. Love For Sale (*The New Yorkers*) - Cole Porter - Musical Theatre

ALYSHA UMPHRESS, MEZZO-SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY NAOMI AND BARRY COHEN
PIANIST: ASSAF GLEIZNER
TO VOTE: TEXT 22 TO (912) 214-3618



Alysha Umphress is a New York City based performer who made a splash on Broadway starring as “Hildy” the man hungry cab driver in the critically acclaimed hit revival of *On The Town*. Born and raised in the San Francisco Bay area, Umphress attended high school as a vocal major at the prestigious School of the Arts. From there she received her BFA in Musical Theatre from The Boston Conservatory. Other Broadway/Off Broadway credits include the original company of *American Idiot* (Grammy Award Winner for Best Musical Theater Album), *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever* starring Harry Connick Jr., the “Legendary soloist” in *Bring it On!*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *Scotland, P.A.*, and the revival of *Smokey Joe’s Cafe* which earned her a Lucille Lortel nomination for Best Supporting Actress and a Chita Rivera award for Best Ensemble. Outside of NYC, Ms. Umphress was nominated for a Helen Hayes award for Best Leading Actress for her portrayal of “Cee Cee Bloom” (a role made famous by Bette Midler in the film) in the world premiere musical adaptation of *Beaches* at the Tony award winning Signature Theatre. As a Mezzo Soprano, Umphress has guested as a principle soloist with the London Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Sir Simon Rattle in Leonard Bernstein’s *Wonderful Town* (Ruth Sherwood) recorded on the LSO label, *On The Town* (Hildy) with the San Francisco Symphony under the baton of Michael Tilson Thomas, The Boston Pops, Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg and Orchestre National de Lille. Other recordings include *I’ve Been Played: Alysha Umphress Swings Jeff Blumenkrantz*, *On The Town* and *Fugitive Songs*. TV credits include *Girls5Eva*, *The Climb*, *Law and Order SVU*, *Nurse Jackie*, *Royal Pains* and as “Murphy” on the Emmy nominated Netflix series *Bonding*. @Alyshaumphress

QUARTERFINALS

1. Holiday – Billie Joe Armstrong, Mike Dirnt, Tré Cool – Singer-Songwriters 1980–Today
2. I Could Be Jewish For You – Nikko Benson – Story Songs
3. Cornet Man (*Funny Girl*) – Jule Styne, Bob Merrill – Musical Theatre

SEMIFINALS

1. Little Jazz Bird – George Gershwin, Ira Gershwin – Jazz
2. Bali Ha’i (*South Pacific*) – Richard Rodgers, Oscar Hammerstein, II – Great American Songbook
3. Blues In The Night – Harold Arlen, Johnny Mercer – Songs of Johnny Mercer

FINALS

1. Trouble – Mike Stoller, Jerry Lieber – Blues
2. Brandy – Elliot Lurie – Popular Music of 1950–1980
3. Me and Bobby McGee – Kris Kristofferson – Country

KENNY WILLIAMS, TENOR

SPONSORED BY PATRICIA AND JIM WANN
PIANIST: ASSAF GLEIZNER
TO VOTE: TEXT 23 TO (912) 214-3618



It's likely that you've seen Kenny Williams perform during his acclaimed 30 year musical career. He has lit up stages nationally and internationally, and spent nearly a decade performing on Broadway in New York City. Now living in Austin, Texas where he was born and raised, Kenny steps into his greatest role to date as a concert performer and recording artist.

Kenny's years of living and performing in New York City included his Broadway debut in Disney's hit musical *The Lion King*, as well as roles in the world premiere production of *The Color Purple: The Musical*, produced by Oprah Winfrey; and starring roles in the national tours of the musicals *Grease!* & *Smokey Joe's Café*. Kenny has also made numerous appearances at some of NYC's finest clubs & concert halls, including Joe's Pub, B.B. King's, the legendary Birdland Jazz Club & the critically acclaimed Jazz at Lincoln Center.

This Austin based artist is a tornado of talent and charisma, possessing a voice that's amazingly silky, smooth and emotionally moving. His experience as a seasoned Broadway performer and solo artist merge on his 2019 Debut EP release, "Kenny Williams Sings," where he proves to be a storyteller in song.

Put simply, Kenny Williams was born to entertain, and his star shines brightly. His voice is a true gift, while his spirit, energy, and passion will bring you back for more. The song lives on in Kenny Williams.

QUARTERFINALS

1. Walkin' After Midnight - Alan Block, Don Hecht - Country
2. Stardust - Hoagy Carmichael, Mitchell Parish - Great American Songbook
3. Home (*The Wiz*) - Charlie Smalls - Musical Theatre

SEMIFINALS

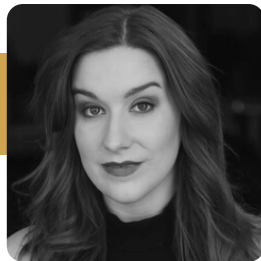
1. One For My Baby (And One For The Road) - Harold Arlen, Johnny Mercer - Songs of Johnny Mercer
2. Nobody Knows You (When You're Down & Out) - Jimmie Cox - Blues
3. What A Wonderful World - Bob Thiele, George David Weiss - Popular Music 1950-1980

FINALS

1. Route 66 - Bobby Troupe - Jazz
2. I'm Leaving On A Jet Plane - John Denver - Folk
3. When You Wish Upon A Star - Leigh Harline, Ned Washington - Hollywood

MISSY WISE, MEZZO-SOPRANO

SPONSORED BY DAVID LAKE
PIANIST: AARON LEHRIAN
TO VOTE: TEXT 24 TO (912) 214-3618



Missy is thrilled to return to Savannah for the American Traditions Competitions after last competing in 2020. Missy's recent Musical Theater credits include: *Kinky Boots* (Paramount Aurora) *A Burning Church* (ICE Factory), *Million Dollar Quartet* (Clarence Brown Theater) *Bright Star* (Boho Theater Ensemble) *Legally Blonde* (Paramount Aurora) *FLIES! The Musical!* (Pride Films and Plays) *Sweeney Todd* (Theo Ubique) *Bonnie & Clyde* (Kokandy Productions) *Big Fish; Hair; Legally Blonde* (BigNoise Theater), *24 Words* (Steppenwolf LookOut), *Guys & Dolls* (Music Theater Works) *Into the Woods; Bonnie & Clyde; Ragtime* (StageCenter). Missy was the 2016 Winner of the NATS National Musical Theater Competition. Missy is also the proud recipient of two Joseph Jefferson Awards: Best Supporting Actor for her work as "Blanche Barrow" in Kokandy Productions *Bonnie & Clyde* and for Best Lead Actor for "Alice Murphy" in *Bright Star*. Ms Wise is also a singer/songwriter whose self written EP "Issues" made the top 12 on the iTunes singer songwriter charts. Missy is the founder & owner of Sunburst Vocal Studio in Chicago, where she makes home with her wonderful husband Trevor. Proudly represented by Shirley Hamilton Talent. (@missyveezee on social platforms)

QUARTERFINALS

1. i2i (*A Goofy Movie*) - Patrick Deremer, Roy Freeland - Hollywood
2. East Virginia - Joan Baez - Folk
3. Go Home Train (*Fade In, Fade Out*) - Betty Comden, Adolph Green, Jule Styne - Musical Theatre

SEMIFINALS

1. I Never Loved A Man (The Way I Love You) - Ronnie Shannon - Blues
2. I Could Go Back (*Fugitive Songs*) - Chris Miller, Nathan Tysen - Story Songs
3. I'm Gonna Sleep With One Eye Open - Lester Flatt - Country

FINALS

1. That's Alright Mama - Arthur Crudup - Popular Music of 1950-1980
2. They Say It's Wonderful (*Annie Get Your Gun*) - Irving Berlin- Jazz
3. The Joke - Brandi Carlile, Dave Cobb, Phil Hanseroth, Tim Hanseroth - Singer-Songwriters 1980-Today



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ATC SINGERS: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Michael Maliakel, 2016 Gold Medalist stars as *Aladdin* on Broadway



Julie Benko, 2017 Gold Medalist stars as the Standby for Fanny Brice in *Funny Girl* on Broadway



Anastasia Talley, 2021 Finalist made her Broadway debut in *Girl from the North Country*



Will Liverman, 2021 Semifinalist, starred as Charles Blow in the Metropolitan Opera's production of *Fire Shut Up in My Bones*, he also earned a Grammy nomination for his new cd, *Dreams of a New Day: Songs by Black Composers*, and his own opera, which he has been composing and workshopping for several years, *The Factotum*, will premiere at Lyric Opera of Chicago next season



Bex Odorisio, multi-ATC-award-winner, stars as one of the Fates in the National Tour of *Hadestown*



Jonathan Christopher, 2021 Johnny Mercer Award winner, and **Hannah Zazzaro**, 2019 People's Choice Award winner make their Cincinnati Pops Debut with Maestro John Morris Russell



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