

Angela Meade

VOCAL COMPETITION FINALE



NOVEMBER 3, 2024

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

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College of Professional Studies
School of Music, Theatre & Dance present

Angela Meade

VOCAL COMPETITION FINALE

November 3, 2024, 3:00 pm
Lagerquist Concert Hall

PROGRAM

WELCOME

Dr. Brian Galante

Associate Dean, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

FINALISTS PERFORMANCES

“When the air sings of summer” ...Giancarlo Menotti (1911-2007)
from *The Old Maid and the Thief*
AufenthaltFranz Schubert (1797-1828)

Isaiah Utto-Galarneau, baritone

Zdes' khoroshoSergei Rachmaninov (1873-1943)
“Caro nome che il mio cor” Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)
from *Rigoletto*

Caitlyn Carnahan, soprano

“Che farò senza Euridice?”Christoph Willibald Gluck
from *Orfeo ed Euridice* (1714-1787)
Chanson perpétuelle..... Ernest Chausson (1855-1899)

Caitlyn Babcock, mezzo-soprano

“Kommt ein schlanker Bursh gegangen”.Carl Maria von Weber
from *Die Freischütz* (1786-1826)
Chanson Triste..... Henri Duparc (1848-1933)

Emily Morse, soprano

Quella Fiamma m'accendeBenedetto Marcello (1686-1739)
Bei dir ist es traut.....Alma Mahler (1878-1964)

Mariana Vargas, mezzo-soprano

“Why do the nations so furiously rage together?” .. G.F. Handel
from *Messiah* (1685-1759)

Chanson épique.....Maurice Ravel
from *Don Quichotte à Dulcinée* (1875-1937)

Dominic Walker, baritone

O del mio dolce ardorChristoph W. Gluck (1714-1787)

Gretchen am spinnradeFranz Schubert (1797-1828)

Claire Schwartz, soprano

JUDGES DELIBERATION

*Please join us in the lobby for refreshments
as the judges deliberate.*

AWARDS PRESENTATION

Dr. James Brown

Coordinator of Vocal Studies

ABOUT THE PIANIST



Amy Boers is known throughout the greater Seattle-Tacoma area as a collaborative keyboardist, vocalist, conductor, and church musician. A lifelong resident of the area, she received her Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Central Washington University. Her keyboard playing for conductors and soloists has been described as deeply expressive, artistic, and insightfully supportive. As a collaborative artist at heart, Amy treasures working with a constantly shifting variety of ensembles and soloists. In 2025, her collaborations will take her to China, where she will clinic and perform at the International Choral Festival (Xi'an).

As a choral conductor, Amy has adjudicated large ensemble festivals across the region and led workshops in Canada on “Collaborative Work in the Choral Rehearsal.” As a church musician, she serves as Director of Music at Mountain View Lutheran Church in Edgewood. As a pianist, Amy currently holds positions with Pacific Lutheran University and Symphony Tacoma Voices, in addition to performing at many regional conventions and festivals. Within PLU’s School of Music, Theatre & Dance, she serves as Resident Music Director and staff pianist.

ABOUT THE FINALISTS

(listed alphabetically)



CAITLYN BABCOCK, mezzo soprano. In her final PLUS year, Caitlyn Babcock is completing her Bachelor's in Vocal Performance at PLU. Under Dr. Soon Cho's guidance, Caitlyn has portrayed Mrs. Cripps in *H.M.S. Pinafore* and Orlofsky in *Die Fledermaus*, in collaboration with Northwest Sinfonietta. She has been a soloist in Caroline Shaw's *The Children's Eye* and sung with Choir of the

West for four years. Caitlyn plans to pursue graduate studies and ultimately earn her doctorate to teach at the collegiate level, while continuing her passion for performance.



Soprano **CAITLYN CARNAHAN** will soon graduate with a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from PLU. With PLU Opera, she has sung roles such as Zweiter Dame in *Die Zauberflöte*, Sesto in *Giulio Cesare*, and Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*. She also served as a costume assistant for *H.M.S. Pinafore* and will assist in PLU Opera's 2025 season. In the fall of 2023, Caitlyn studied in Vienna, participating in the IES Music Performance Workshop. They are honored

to compete and grateful for their mentor, Janeanne Houston.

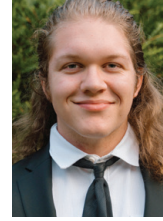


EMILY MORSE, a third-year Soprano at PLU, is working toward her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance under Dr. Soon Cho. Her roles include Josephine in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, Soprano in *Trouble in Tahiti*, and Adina in *The Elixir of Love*. She has also sung in Vashon Opera's *Romeo et Juliette* and *The Merry Widow* choruses. Recently, Emily performed as a soloist in Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem* with

Choir of the West.



Soprano **CLAIRE SCHWARTZ**, a junior from Centralia, Washington, transferred to PLU after earning her associate degree in music. In PLU's summer opera workshop, she performed as Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*. A jazz and blues enthusiast, Claire also performs in the Olympia area. She aspires to uplift underrepresented artists and is grateful to her mother, Heather, for believing in her dreams.



ISAIAH UTTO-GALARNEAU, a senior in his PLUS year at PLU, is thrilled to be a finalist in this year's Angela Meade Competition. He will soon earn a Bachelor of Musical Arts and has been an integral part of PLU's opera program, performing roles like Dick Deadeye in *H.M.S. Pinafore* and Leporello in *Don Giovanni*. Isaiah has also worked with Vashon Opera under Dr. James Brown. A dedicated member of Choir of the West,

he studies under Barry Johnson, with a personal mission to grow daily as an artist. Isaiah enjoys powerlifting and hiking in the Pacific Northwest.



Mezzo-soprano **MARIANA VARGAS** is an enthusiastic student of Vocal Performance at PLU. She is passionate about storytelling through music, and her roles span classical opera to contemporary works. She celebrates her heritage as a vocalist and musician in PLU's Mariachi del Pacifico. Outside of music, she enjoys hiking, crocheting, and playing tennis.



DOMINIC WALKER, a Vocal Performance major, has been a member of PLU's Choir of the West for four years. Originally a Music Education major, he discovered his love for performance after his role as Belcore in *L'Elisir d'Amore*. He has since portrayed Captain Corcoran in *H.M.S. Pinafore* and Don Giovanni in *Don Giovanni*, as well as performing with Vashon Opera. Dominic is deeply grateful to Dr.

Brown, Amy Boers, Dr. Galante, his friend Lillian, his partner Miguel, and of course his mom, for their support.

ABOUT THE JUDGES



Andrew Krikawa, baritone, has been celebrated by Opera News as an “accomplished performer possessing an attractive, cultivated baritone, with well-honed acting.” He has performed with numerous U.S. opera companies, including the New York City Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, and Central City Opera. Krikawa’s repertoire spans beloved roles like Marcello (*La Bohème*), Sharpless (*Madame Butterfly*), Germont (*La Traviata*), and Guglielmo (*Così fan tutte*). Notably, he performed *Così fan tutte* with the Orchestra of St. Luke’s and won the Sullivan Foundation Award, and was a recipient of the Richard F. Gold Career Grant.

A New England Conservatory of Music graduate, Krikawa relocated to the Pacific Northwest in 2004 and co-founded Vashon Opera with his wife, Jennifer. As marketing director since 2008, he has helped bring over thirty productions to sold-out audiences, cultivating a local passion for opera. As both a leader and performer, he has taken on roles with Vashon Opera, including Marcello in *La Bohème*, Papageno in *The Magic Flute*, Figaro in *The Barber of Seville*, and title roles in *Rigoletto*, *Gianni Schicchi*, and *Eugene Onegin*.



Soprano **Holly Boaz** has a dynamic career spanning opera, oratorio, chamber music, and small ensemble work. Her notable performances include appearances with the Seattle Symphony, Symphony Tacoma, Hartford Symphony, Seattle Opera, Pacific MusicWorks, Music of Remembrance, and the Russian Chamber Music Foundation. Internationally, she has performed at the Aldeburgh Festival and with the Caritas Chamber Choir in the UK.

Boaz won the Northwest Region NATSAA competition and the Ladies’ Musical Club of Seattle Competition. She was also a Connecticut District encouragement award recipient in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and a finalist in the Palm Beach Opera Competition. Her training includes fellowships at the Aspen Music Festival, Music Academy of the West, and the Britten-Pears Programme in England. A graduate of the Seattle Opera Young Artists Program, Boaz continues to build an impressive and versatile career in both the U.S. and abroad.



Michaella Calzaretta joined Seattle Opera in 2022 as Chorus Master and Head of Music Staff, making an immediate impact with her meticulous preparation and commitment to excellence. In this role, she oversees all musical activities and prepares the chorus for each main stage production. Her debut season included a successful tour with the chorus to Mt. Vernon and Vashon Island, earning accolades such as, “Her chorus was one of the stars... the voices were radiant” (Bachtrack), and “The Seattle Opera Chorus sang exuberantly and expertly” (The Seattle Times).

Before Seattle Opera, Calzaretta served as Chorus Master and Assistant Conductor at Utah Opera, where she prepared notable productions such as *Silent Night*, *Norma*, *Roméo et Juliette*, *Candide*, and *Moby-Dick*. Her concert work includes preparing choruses for *Messiah*, live film presentations, and a Rodgers & Hammerstein tribute.

Her conducting credits span *Orpheus in the Underworld* (Utah Vocal Arts Academy), *Damn Yankees* (Pittsburgh Festival Opera), and *Patience* (University Gilbert and Sullivan Society). As an active clinician and lecturer, she has worked with university opera choruses and presented on choral preparation in opera. Calzaretta holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Simpson College, a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from UMKC, and is completing her Doctorate in Choral Conducting at Indiana University.

American soprano **Angela Meade '01** is the winner of the Metropolitan Opera's 2012 Beverly Sills Artist Award and the 2011 Richard Tucker Award, and 57 vocal completions around the world. She has become recognized both nationally and internationally, as one of today's outstanding vocalists, excelling in the most demanding heroines of the 19th-century bel canto repertoire as well as in the operas of Verdi and Mozart.

A native of Washington State and an alumna of Pacific Lutheran University and the Academy of Vocal Arts, Ms. Meade has triumphed in an astounding number of vocal competitions: 57 in all, including many of the opera world's most important prizes. In addition to being a winner at the 2007 Met National Council Auditions, as documented in *The Audition*, a film that was subsequently released on DVD by Decca, she was also the first singer to take first prize in both the opera and operetta categories of the prestigious Belvedere Competition.

THANK YOU

We are grateful to Angela Meade and her husband, John Myers, for establishing the endowment that makes the Angela Meade Vocal Competition possible. In addition, we are thankful to a number of PLU alumni and friends for their gifts to both the Angela Meade Endowment Fund and the Angela Meade Vocal Competition Fund. Contributions to these funds can be made through the Office of Advancement at Pacific Lutheran University.
