

UPSCALE WEEKLY

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
MOORES SCHOOL OF MUSIC



May 4, 2015

News & Notes

David Ashley White received the 2015 Esther Farfel Award on April 30 at the Faculty Excellence Luncheon. This award is given in recognition of excellent teaching, research, scholarship, and service.

Former Wind Ensemble Director **Eddie Green** received the 2015 Texas Legendary Band Director Award by The Foundation for Music Education, in conjunction with the Dallas Winds on April 21.

Cyril Schurch (MM '01, studio of **Robert Nelson**) composition "Three Seasons" for baritone and piano, written while a graduate student at the MSM, is one of two finalist pieces to be performed for selection of first and second prize in mid-July at the Festival Internacional de Musica da Povoá de Varzim. Schurch also won the Mario Merz Prize and has been invited to Venice for the announcement and commission to compose a work for string orchestra. He is also collaborating with Zurcher Sing-Akademie, a professional choir who will perform his work "O Magnum Mysterium" in Holland, Italy, Switzerland in the coming months.

The **Moores Opera Center** presented Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* as part of their opera outreach program with Houston Young Artists on May 1 and 5 in the Moores Opera House. Middle schools in attendance included Spring Branch, Spring Forest, Spring Woods, Northbrook, Landrum, Spring Oaks, Choice Academy and Academy of Choice, Westchester Academy for International Studies, and Memorial.

Katrina van Maanen (MM '14, studio of **Melanie Sonnenberg**), **Erik Larson** (studio of **Melanie Sonnenberg**), and **Benjamin Williams** (studio of **Timothy Jones**) won second prize, third prize and honorable mention, respectively, at the 2015 Ruth Burr Competition sponsored by the Houston Tuesday Music Club on April 11.

The Moores School of Music had several student performances at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston. The groups and performance dates, coordinated by **Melissa Suhr**, include:

April 23

Flute Duo: **Lillian Schimdt** (studio of **Melissa Suhr**), **Shanshan Wu** (studio of **Aralee Dorough**)

Flute Trio: **Jessica Bailey** (studio of **Jennifer Keeney**), **Yajayra Soria** (studio of **Melissa Suhr**), **Delaney Marth** (studio of **Peggy Russell**)

Woodwind Quintet: **Lindy Thompson**, flute (studio of **Melissa Suhr**); **Ivan Dorantes**, oboe (studio of **Jonathan Fischer**); **Matt Vanderworp**, clarinet (studio of **Chester Rowell**); **Raven Hood**, bassoon (studio of **Elise Wagner**); **Aaron Griffin**, French horn (studio of **Gavin Reed**)

Woodwind Quintet: **Enzo Lai**, flute (studio of **Aralee Dorough**); **Wei Wang**, oboe (studio of **Robert Atherholt**); **Hannah Pitrie**, clarinet (studio of **Chester Rowell**); **Dima Savitski**, bassoon (studio of **Elise Wagner**); **Matthew Baldrige**, French horn (studio of **Robert Johnson**)

Clarinet Trio: **Nicole Louise Delaney**, clarinet (studio of **Randall Griffin**); **Sahara Amalia Brint**, clarinet (studio of **Randall Griffin**); **Richard Craig**, clarinet (studio of **Randall Griffin**)

Woodwind Trio: **Jasmine Fuller**, clarinet (studio of **Randall Griffin**); **Shaun Lesniewicz**, flute (studio of **Melissa Suhr**); **Martin Wells**, bassoon (studio of **Elise Wagner**)

Woodwind Trio: **Shaun Lesniewicz**, flute; **Lindy Thompson**, flute; accompanist, to be announced

Mixed String Quartet: **Lindy Thompson**, flute; **Matt Vanderworp**, clarinet; **Mayetta Im**, harp (studio of **Paula Page**)

Clarinet Quartet: **Payton Guerretaz**, clarinet (studio of **Chester Rowell**); **Tim Handley**, clarinet (studio of **Randall Griffin**); **Chris Song**, clarinet (studio of **Randall Griffin**); **Henry Dang**, clarinet (studio of **Randall Griffin**)

April 30

Flute Quartet: **Jessica Wu**, **Morgan Mcallen**, **Soo Ko Jin**, **Alexis Patton** (all from the studio of **Peggy Russell**)

Flute Trio: **Lindy Thompson**, flute; **Amber Sheppard** (studio of **Aralee Dorough**), **Shaun Lesniewicz**, flute

Mixed Woodwind Quartet: **Delaney Marth**, flute; **Javier Elizondo**, clarinet (studio of **Randall Griffin**); **Nick Evans**, bassoon (studio of **Elise Wagner**); **Christina Ackermann**, French horn (studio of **Gavin Reed**)

Our voice department students' upcoming summer 2015 activities include: **Nicole Woodward** (CMP, MM '13, studio of **Melanie Sonnenberg**): Merola Opera Program/San Francisco Opera - Baba in Menotti's *The Medium*/Zita in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* (cover)

Sydney Anderson (studio of **Melanie Sonnenberg**): Opera Saratoga, Studio Artist Belinda (cover) in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* and Ensemble Member

Andrew Gilstrap (studio of **Timothy Jones**): Ohio Light Opera Company Adam Goodheart in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Ruddigore* and Stanley in Weill's *One Touch of Venus* and Ensemble Member in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Yeomen of the Guard*, Gershwin's *Oh, Kay!*, and Offenbach's *Can-Can*.

James Rodriguez (studio of **Melanie Sonnenberg**): Des Moines Metro Opera, Studio Artist, Rapaccini (cover) in Catan's *Rapaccini's Daughter*

Alex Scheuermann (studio of **Joseph Evans**): Central City Opera

The Barber in Leigh's *Man of La Mancha* and Giuseppe and Ensemble Member in Verdi's *La Traviata*

Aidan Smerud (studio of **Hector Vasquez**): Opera Saratoga, Studio Artist Alidoro (cover) in Rossini's *La Cenerentola* and Ensemble Member

Shani Cohen (studio of **Joseph Evans**): Opera in the Ozarks

Giulietta in Offenbach's *The Tales of Hoffman*

Kaylie Kahlich (studio of **Cynthia Clayton**): Miami Summer Music Festival Lady Billows in Britten's *Albert Herring*

Page Madison (studio of **Cynthia Clayton**): Opera Breve Vocal Institute Pamina in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*

Cesar Toruella (studio of **Timothy Jones**): Music Academy of the West Don Magnifico in Rossini's *La Cenerentola*

Alumni:

Ashly Neumann (MM, '13, studio of **Melanie Sonnenberg**): Opera Saratoga, Clorinda in Rossini's *La Cenerentola*

Brian Yeakley (MM '14, studio of **Melanie Sonnenberg**): Opera Saratoga Ramiro (understudy) in Rossini's *La Cenerentola* and Ensemble Member

Katrina Van Maanen (MM '14, studio of **Melanie Sonnenberg**): Chicago Summer Opera, Helena in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Megan Berti (CMP '13, studio of **Melanie Sonnenberg**): Opera in the Ozarks, Title role in Rossini's *La Cenerentola* and Flora in Verdi's *La Traviata*

Alyssa Weathersby (BM '14, studio of **Melanie Sonnenberg**): Emerald City, The Princess in Ravel's *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* and Cunegonde (cover) in Bernstein's *Candide*



UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

MOORES SCHOOL of MUSIC

SUMMER/FALL 2014 - SPRING 2015 GRADUATES

Christopher Abide
Felix Alanis
Johnathan Alvarez
Alison Anchors
Lucia Aparicio
Tyler Beck
Michelle Blair
Laura Bleakley
Jonathan Booker
Karimah Browne
Michael Bryson
Anna Calhoun
Rameen Chaharbaghi
Xinyue Chen
Elizabeth Chrisman
Joshua Chua
Spencer Clayton
James Coffey
Shani Cohen
David Coldiron
Henry Dang
Dylan Dann
Anna Diemer
David Doerr
Grace Edgar
Aundray Edwards
Gisela Escobar Diaz
Mauri Cash Erwin
Lavelle Florence
Felix Gamez
Rey Gonzalez
Catherine Goode
Benjamin Grube
Jackson Guillen
Payton Guerrattaz
Russell Haehl

Nicholas Hatt
Amanda Hernandez
Joshua Hines
Shamsah Hirani
Austin Hoeltzel
Blythe Hopson
Courtney Howard
Robert Hubley
Mary Katherine Hunter
Mei Kuan Im
Alexa Johnson
John Kline
Maria Kurchevskaya
Kirsten Kurtz
Justin Langham
Yi Ching Lee
Blake Lein
Joshua Levine
Thanushka Lewkebandara
Chenchen Li
Dan Littles
Page Madison
Ben Malmer
Heath Martin
Yumemi Masui
Matthew Mazzola
Lynda McKnight
Jack McLaughlin
Cristina Mendoza
Saleel Menon
Caitlyn Merta
Nickolas Miller
Trent Minter
Zachary Musick
Adam Plantz
Adam Polk

Andrea Ponte
Christian Restrepo
Jaren Reyes
Emily Robinson
Whitney Robinson
James Rodriguez
Desiree Sanchez
Alexander Scheuermann
Theodore Schneider
Ethan Schneider
Amy Sheffer
Yan Shen
Jihae Shin
Aidan Smerud
Spencer Smith
Christopher Song
James Sterling
Aubrey Stokes Smith
Camilla Sung
Jacob Sustaita
Kevin Tang
Siobhan Thompson
Julie Thornton
Nicholas Tieh
Cesar Torruella
Mayara Velasquez
Rachel Walrath
Daniel Weatherholt
Michael Whitebread
Amanda Wilton
Jia Hui Wong
Nicole Woodward
Zachary Woolhouse
Jingwen Xu
Teng-Kai Yang
Joshua Zinn

Best wishes for your continued success!