



North Shore Choral Society

Donald Chen Young Artist Award
2010 Competition

April 25, 2010, 4:00 p.m.

**Trinity United Methodist Church
1024 Lake Avenue, Wilmette, IL**

WELCOME!

The North Shore Choral Society welcomes you to the first-ever Donald Chen Young Artist Award competition.

Dr. Donald Chen retired in 2008, at the end of the North Shore Choral Society's 72nd season, after twenty-four years as our Music Director. To honor him, the Choral Society established the **Donald Chen Young Artist Award** to give a talented young singer a stipend and a solo role in one of our concerts. Eight finalists were selected from applications by singers ages 19-26 who reside in the Chicago area. Our panel of judges will hear each of the finalists sing two numbers: an operatic aria and a contrasting art song or oratorio aria, each of the applicant's choosing.

The judges will give awards for first, second, and third prizes at the conclusion of today's competition. The winner will also be awarded a solo performance in an upcoming North Shore Choral Society concert.

PROGRAM

Opening Remarks Anne Harkonen,
North Shore Choral Society President-Elect

Please hold your applause until each set is concluded.

Adria Rice, soprano

In uomini, in soldati (from *Così fan tutte*)
.....Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Was will die einsame Thräne? Robert Schumann

Amanda DeBoer Koopman, mezzo-soprano

Empio, dirò, tu sei (from *Giulio Cesare*)
.....George Frideric Handel
The LilacsSergei Rachmaninoff

Stephen Richardson, baritone

Ein Mädchen oder Weibchen (from *Die Zauberflöte*)..... Mozart
Chanson de la mort du Don Quichotte.....Jacques Ibert

Anne Slovin, soprano

O wär ich schon mit dir (from *Fidelio*)Ludwig van Beethoven
Nocturne Samuel Barber

Chris Albanese, tenor

Sound an alarm (from *Judas Maccabeus*)Handel
Il mio tesoro (from *Don Giovanni*) Mozart

Keshena Cisneros-Watson, mezzo-soprano

Must the winter come so soon? (from *Vanessa*)..... Barber
Ouvre ton cœur..... Georges Bizet

Corey Grigg, baritone

Hai già vinta la causa! / Vedrò mentre io sospiro
(from *Le Nozze di Figaro*) Mozart
Wenn ich mit Menschen Johannes Brahms

Kelsey Betzelberger, soprano

Toujours Gabriel Fauré
Tu che di gel sei cinta (from *Turandot*) Giacomo Puccini

Information about upcoming events..... David Hunt,
North Shore Choral Society President

Awards..... Donald Chen

Our Thanks

North Shore Choral Society would like to thank the distinguished panel of judges for today's competition: Dr. Donald Chen, Dr. Julia Davids, and Dr. Anne Heider. The Society is grateful to Sharon Rich Peterson, our accompanist for many years, for providing piano accompaniment for all of the competitors. Thanks also to Lenore Dupuis, Anne Harkonen, Steve LaTour, Sanna and Mars Longden, Ellen Pullin, Karen Rigotti, and Yael Wurmfeld for their assistance in producing today's event. We are grateful to Trinity United Methodist Church for the use of their sanctuary today.

Support for the Donald Chen Young Artist Award

The Choral Society maintains a separate fund to support the Donald Chen Young Artist Award. Donations may be made directly to this fund and are acknowledged in our concert program booklets. You can help make future awards possible by putting cash or a check in the designated basket in the narthex, or by sending a contribution to North Shore Choral Society, P.O. Box 103, Evanston, Illinois 60204-0103. We appreciate your support!



The North Shore Choral Society is supported in part by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, an agency of the State of Illinois.

For further information about North Shore Choral Society, please visit our website, www.northshorechoral.org.

COMPETITORS

Adria Rice, soprano, is a 2009 graduate from Northwestern University's dual-degree program, majoring in English and music. While at Northwestern she studied both classical voice and musical theatre with tenor Kurt R. Hansen. Among her performances were roles in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Northwestern and Puccini's *Suor Angelica* in Urbana, Italy. She was a soloist in Mendelssohn's *Elijah* under the direction of Dr. Robert A. Harris. Throughout college she also sang in the student a cappella group *The Undertones*. Adria was recently a soloist with the Youth Choral Theatre of Chicago directed by Paul Caldwell. She is training for the Chicago triathlon and continues her vocal studies with mezzo-soprano Tracy Watson.

Amanda DeBoer Koopman, mezzo-soprano, is a first-year master's student at Northwestern School of Music. She received her bachelor's degree from Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in 2009. She was a 2007 and 2008 Opera Grand Rapids competition finalist and a Calvin Concerto competition winner. She also participated in the Detroit opera theater summer program. Last month, Amanda performed in Northwestern's Opera Gala and was a finalist at the NATS competition in Chicago. Currently she is a member of the Northwestern University Chorus and the Northwestern University Baroque Ensemble.

Stephen Richardson, baritone, is a senior voice performance major at Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University. Participating in all forms of art while growing up in Atlanta, Stephen has an immense passion for music ranging from singing to composing electronic music. Stephen will graduate this May and attend Northwestern University in the fall for his master's degree. Stephen is a student under the vocal direction of Mark Crayton.

Anne Slovin, soprano, graduated from the Bienen School of Music at Northwestern University, where she studied voice with Theresa Brancaccio and completed a minor in musicology. While at Northwestern, Anne sang the role of Valencienne in *The Merry Widow* and performed in the ensembles of *Dialogues of the Carmelites* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She was a frequent soloist with the Northwestern University Baroque Music Ensemble.

and also participated in the Kohl's Children's Museum Opera Initiative in 2007 and 2008. Anne is an alumna of the Colorado College Vocal Arts Symposium, as well as the CoOPERative program at Westminster Choir College. This summer at Light Opera Works in Evanston, she will join the ensemble and cover the role of Elsie Maynard in *The Yeomen of the Guard*, then jet to France to sing the role of Cupidon in the Franco-American Vocal Academy's production of Offenbach's *Orphée aux Enfers*.

A native of Cleveland, tenor **Chris Albanese** is a current first-year master's student in vocal performance at Northwestern University, where he studies with Karen Brunssen and Alan Darling. Recent engagements have included tenor soloist in Biber's *Requiem* (Northwestern Baroque Music Ensemble), Handel's *Messiah* (Northwestern University Chorale and Symphony), and the title role in Giacomo Carissimi's *Jephte* (Ars Musica Chicago). Chris will sing the role of the Marquis in John Corigliano's *The Ghosts of Versailles* (Northwestern University Opera), under the direction of Jay Lesenger. While an undergraduate voice student at the University of Dayton, Chris was a two-time finalist and prize winner of the Alice C. Hottop Competition for Vocal Excellence and sang under the direction of Jeff Powell at the Dayton Opera for three seasons. He is also a 2006 alumnus of the Opera and Music Festival of Lucca (University of Cincinnati). Before returning to pursue a graduate degree, Chris held the position of Director of Music at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in St. Charles, Illinois. This summer he will work under the direction of Maestro Lorin Maazel at the Châteauville Foundation's Castleton Festival in Castleton, Virginia.

Keshena Cisneros-Watson, mezzo soprano, is a sophomore at the University of Illinois studying choral music education and vocal performance. In high school, she was a member and frequent soloist with the Glenbard South choirs and was a finalist at Chicago NATS competition in 2008. Keshena was a member of the University of Illinois Women's Glee Club and the Black Chorus. She has also appeared as a chorus member in Puccini's *La Bohème* and Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore* with the DuPage Opera Theatre under the direction of Kirk Muspratt. Keshena is a recent recipient of the Voice Division Achievement Award at the University of Illinois. She has studied voice with Catherine Caccavallo, Michelle Areyzaga, and Ollie Watts Davis.

Baritone **Corey Grigg** has sung numerous opera roles at Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music, where he is currently a graduate student, including Count Almaviva (*The Marriage of Figaro*), Figaro (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*), Danilo (*The Merry Widow*), Belcore (*L'elisir d'amore*), Demetrius (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), Guglielmo (*Così fan tutte*) and Krušina (*The Bartered Bride*). As a soloist, he has sung with Northwestern University choirs, the NU Baroque Music Ensemble, Ars Musica Chicago, and the 2009 Newberry Consort Emerging Artists. Last summer, he performed the role of Ben Budge (*The Beggar's Opera*) under the baton of Maestro Lorin Maazel as part of the inaugural season of the Châteauville Foundation's Castleton Festival in Castleton, Virginia. Upcoming engagements include Silvio (*Pagliacci*) at Chautauqua Opera in New York and Count Almaviva (*Le nozze di Figaro*) at the Peninsula Music Festival in Wisconsin. Corey is originally from Bridgewater, New Jersey, and currently studies with Bruce Hall.

Kelsey Betzelberger, soprano, is a senior at Northwestern University. She will next be seen in Northwestern's spring production as Marie Antoinette in Corigliano's *The Ghosts of Versailles*. This summer she will be attending Jay Lesenger's Chautauqua Opera Young Artist Program as a Studio Artist, and will then be returning to Northwestern to begin the master's program in vocal performance and operatic literature. She currently studies with Karen Brunssen and Alan Darling. She greatly enjoys eating Girl Scout cookies, reading German romance novels and seeing her wonderful family in Oregon.