

[PREMIEREOPERAFOUNDATION.ORG](http://PREMIEREOPERAFOUNDATION.ORG)

6th ANNUAL  
VIRTUAL  
FINALS

DECEMBER 10TH, 2022

PREMIERE OPERA FOUNDATION  
INTERNATIONAL VOCAL COMPETITION  
+ PROFESSIONAL CASTING AUDITIONS



# Premiere Opera Foundation International Vocal Competition

The Premiere Opera Foundation's International Vocal Competition assembles the most esteemed operatic judging panels, consisting of elite industry professionals, international theaters and casting directors, and world renowned superstars, to discover and honor the most promising, up and coming, young opera singers in the world today.

The Foundation is proud to offer generous awards and special prizes to the winners of our Vocal Competition, as well as to provide them with incredible opportunities to advance their careers via casting auditions, intensive training programs, and other forms of direct support.

CONCERT PROGRAM

**Oleh Lebedyev, Baritone**

***Ukraine***

Come un'ape ne' giorni d'aprile

La Cenerentola

Rossini

**Andrew Morstein, Tenor**

***USA***

Oui j'irais dans leur temple

Les Martyrs

Donizetti

**Elmina Hasanova, Mezzo-Soprano**

***Azerbaijan***

O don fatale

Don Carlo

Verdi

**Griffen Hogan Tracy, Bass**

***USA***

Gremin's Aria

Eugene Onegin

Tchaikovsky

**Camille Sherman, Mezzo-Soprano**

***USA***

Composer's Aria

Ariadne auf Naxos

Strauss

**GeDeane Graham, Mezzo-Soprano**

**USA**

Weiche, Wotan, weiche

Das Rheingold

Wagner

**Gabrielle Barkidjija, Mezzo-Soprano**

**USA**

Parto, parto

La Clemenza di Tito

Mozart

**Gagik Vardanyan, Baritone**

**Armenia**

Vien, Leonora

La Favorita

Donizetti

**Leo Hyunho Kim, Baritone**

**South Korea**

Onegin's Aria

Eugene Onegin

Tchaikovsky

**Ani Kushyan, Mezzo-Soprano**

**Armenia**

Lyubasha's Aria

The Tsar's Bride

Rimsky-Korsakov

**Katie Stevenson, Mezzo-Soprano**

***United Kingdom***

Give him this orchid

The Rape of Lucretia

Britten

**Matthew Cossack, Baritone**

***USA***

Joe's Confession Scene

Dead Man Walking

Heggie

**Alyona Guz, Soprano**

***Ukraine***

Celui dont la parole

Herodiade

Massenet

**Darija Auguštan, Soprano**

***Croatia***

Io son l'umile ancella

Adriana Lecouvreur

Cilea

**Lawrence Barasa Kiharangwa, Tenor**

***Kenya***

Che gelida manina

La Boheme

Puccini

**David Lomelí**

Santa Fe Opera, Bayerische Staatsoper, Dallas Opera,  
Atlanta Opera

**Constantine Orbelian**

New York City Opera, Kaunas City Symphony Orchestra,  
Delos Records

**Dominik Licht**

The Royal Danish Opera, Salzburg Easter Festival

**Alexander Fernandez**

Opera Nacional de Chile, Opera de Tenerife

**Brian Speck**

Houston Grand Opera Studio

**Beatrice Benzi**

Teatro all Scala Milano, Accademia alla Scala Milano,  
Institute for Young Dramatic Voices

**Alan Fischer**

The Governor's School for the Arts, Prelude to Performance,  
Premiere Opera Vocal Arts Institute

**David Blackburn**

NYIOP, Theater Basel Opera Studio, Opernhaus Zurich Opera  
Studio, Ibáñez-Atkinson Foundation

**Eric Margiore**

Premiere Opera Foundation, Premiere Artists Management,  
Premiere Opera Vocal Arts Institute



# Mission

The Premiere Opera Foundation is dedicated to the promotion and preservation of the operatic artform through discovering, nurturing, and honoring the most promising, up and coming opera singers in the world today, enhancing their careers through financial, educational, and ongoing advisory support.

Premiere Opera Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

# Help us achieve our goals and support our future artists

100% of every donation is guided to fulfill our mission of supporting and providing ongoing assistance to promising young artists from all around the world.

Premiere Opera Foundation has remained a beacon of hope and support for all artists during this difficult period, by continuing to host our competition and training initiatives at the same international level as before. To date we have given away what is valued at \$175,000 in cash prizes and special awards to international emerging singers and young artists.

We ask you to consider a 100% tax-deductible donation to help us continue our endeavors. Some options include underwriting a prize, sponsoring a jury member, giving in honor and tribute, adopting a winner, or simply giving any amount of your choosing. Premiere Opera Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization (EIN 86-1236503).

Thank you, friends!

~Eric Margiore, President & Founder

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# Vision

The Premiere Opera Foundation is a model for how resources can be offered to artists, and an advocate for the value of artists, in amplifying their essential contributions to communities around the globe. The impact the Foundation seeks:

- Expand the awareness of opera, and its educational as well as therapeutic value to all global citizens.
- Advance and celebrate the work of today's opera singers through scholarships, residencies, masterclasses, and related educational initiatives to ensure that they are supported and thriving.
- Showcase artists that reflect and represent the diverse world in which we live.
- Act as a beacon, to bridge the Golden Age operatic traditions to the current constructs of today's classical music world.

# Our Values

Artist-centered

Educational-based

Diverse in demographics

Diverse in perspectives

Comprehensive

Sustainable

## Board Of Directors

ERIC MARGIORE

Founder & President

DAVID BLACKBURN

Vice-President

KEN BENSON

JACK MASTROIANNI

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# Advisory Board

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## LIVE FINALS CONCERT FROM NYC

DECEMBER 17, 2022  
@3PM EST / 9PM CET

The next step for the 2022 Premiere Opera Foundation International Vocal Competition is the Live Semi-Finals and Finals Rounds which will take place in New York City from December 13-17, 2022. A different group of incredible artists will compete via Live audition for a Live jury of International Casting Directors and Industry Influencers. This International Jury will choose a group of 10-15 Finalists who will compete at a Live Finals Concert on December 17, 2022.

This Live Finals Concert will be livestreamed world-wide.

An Award Ceremony, where we will award over \$35,000 in cash prizes and special awards to both the Virtual Finalists and Live Finalists, will follow the Live Finals Concert.

Join us and see if your favorite wins an award!

## 2021 WINNERS

### ***First Prizes***

Thomas Cilluffo (USA)

Meigui Zhang (China)

Navasard Hakobyan (Armenia)

Hyunju Mun (South Korea)

### ***Second Prizes***

Alex DeSocio (USA)

Kathleen Reveille (USA)

José Simerilla Romero (Argentina)

Murella Parton (USA)

### ***Third Prizes***

Jonghyun Park (South Korea)

Tatev Baroyan (Armenia)

Ochirsaikhan Erdenee (Mongolia)

Maria Belén Rivarola (Argentina)

### ***The Dr. David DiChiera Encouragement Award***

Jonas Jud (Switzerland)

Kali Hardwick (USA)

### ***The Voce di Meche Encouragement Award***

Errin Duane Brooks (USA)

Katherine Whyte (Canada)

### ***Audience Choice Award***

Shanley Horvitz (USA)

GeDeane Graham (USA)



## 2020 WINNERS

### ***Edward Rosen Memorial Grand Prizes***

Key'mon Murrah (USA)

Yaritza Véliz (Chile)

### ***Second Prizes***

Emmett O'Hanlon (USA)

Alexandra Lowe (UK)

### ***Third Prizes***

Franko Klisovič (Croatia)

Alexandra Razskazoff (USA)

### ***The Voce di Meche Encouragement Award***

Johanna Wallroth (Sweden)

### ***The Dr. David DiChiera Encouragement Award***

Igor Onishcenko (Ukraine)

### ***The Armenian Cultural Career Grant***

Tigran Ohanyan (Armenia)

### ***Audience Choice Award***

Franko Klisovič

## 2019 WINNERS

### ***Edward Rosen Memorial Grand Prize***

Bryan Murray (USA)

### ***Dmitri Hvorostovsky Memorial Career Grant***

Monica Dewey (USA)

### ***Puccini Ambassador Medal***

Quan Chan (China)

### ***Marcello Glordani Memorial Prize***

Carolyn Sproule (USA)

### ***Bel Canto Intl Club & Italian Language Foundation Audience Prize***

Alexandra Razskazoff (USA)

### ***Voce di Meche Encouragement Award***

Polixeni Tziouvaras (Greece)

### ***Dr. David DiChiera Encouragement Award***

Joseph Tancredi (USA)

## 2018 WINNERS

### ***Edward Rosen Memorial Grand Prize***

Takaoki Onishi (Japan)

### ***Dmitri Hvorostovsky Memorial Career Grant***

Takaoki Onishi (Japan)

### ***Teatro alla Scala Audition Prize***

Mario Rojas (Mexico)

### ***Second Prize***

Dashai Chen (China)

### ***Second Prize***

Ziyi Dai (China)

### ***Audience Favorite Prize***

Xiaomeng Zhang (China)

### ***Dr. David DiChiera Encouragement Awards***

Aaron Crouch (USA)

Sae Lin Kim (South Korea)

Mario Rojas (Mexico)

## 2017 WINNERS

### ***Edward Rosen Memorial Grand Prize***

Jaemin Yoon (South Korea)

### ***Second Prizes***

Gerardo de la Torre (Mexico)

Kang Wang (Australia/China)

### ***Audience Favorite Awards***

Jana McIntyre (USA)

Felicia Moore (USA)

### ***Encouragement Awards***

Bryan Murray (USA)

Suzannah Waddington (Canada/USA)

### ***Operavision Academy Scholarship***

Carami Hilaire (USA)

### ***Centro Studi Italiani Scholarship***

Siman Chung (South Korea)

# Thank You For Attending The 2022 Virtual Finals

PREMIERE OPERA FOUNDATION  
is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization  
EIN 86-1236503

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