

2021–22 SEASON

UTAH

DISTRICT AUDITIONS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2021



LAFFONT
COMPETITION

The Metropolitan Opera



PHOTO: FAY FOX / MET OPERA

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National Semifinals
Sunday, April 24, 2022

**The Eric and Dominique
Laffont Grand Finals
Concert**

Sunday, May 1, 2022

For up to date auditions results, alumni
news, and other general information,
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THE METROPOLITAN OPERA ERIC AND DOMINIQUE LAFFONT COMPETITION

The Met's Laffont Competition—previously known as the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions—is designed to discover promising young opera singers and assist in the development of their careers, and is sponsored by hundreds of donors and volunteers from across the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Some of today's greatest singers got their start in the competition, including Renée Fleming, Susan Graham, Stephanie Blythe, Eric Owens, Lawrence Brownlee, Lisette Oropesa, Nadine Sierra, Jamie Barton, Michael Fabiano, Ryan Speedo Green, and Anthony Roth Costanzo.

The competition is grateful to its donors for prizes at the national level and to the Tobin Endowment for the Mrs. Edgar Tobin Award, given to each first-place region winner.

Support for this program is generously provided by the Charles H. Dyson Endowment Fund at the Metropolitan Opera.

SUPPORT OPERA'S FUTURE STARS

When you make a gift to support the Laffont Competition, you make a statement about your commitment to the future of opera and to helping expand our work of identifying opera's brightest rising stars. This unique initiative is possible thanks to the generous support we receive from valued friends like you.

Please text LAFFONT to 44321 or visit metopera.org/competitionsupport and make a gift to support the Laffont Competition today. Your contribution will make a truly meaningful difference.

November 20, 2021

11:00AM-3:30PM

**Libby Gardner Concert Hall
University of Utah**

Rocky Mountain Region

Karen Bruggenthies, Regional Chairman

Utah District

Julie McBeth and Gunter & Carol Radinger, Co-Directors

Dr. Carol Anderson, Official Pianist

Walter B. Rudolph, Emcee

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Naomi Feigal
Lori Fisher
Paula Fowler
Carolyn Klassen
Tom Klassen
Anne Neeley
Helen Peters
Maggie Strasser

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Isabel Cossa
Mara Davis
David Lach
Pete Floor
Roslyn Reeves
Michael Shoaf

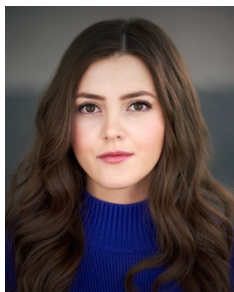
Each singer will begin with an aria of his or her choice; the judges may then request additional arias from the list of selections prepared by that singer. **Applause is encouraged.**

Please turn off or silence devices with audible alarms or ringers (including cell phones) while in the auditorium and only enter or exit the auditorium between singers. For the health and safety of the competing singers, we require that all audience members wear face coverings while in the building.

Audience Choice Award - Complete and return the ballot you received with your program to the marked boxes by the end of today's competition (please do so within 10 minutes of the completion of the final singer). A monetary award will be given to the singer who receives the most votes.

The announcement of this year's Utah District winner(s) and the presentation of awards will take place back in Libby Gardner Concert Hall directly following the completion of the judges' deliberations.

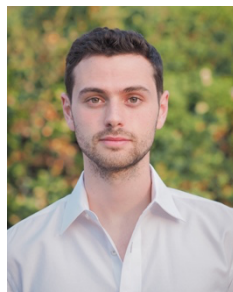
SINGERS



Kaylyn Baldwin



Jordan Bowman



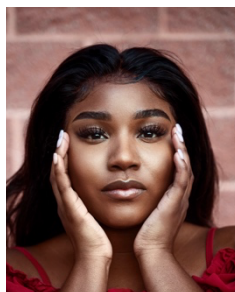
Jack Canfield



Alyssa Dessoie



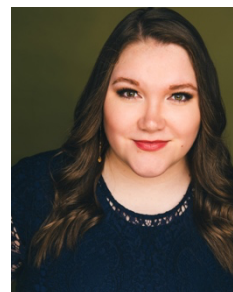
Evan Hammond



Kourtney Holmes



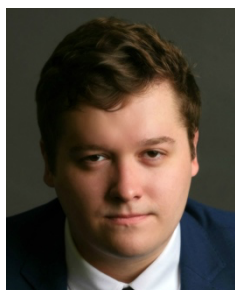
Mary Hoskins



Hannah Jackson



Benjamin Krutsch



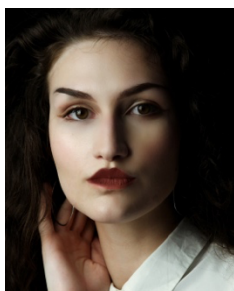
Daniel O'Hearn



Thomas O'Neill



Matthew Pearce



Carlyle Quinn



Tiffanie Trujillo



Cristina Villalobos



Bryan Weatherston



Samuel Weiser



REPERTOIRE | NOVEMBER 20, 2021
IN PERFORMANCE ORDER

HANNAH JACKSON, SOPRANO, 26

SALT LAKE CITY, UT

Donde lieta uscì	LA BOHÈME	Puccini
Or sai chi l'onore	DON GIOVANNI	Mozart
Je dis que rien ne m'épouvante	CARMEN	Bizet
My Darling Jim	GLORY DENIED	Tom Cipullo

EVAN HAMMOND, BARITONE, 27

LEXINGTON, AL

Dieux qui me poursuivez	IPHIGÉNIE EN TAURIDE	Gluck
Tower Scene	PELLÉAS ET MÉLISANDE	Debussy
Batter my Heart	DOCTOR ATOMIC	Adams
Lieben, Hassen, Hoffen, Zagen	ARIADNE AUF NAXOS	Strauss

TIFFANIE TRUJILLO, SOPRANO, 25

FRESNO, CA

Son pochi fiori	L'AMICO FRITZ	Mascagni
"In quali eccessi... Mi tradi"	DON GIOVANNI	Mozart
"O du, der über Alle wacht"	GENOVEVA	Schumann
"Qual fiamma avea nel guardo!...Stridono lassù"	PAGLIACCI	Leoncavallo

MATTHEW PEARCE, TENOR, 26

UNION, KY

La fleur que tu m'avais jetée	CARMEN	Bizet
Salut! demeure chaste et pure	FAUST	Gounod
Amore o grillo	MADAMA BUTTERFLY	Puccini
Grimes Mad Scene - Steady	PETER GRIMES	Britten

KOURTNEY HOLMES, SOPRANO, 27

NEW ORLEANS, LA

Tu che di gel sei cinta	TURANDOT	Puccini
Ain't it a Pretty Night?	SUSANNAH	Floyd
Je dis que rien ne m'épouvante	CARMEN	Bizet
Porgi, amor	LE NOZZE DI FIGARO	Mozart

BENJAMIN KRUTSCH, TENOR, 27

SPRINGVILLE, UT

Ch'ella mi creda	LA FANCIULLA DEL WEST	Puccini
Durch die Wälder	DER FREISCHÜTZ	Weber
It was something I could stroke	OF MICE AND MEN	Floyd
Winterstürme wichen dem Wonnemond (Spring Song)	DIE WALKÜRE	Wagner

MARY HOSKINS, SOPRANO, 29	SARATOGA SPRINGS, UT	
Or sai chi l'onore	DON GIOVANNI	Mozart
Robert, toi que j'aime	ROBERT LE DIABLE	Meyerbeer
I Want Magic	A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE	Previn
Marietta's Lied	DIE TOTE STADT	Korngold
BRYAN WEATHERSTON, TENOR, 27	NAMPA, ID	
In fernem Land	LOHENGRIN	Wagner
Durch die Wälder	DER FREISCHÜTZ	Weber
Arrêtez, ô mes frères	SAMSON ET DALILA	Saint-Saëns
Non piangere, Liù	TURANDOT	Puccini
ALYSSA DESOYE, SOPRANO, 28	TAMPA, FL	
Mi chiamano Mimì	LA BOHÈME	Puccini
Je dis que rien ne m'épouvante	CARMEN	Bizet
Porgi, amor	LE NOZZE DI FIGARO	Mozart
No word from Tom... Cabaletta	THE RAKE'S PROGRESS	Stravinsky
DANIEL O'HEARN, TENOR, 25	CHICAGO, IL	
Ah! mes amis, quel jour de fête!...Pour mon âme	LA FILLE DU RÉGIMENT	Donizetti
Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön	DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE	Mozart
Ecco ridente in cielo	IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA	Rossini
I See	MOBY-DICK	Heggie
JACK CANFIELD, BARITONE, 29	ATLANTA, GA	
Ô vin, dissipe la tristesse	HAMLET	Thomas
Batter my Heart	DOCTOR ATOMIC	Adams
Mein Sehnen, mein Wähnen (Pierrot's Tanzlied)	DIE TOTE STADT	Korngold
Rivolgete a lui lo sguardo	COSÌ FAN TUTTE	Mozart
JORDAN BOWMAN, SOPRANO, 29	POCATELLO, ID	
Je suis encor tout étourdie	MANON	Massenet
Senza mamma	SUOR ANGELICA	Puccini
Deh vieni, non tardar	LE NOZZE DI FIGARO	Mozart
Je dis que rien ne m'épouvante	CARMEN	Bizet
CARLYLE QUINN, MEZZO-SOPRANO, 21	PORTLAND, OR	
Va! laisse couler mes larmes	WERTHER	Massenet
Olga's Aria	EUGENE ONEGIN	Tchaikovsky
Cruda sorte!... Già so per pratica	L'ITALIANA IN ALGERI	Rossini
"I have dreamt"	WUTHERING HEIGHTS	Herrmann

CRISTINA VILLALOBOS, SOPRANO, 21**SPRINGVILLE, UT**

Amour, ranime mon courage	ROMÉO ET JULIETTE	Gounod
Donde lieta uscì	LA BOHÈME	Puccini
Je dis que rien ne m'épouvante	CARMEN	Bizet
Piangerò la sorte mia	GIULIO CESARE	Handel

SAMUEL WEISER, BASS-BARITONE, 30**PRINCETON JUNCTION, NJ**

Bin ich nun frei? Wirklich frei?!	DAS RHEINGOLD	Wagner
I'm fixin' to tell ya 'bout a feller I knowed	SUSANNAH	Floyd
Madamina! il catalago è questo	DON GIOVANNI	Mozart
Riez! Allez!	DON QUICHOTTE	Massenet

KAYLYN BALDWIN, SOPRANO, 24**LAS VEGAS, NV**

Be Kind and Courteous	A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM	Britten
Arrière! Je réchauffe les bons (Le feu)	L'ENFANT ET LES SORTILÈGES	Ravel
Chacun le sait	LA FILLE DU RÉGIMENT	Donizetti
Quel guardo il cavaliere...So anch'io la virtù magica	DON PASQUALE	Donizetti

THOMAS O'NEILL, TENOR, 22**ABINGDON, VA**

Tuo drudo è mio rivale	RODELINDA, REGINA DE' LONGOBARDI	Händel
What's going on down below, Mister B?	ELIZABETH CREE	Puts
Ich baue ganz	DIE ENTFÜHRUNG AUS DEM SERAIL	Mozart
Vasek's Aria (Má ma-ma-ticka) (N...n...n...now, my dear)	THE BARTERED BRIDE (PRODANÁ NEVESTA)	Smetana

JUDGES



Alex Fletcher serves as president of Fletcher Artist Management, a firm he founded in December 2009.

Before starting FAM, Alex began his career at Neil Funkhouser Artists Management, where he eventually assumed the position of artist manager. A Business Member of Opera America, he has been a panelist for that organization's "Making Connections" series in New York and Philadelphia. He has been a member of the jury for the McCammon Voice Competition in Fort Worth, Texas, the Opera Birmingham Competition in Alabama, and since 2018, regularly serves as a judge for the District and Regional levels of the Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition.

Alex has held internships with the public relations department of Washington National Opera and with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra in Alexandria, Virginia. He received his bachelor's degree in Business Administration, cum laude, from the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia, where he also studied vocal performance. He is a native of Fairfax, Virginia.



Christopher Cano is the Head of Music for Arizona Opera and Director of the Marion Roose Pullin Arizona Opera Studio, an appointment he began with the 2017/18 season.

A seasoned recitalist, orchestra soloist and collaborative pianist, Cano has performed throughout the US, Mexico, Israel, Europe and the Far East.

Having maintained his private studio in New York City since 2002, Cano has prepared singers for appearances at The Metropolitan Opera, Teatro alla Scalla, Chicago Lyric Opera, and orchestral appearances with the New York Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, the Berlin Philharmonic among others.

As a collaborative artist, he has played in the Master Classes of Licia Albanese, Fedora Barbieri, Anna Moffo, Lauren Flannigan, Martin Katz, Craig Rutenberg, and Suzanne Mentzer. Cano has also played for the master classes of Marilyn Horne in New York City at Carnegie Hall. As a studio pianist, Mr. Cano has had the distinct privilege of working with some of the great artists and teachers of singing including Marilyn Horne, Sherrill Milnes, Luciano Pavarotti, Marni Nixon, Patricia McCaffrey, Joan Patenaude-Yarnell, Rita Shane and Diana Soviero.

Cano has been a member of the music staff at the Festival Lyrique en Mer in Belle Isle, France, Toledo Opera, San Diego Opera, Utah Festival Opera, Opera Company of North Carolina, Florida Grand Opera, and Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, among others.



Brady Walsh is the Associate Director of the Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition. Mr. Walsh judges for the Met throughout the United States and Canada, presents master classes, and hears young artists in screening auditions both at the Met and at various summer festivals across the country. Since successfully pivoting to virtual auditions for the Met Competition's 2020-2021 season, Mr. Walsh was brought on as a producer for the 2021 Queen Sonja International Music Competition, as well as for the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music's Corbett Competition. In 2019, he was named a special guest for the finals of the inaugural Nicola Martinucci International Vocal Competition in Lucca, Italy, and was a technician at the 2020 NATS National Conference in New York, where he co-presented with Melissa Wegner their workshop "The Self-Assured Singer," also seen at SUNY Potsdam. Walsh is the Artistic Director and Owner of Carpe Diem Theater in Round Lake, NY, having previously served as Music Director from 2011-2014. Carpe Diem maintains annual enrollment of over 100 campers and staff that participate in leadership training and a catalogue of progressive and accessible musical theater programs that were conceived by Walsh and company.

Before joining the Met's Artistic Department in 2018, Brady worked in the managerial department of Opus 3 Artists and in the artistic department of the Santa Fe Opera (SFO). Highlights of his time with SFO include expanding their annual apprentice showcase attendance by 30% and assisting in the development of the world premiere of Mason Bates' *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs*. Walsh holds bachelor's degrees in Music Education and Music Business and a certificate of Vocal Performance from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam. As a performer, he has appeared in leading roles in regional and community theater productions across the New York City area and is also an avid writer, with both screen and stage projects in development.

OFFICIAL PIANIST



Carol Anderson is in her nineteenth season as principal coach for Utah Symphony | Utah Opera, while spending her summers on the music staff of The Santa Fe Opera. She is regularly engaged as official accompanist for the Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition, for the Utah District (since 2006), the Southeast Region in Atlanta (2014-17), the Florida District (2003, 2021), and the Arizona District (2021). Dr. Anderson offers the immensely popular “Prelude Talks” before every Utah Opera performance, and is a cohost of USUO’s Ghostlight podcast, with Grand Teton Music Festival’s Jeff Counts.

Dr. Anderson’s professional opera coaching career was launched by her two seasons as apprentice coach in the prestigious Houston Grand Opera Studio. Previous to her appointment in Utah, she served as chorus master and musical administrator for the Orlando Opera, where she made her conducting debut leading performances of *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. Mentorship and development of operatic artists has long been a focus. She is often asked to present master classes and offer individual consultations to opera and voice students at music schools across the country. Dr. Anderson has also presented on opera coaching topics at CollabFest at University of Southern California and was a panelist on OPERA America’s recent webinar “Behind the Table: Demystifying the Opera Audition.”

GUEST ARTIST



Celena Nelson Shafer (a 1998 and 1999 Utah District winner of this competition) has garnered acclaim for her silvery voice, fearlessly committed acting and phenomenal technique. She spends much of her time on the concert stage and has appeared with the orchestras in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, and Los Angeles with leading conductors such as Christoph von Dohnanyi, Alan Gilbert, Bernard Labadie, Robert Spano, Nicholas McGegan, Kent Nagano, Donald Runnicles, Michael Tilson Thomas, David Robertson, and Sir Andrew Davis.

A celebrated artist in her home state of Utah, Ms. Shafer has a long relationship with Utah Symphony | Utah Opera, appearing regularly on the Abravanel Hall and Janet Quinney Lawson Capitol Theatre stages. Elsewhere Ms. Shafer’s operatic highlights have included Johanna in *Sweeney Todd* for the Lyric Opera of Chicago and Nannetta in *Falstaff* with the Los Angeles Opera, both with Bryn Terfel; Blonde in *The Abduction from the Seraglio* with the Opera Theatre of St. Louis; Aithra in *Die ägyptische Helena* with the American Symphony Orchestra recorded for Telarc; Zerbinetta in *Ariadne auf Naxos* at the Concertgebouw; Gilda in *Rigoletto* with the Welsh National Opera; and has been featured in Santa Fe Opera productions of Mozart’s *Lucio Silla*, Berlioz’s *Beatrice and Benedict*, and Britten’s *Albert Herring*.

She completed her undergraduate at the University of Utah and received a master’s degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance.

Donations to the Utah District, Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition provide the prize monies for award winners and support the costs incurred in hosting this round of the competition. It is important to note that although the Utah District is officially sanctioned by The Metropolitan Opera and feeds the national competition finals, it does not receive funding from the national office. Thus, we must raise all needed funds for our annual Utah District Competition, which we accomplish through the generosity of local businesses and individuals.

Thank you to the following generous donors whose contributions made today's event possible.

Benefactor

Judy Brady and Drew W. Browning
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Julie and Christopher McBeth



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The Utah District, Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition Advisory Board and Committee gratefully acknowledge the continued partnership of The University of Utah School of Music, which donates the use of this beautiful facility for the auditions.

