



Bold Voices, Boundless Futures

## National Opera Association

### Robert Hansen Collegiate Opera Scenes Competition 2026

Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the Fairmont Copley Plaza Grand Ballroom

**Master of Ceremonies:** Paul Houghtaling

**Finals Judges:** Tom Cipullo, Emma Griffin, Kristen Kemp, Corey Trahan, Darren Keith Woods

**COSC Committee:** Marc Callahan (Co-Chair), and David Ronis (Co-Chair); Bonita Bunt, Cris Frisco, James Haffner, Dawn Neely, Laura Pritchard, Corey Trahan, Elizabeth Truitt, Stephanie Weiss

**Preliminary Round Judges:** The COSC Committee, Jeni Houser (Opera Division I), Scott MacLeod (Musical Theatre), Travis Sherwood (Opera Division II)

#### PROGRAM

##### **OPERA DIVISION I**

**Pepperdine University, Malibu, California**

***Speed Dating Tonight!*, "Fragile Heart" Words and Music by Michael Ching**

**Based on a Concept by Dean Anthony**

Billie: Miara Williams

Aaron: Joshua Corey

Stage Director: Keith Colclough

Music Director: David Wilkinson

Costumer: Alexandria Hoffman

Pianist: David Wilkinson

**Baylor University, Waco, Texas**

***Little Women, Act II, Scene 5, "Let me look at you" by Mark Adamo***

Jo: Mackenzie Block

Meg: Ella Selden

Amy: Monica Malas

Beth: Nalani Defensor

Stage Director: Jen Stephenson

Music Director: Kathleen Kelly

Pianist: J. Bradley Baker

**Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama**

***Die Fledermaus, Act II, Duet, "How engaging, how exciting" by Johann Strauss, Karl Haffner and Richard Genée, translated by Ruth and Thomas Martin***

Rosalinde: Macy Rose

Eisentstein: Leland Garris

Amy: Monica Malas

Beth: Nalani Defensor

Pianist: Zoë Willis

Costumer: Alyssa Douglas



**Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington**

***Speed Dating Tonight!*, "Opening and Some Daters" Words and Music by Michael Ching  
Based on a Concept by Dean Anthony**

Company: Camille Brennan, Caitly Leners, Jaykub Willis,  
Kyra Ross, Ashley Both, Jakob Kennicutt, Kristina Svistunov,  
Camden Sanor, Dallin Millard, Ryan Taylor-Schmid

Stage Director: Gayla Blaisdell  
Music Director: Gayla Blaisdell  
Music Director: Isaac Vargas  
Pianist: Kristin Ditlow

**MUSICAL THEATER DIVISION**

**West Texas A&M University, Canyon, Texas**

***The Secret Garden*, "I heard someone crying" by Lucy Simon and Marsha Norman**

Lily: Sarah Estes  
Archie: Kelton Harbison  
Mary: Ace Bolin

Ensemble: Anya Brown,  
Cadence Brown, CJ Hernandez,  
Elliott Lewis

Director: Sarah Beckham-Turner  
Musical Director: Leesa Kellerman  
Pianist: Kristin Ditlow

**Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, Texas**

***The Fugitive Songs*, Act I, Scene 19 by Chris Miller and Nathan Tysen**

Alysha: Angel Purl  
Joshua: Jalen Wheaton  
Gavin: Andrew Cole  
Matt: Finn Pool

Kevin: Sai Nicholson  
Karen: Izzu Cantu  
Barrett: Maddie Clark  
Pianist: Casey Joiner-Isaacs

Stage Director: Casey Joiner-Isaacs  
Acting Coach: Alison Frost  
Music Director: Casey Joiner-Isaacs

**Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama**

***On the Town*, Act I, Scene 6 by Leonard Bernstein, Betty Comden and Adolph Green**

Ozzie: Yianni Rokas  
Claire: Lucy Lammons

Stage Director: Kristin Kenning  
Music Director: Brian Viliunas

Pianist: Zoë Willis  
Costumer: Mary Taylor Gurney

**Pepperdine University, Malibu, California**

***Sweeney Todd*, Act I, Scene 7, "A Little Priest" by Stephen Sondheim and Hugh Wheeler**

Mrs. Lovett: Tessa Hemphill  
Sweeney Todd: Nicholas Gerding

Stage Director: Keith Colclough  
Music Director & Pianist: David Wilkinson



**OPERA DIVISION II**

**University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland**

***Florencia en el Amazonas, ACT 1, Scene 7* by Daniel Catán and Marcela Fuentes-Berain**

Rosalba: Meghan Nelson

Alvaro: Bryan Bennett

Director: Gregory Keng Strasser

Paula: Alla Salakhova

Arcadio: Max Alexander Cook

Musical Director: Steven Bailey

Pianist: J. Bradely Baker

**Baylor University, Waco, Texas**

***Die Fledermaus, Act II, No. 11* by Johann Strauss, Karl Haffner and Richard Geneé,  
translated by Ruth and Thomas Martin**

Orlofky: Alexandra LaVake

Adele: Sofia Rohlman

Director: Jen Stephenson

Eisenstein: kenneth McCall

Rosalinde: Camille Bullard

Music Director: Kathleen Kelly

Pianist: J. Bradley Baker

Ensemble: Alan Hollinger, John Jovicich, Bryce Comeaux,  
Jackson Phillips, Nathan Clark, Caroline Holt, Sylvia D. Jones,  
Sarah Martinez

**California State University-Fullerton, Fullerton, California**

***Susannah, Act I, Scene 5* by Carlisle Floyd**

Susannah: Katelyn Cruz

Sam: Joshua Evans

Director: Kerry Jennings

Little Bat: Yngwie Zamarippa

Musical Director: Mark Salters

Pianist: Kristin Ditlow

**West Texas A&M University, Canyon, Texas**

***I Pagliacci, "Nedda! Silvio!"* by Ruggero Leoncavallo**

Nedda: Abigail Hite

Director: Sarah Beckham-Turner

Pianist: Kristin Ditlow

Silvio: Kyler Hilton

Musical Director: Leesa Kellerman