

# *Angela Meade*

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**VOCAL COMPETITION FINALE**



**NOVEMBER 12, 2023**

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**PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY**

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY  
College of Professional Studies  
School of Music, Theatre & Dance  
present

# Angela Meade

## VOCAL COMPETITION FINALE

November 12, 2023, 3:00 pm  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### PROGRAM

#### WELCOME

**Dr. Brian Galante**

*Associate Dean, School of Music, Theatre & Dance*

### FINALIST PERFORMANCES

The Bird .....John Duke (1899-1984)  
“Durch Zärtlichkeit und Schmeicheln” .....W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)  
from *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*  
**Ellie O’Brien, soprano**

Nebbie .....Ottorino Respighi (1879-1936)  
“Lieben Hassen Hoffen Zagen” .....Richard Strauss (1864-1949)  
from *Ariadne auf Naxos*  
**Jack Burrows, baritone**

There came a wind like a bugle.....Lee Hoiby (1926-2011)  
“O mio Fernando!” .....Gaetano Donizetti (1797-1848)  
from *La Favorita*  
**Isabella Daltoso, mezzo soprano**

Claire de lune..... Claude Debussy (1862-1918)  
“Quando m’en vo” .....Giacoma Puccini (1858-1924)  
from *La bohème*  
**Madison Zantello, soprano**

Zueignung.....Strauss  
“Lonely House” .....Kurt Weill (1900-1950)  
from *Street Scene*  
**Allen Benjamin Tugade, tenor**

### JUDGES DELIBERATION

*Please join us in the lobby for refreshments  
as the judges deliberate.*

### AWARDS PRESENTATION

**Dr. James Brown**

Coordinator of Vocal Studies

### ABOUT THE PIANIST



**SHEILA BRISTOW** is a versatile collaborative keyboardist who performed with Seattle Opera Guild, Tacoma Opera, Vashon Opera, and 5th Avenue Theater. Sheila also enjoys being part of the continuo team (harpsichord/organ) for early music performances. She holds degrees in composition and organ performance from Cornish College of the Arts and the University of Washington. Currently serves as Music Director at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church and keyboardist for Harmonia Orchestra and Chorus.

## ABOUT THE FINALISTS

(listed alphabetically)



**JACK BURROWS** is ecstatic to be performing alongside his talented colleagues! Currently a Junior in Vocal Performance, Jack is an active member of PLU Opera, Choir of the West, PLU Chapel, and Christ Church Tacoma. Loving a good competition, he recently won the NATS National Student Auditions, and he has been a finalist for the Vanderlaan Prize, Bremerton Concerto Competition, and last year's Angela Meade Competition. He'd like to thank Holly Boaz for her expert coaching on his repertoire, his family for supporting his dreams of becoming a singer, and his girlfriend, whose birthday is today!



Mezzo-Soprano **ISABELLA DALTOSO** will earn her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance this May from Pacific Lutheran University, where she is an Agnes Berge Smith Music Scholar and the James D. Holloway Scholar for her class. With PLU Opera, Isabella has performed as Sesto in *Giulio Cesare*, Dritte Dame in *Die Zauberflöte*, Prince Orlofsky in *Die Fledermaus*, and Ruth in *Pirates of Penzance*.

Isabella made her professional opera debut last year with Vashon Opera as Praskovia/Lolo in *The Merry Widow*. Isabella was a recent young artist at Chicago Summer Opera, where she performed the role of Goffredo in Handel's *Rinaldo*. In the spring of 2023, Isabella traveled to Vienna, Austria, where she participated in the IES Abroad Music Program as a member of the Music Performance Workshop. Most recently, Isabella sang Dinah in Bernstein's *Trouble in Tahiti* with PLU Opera and Northwest Sinfonietta. Isabella is a student of Janeanne Houston.



**ELLIE O'BRIEN** is honored and thrilled to be a finalist in the 2023 Angela Meade Vocal Competition! Ellie is in her fourth year at PLU, pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Vocal Performance and minors in French and Business. Recent highlights of her singing career include Susanna in Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* at Castello Brancaleoni in Piobbico, Italy, Cleopatra in Handel's *Giulio Cesare* with PLU Opera,

and the soloist in David T. Clydesdale's arrangement of "O Holy Night" in the PLU *Hope* Christmas Concert series. Ellie is thankful for her loving friends and family, and is especially grateful for the guidance and support of her vocal professor at PLU, Dr. Soon Cho.

**ALLEN BENJAMIN TUGADE** possesses a ringing, warm, exciting tenor. He is an engaging performer, committed to connecting with his audience. Currently studying voice under soprano Holly Boaz, Allen is an active member of the PLU choral community, having performed in the Knights Chorus and in the University Chorale, now singing in the Choir of the West. He was a featured performer in the 2023 PLU Summer Opera Workshop, and plans to continue

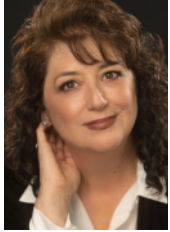


his involvement in the PLU Opera program. Allen is a national semi-finalist in the NATS National Student Auditions competition for musical theater, and a NW Region 3rd place winner for classical voice. Earning his B.A. in Sociology with a minor emphasis on Data Science, he plans to study further in a PhD program. Allen would like to thank Holly Boaz for all of her support and encouragement throughout their time together, his friends, family, and his partner, Gavin, for all of their love and support.

**MADISON ZANTELO**, sophomore, studied voice at an early age with Miss Amy Fuller, and now studies with Dr. Soon Cho, two amazing women who have honed Maddy's love of vocal performance and opera. Madison's accolades include Morticia, *The Addams Family*; Amazon back-to-school radio spot; Seattle Opera Teen Vocal Studio; three-time participant of American Choral Directors Association regional and national honor choirs; Schmidt Vocal Arts Competition regional finalist; soprano state champion of 2022 Washington Music Educators Association State Solo and Ensemble; Adina and Rosalinda in PLU's productions of *L'Elisire d'amore* and *Die Fledermaus*. This summer, Maddy studied at the Brancaleoni International Music Festival in Italy which included performances of "Quando m'en vo" as Musetta and "Stizzoso mio stizzoso" as Serpina. Jesus, family, friends, animals, music, delicious food, and serving others are Madison's greatest loves. Maddy's prayer is to share her voice with the world and touch people's lives through song.



## ABOUT THE JUDGES



In demand as a concert soloist, **KELLEY NASSIEF** has recently sung Mozart's *Requiem* with the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, and Mahler's *Symphony No. 2* (Resurrection) with the Tucson Symphony Orchestra. She was soloist in Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* with the Orquesta Filarmónica de Boca del Rio, Strauss' *Vier letzte Lieder* with the Louisville Orchestra, and in Bernstein's *Symphony No. 3* ("Kaddish") with

Fondazione Orchestra Sinfonica Siciliana in Italy as well as Bardavon 1869 Opera House in New York. Other recent engagements include soloist in Mahler's *Symphony No. 2* with the Grand Rapids Symphony and in her Dallas Symphony Orchestra debut; soprano soloist in Bernstein's "Kaddish" Symphony at Konzerthaus Berlin; with Richmond Symphony in Verdi's *Requiem*, also with the Portland Symphonic Choir; with the Rochester Symphony Orchestra in Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*; and with Nashville Symphony in Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony*. She also sings in recitals regularly in North America and Europe, and has appeared on Japanese television. Ms. Nassief was named a winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, was awarded a Sullivan Foundation Grant, is a Laureate of the Leonard Bernstein Jerusalem International Oratorio and Song Competition, and received a Richard Tucker Career Grant. Her opera credits include *First Lady in Die Zauberflöte* (Lyric Opera of Chicago, Philadelphia Opera), Cover of Desdemona in *Otello* (Lyric Opera of Chicago), Contessa in *Le Nozze di Figaro* (Portland Opera, Chautauqua Opera, Arizona Opera), Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* (Atlanta Opera), Mimi in *La Bohème* (Atlanta Opera, Arizona Opera, Glimmerglass Opera), Liu in *Turandot* (Atlanta Opera), Micaela in *Carmen* (Minnesota Opera, Saarbrücken Germany), Tatiana in *Eugene Onegin* (Strasbourg Opera), and Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* (Eugene Opera). Ms. Nassief is the Director of Opera and Opera Studios and the Marilyn Crilly Professor of Opera at Portland State University. She is a vocal pedagogue sought after for master classes and clinics throughout the country. She has been an adjudicator for several competitions, including National NATS, NW Regional NATS. Ms. Nassief has a private studio in Portland, Oregon.



Soprano **ALLISON POHL**'s vivacious stage presence and spirited singing have inspired enthusiastic responses across three continents. Her work has received positive reviews for her "sparkling voice" (outerstage.com) and "exuberant" performances (Opera News). Of her performance in *L'elisir d'amore* at Virginia Opera, *The Washington Post* wrote: "Allison Pohl stood out with a ripe, flavorful soprano and ample character." Her 2023/2024 engagements include Violetta in *La Traviata* at Opera Bend, Social Worker/Reporter in *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X* at Seattle Opera, Stella in *A Streetcar Named Desire* at Tacoma Opera, Tatyana in highlights from *Eugene Onegin* with SkyOpera, Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro* at Vashon Opera, a solo recital in Freeport, New York, Handel's *Messiah* with Symphony Tacoma, and several concerts curated by Maestro Keith Lockhart of the Boston Pops. Allison has appeared with opera companies and orchestras throughout the United States, including Boston Lyric Opera, New York City Opera, Virginia Opera, Opera Saratoga, Tacoma Opera, Vashon Opera, Opera in the Heights, Opera Providence, Opera on the James, Seattle Symphony, Canton Symphony, Symphony Tacoma, Bremerton Symphony, Seattle Philharmonic, Garden State Philharmonic, Harmonia Seattle, and SkyOpera. She has been a soloist for orchestral tours in both Italy and China. As a member of Soprello, Allison has performed chamber music across North America with cellist Alistair MacRae. She is the Artistic Director of Vashon Opera, a Seattle Opera Career Grant recipient, winner of the Seattle Philharmonic Concerto Competition, is on faculty at Brevard Music Center, and holds degrees from SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Music and Boston University.



**DAVID MCDADE** first worked with Seattle Opera in 1995 in *Rigoletto* and the *Ring*, joining the staff full-time in 2002. As Head of Coach-Accompanists and Assistant Chorus Master he plays for rehearsals and auditions and is sometimes heard on celesta or piano in the pit with the orchestra. He has accompanied various recitals for Seattle Opera and often accompanies the local rounds of the Metropolitan Opera Auditions. McDade has been a vocalist, a French horn player, and a conductor.

American soprano **Angela Meade '01** is the winner of both the Metropolitan Opera's 2012 Beverly Sills Artist Award and the 2011 Richard Tucker Award. In 2008, she joined an elite group of singers when, as Elvira in Verdi's *Ernani*, she made her professional operatic debut on the Met stage. Since then, she has fast become recognized as one of today's outstanding vocalists, excelling in the most demanding heroines of the 19th-century bel canto repertoire as well as in the operas of Verdi and Mozart.

A native of Washington State and an alumna of Pacific Lutheran University and the Academy of Vocal Arts, Ms. Meade has triumphed in an astounding number of vocal competitions: 57 in all, including many of the opera world's most important prizes. In addition to being a winner at the 2007 Met National Council Auditions, as documented in *The Audition*, a film that was subsequently released on DVD by Decca, she was also the first singer to take first prize in both the opera and operetta categories of the prestigious Belvedere Competition.

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## THANK YOU

We are grateful to Angela Meade and her husband, John Myers, for establishing the endowment that makes the Angela Meade Vocal Competition possible. In addition, we are thankful to a number of PLU alumni and friends for their gifts to both the Angela Meade Endowment Fund and the Angela Meade Vocal Competition Fund. Contributions to these funds can be made through the Office of Advancement at Pacific Lutheran University.

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