Angela Meade

VOCAL COMPETITION FINALE



NOVEMBER 1, 2026

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

College of Professional Studies
School of Music, Theatre & Dance presents

Angela Meade
VOCAL COMPETITION FINALE

PROGRAM

WELCOME
Dr. Brian Galante
Associate Dean, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

FINALISTS PERFORMANCES

O Kühler Wald ..... Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Voi Che Sapete ..... W. A. Mozart (1756-1791)
from *Le Nozze di Figaro*
Isabella Wilkins, mezzo-soprano

Hai Già Vinta la Causa ..... W. A. Mozart
from *Le Nozze di Figaro*
Amabel ..... Gerald Finzi (1901-1956)
Giacobbe Whitworth, baritone

Lonely House ..... Kurt Weill (1900-1950)
from *Street Scene*
Ich grolle nicht ..... Robert Schumann (1810-1856)
from *Dichterliebe*
Joaquin Makinster, tenor

Non so più cosa son ..... W. A. Mozart
from *Le Nozze di Figaro*
Intorno all'idol mio ..... Antonio Cesti (1623-1669)
Bella Richen, mezzo-soprano

Die Wetterfahne ..... Franz Schubert (1797-1828)
from *Winterreise*
Vechhia Zimarra, Senti ..... Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)
from *La Bohème*
Cade Tate, bass-baritone

Orpheus with His Lute ..... Eric Coates (1885-1957)
Tradito, schernito ..... W. A. Mozart
from *Così fan tutte*
Craig Lundblom, tenor

Joy (1993) ..... Ricky Ian Gordon
Der Hölle Rache ..... W. A. Mozart
from *Die Zauberflöte*
Claire Cilley, soprano

Allerseelen ..... Richard Strauss (1864-1949)
De miei bollenti spiriti ..... Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)
from *La Traviata*
Coleton Davis, 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



David McDade is Seattle Opera's principal coach, pianist, and assistant chorus master and has served as an assistant conductor for every presentation of *The Ring* since 1995. He is a regular accompanist for the Laffont Auditions and has played with the Seattle Symphony in the pit of the Opera House.

THANK YOU

We are grateful to Angela Meade and her husband, John Myers, for establishing the endowment that makes this vocal competition possible. We are also thankful to a number of PLU alumni and friends for their gifts to both the Angela Meade Endowment Fund and the Vocal Competition Fund. Contributions to these funds can be made through the Office of Advancement at PLU or at ***plu.edu/meade-gift***.

ABOUT THE FINALISTS

(in performance order)



ISABELLA WILKINS is a fourth-year music education major with a secondary focus in choral music. She has been in numerous PLU opera productions, including *HMS Pinafore*, *Light in the Piazza*, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, and various scenes. She is in her third year singing in Choir of the West and currently serves as president. She would like to thank her voice teacher, Dr. Soon Cho, and Professor Amy Boers for their continued support and encouragement in her educational endeavors.



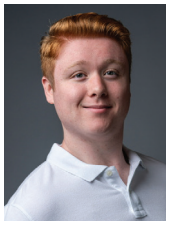
GIACOBBE WHITWORTH is in the second year of a vocal performance degree. Giacobbe was recently seen at Vashon Opera in *Un Ballo in Maschera*, as Servitore di Amelia; he will be there again as The Page in *Amahl and the Night Visitors* this coming December. Giacobbe's most recent principal roles include Count Danilo Danilovitch (*The Merry Widow*) and Giuseppe Naccarelli (*The Light in the Piazza*). In addition to Choir of the West, Giacobbe is also a member of PLU's Knights Chorus and St. John's Episcopal Church Choir in Gig Harbor. Giacobbe would like to thank his parents and grandparents for their never-ending support!



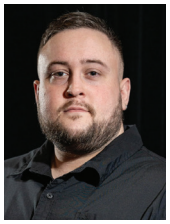
JOAQUIN MAKINSTER is a fourth-year music education major and theater minor. A student of Holly Boaz, he has recently been seen as Courfeyrac in *Les Misérables* (Tacoma Musical Playhouse), Fabrizio in *Light in the Piazza* (PLU Theater), and Lord Pinkleton in *R&H Cinderella* (Manestage Theater Company). He would like to thank his roommates, friends, and family for their continuous support.



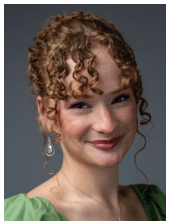
BELLA RICHEN studied voice for four years at Bonney Lake High School in both chamber and jazz ensembles, as well as opera-based voice lessons. Bella is a new transfer student to PLU this year and is working towards a degree in music education. She's also part of PLU's University Chorale and participated in the most recent summer opera workshop *The Merry Widow* as Praskovia. Bella would like to thank her friends and family for supporting her, Tavin for being her number one audience member at home practices, and her parents for giving her the opportunity to attend PLU.



CADE TATE is a third-year music education major. He is a member of the Choir of the West, sings with the St. John's Episcopal Adult Choir and serves as the Bass Choral Scholar. He's competed in various competitions, including the National Association for Teachers of Singing National Student Auditions, Schmidt Vocal Competition, and previous years of the Angela Meade Voice Competition. He would like to extend his gratitude to his family for always supporting him, and to Holly Boaz for always pushing him to be his best.



CRAIG LUNDBLOM is a first-year student studying for his BM in vocal performance. after earning his associate's degree in music from Tacoma Community College. He studies with Dr. James Brown, sings in the Choir of the West, and with Professor Johnson in the Opera Scenes class. Growing up in a musical family, he began vocal studies in 2024; he played John Brooke in his community college's production of *Little Women*, and will be a part of the upcoming J-term opera *The Magic Flute*. He would like to thank Dr. Anne Lyman for her dedication and for being a mentor and driving force in his musicianship.



CLAIRE CILLEY is a second-year vocal performance major. Along with being a member of PLU's premiere ensemble, Choir of the West, and PLU's opera program, she currently serves as the Soprano Choral Scholar for St. John's Episcopal Church of Gig Harbor. Claire has worked with local companies such as Vashon Opera, Seattle Youth Opera, and recently performed in the chorus of Tacoma Opera's *Orfeo ed Euridice*. This fall, Claire will perform the roles of Florencia (*Florencia en el Amazonas*), Rosina (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*), Lakmé (*Lakmé*), and Cleopatra (*Giulio Cesare*) in the PLU Opera Scenes program. She would like to extend her thanks to Dr. Soon Cho and to her supportive family.



COLETON DAVIS is a third-year vocal performance major. His recent role credits include Camille De Rosillon in *The Merry Widow* and Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni* (scenes). Coleton would like to thank his friends, family, and his teacher Dr. Brown for making this all possible.

ABOUT THE JUDGES

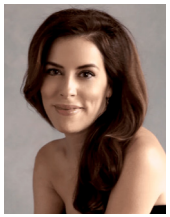


LEEANNE CAMPOS began her professional music career at the age of seven in Munich, Germany, playing the role of a Siamese boy in a production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The King and I*. A past regional finalist in the Metropolitan Opera Council Auditions and the San Francisco Merola Opera Program Auditions, her repertoire included the roles of Despina in *Così fan tutte*, Mimi in *La Bohème*, and Nedda in *I Pagliacci*. After graduating from PLU in 1981, where she was a member of the Choir of the West, she took an apprenticeship with the Chicago Lyric Opera Center for American Artists and received the Margaret Hillis Fellowship.

In 1992, Ms. Campos returned to PLU as a member of the voice faculty. She has served as the director of the Bremerton Symphony Chorale since September 2004 and currently sings with Symphony Tacoma Voices. She has performed with the Tacoma Opera and was as a guest soloist with Symphony Tacoma, the Bremerton WestSound Symphony, the Okanogan Symphony Orchestra, Tacoma Little Theatre, and others.

In 2001 Ms. Campos founded the non-profit, community-based choir Lyrica, Ladies Choral Ensemble of Puget Sound, which offered women of all ages the opportunity for personal musical growth through fun, informative rehearsals and concert programs. In January 2024, Lyrica disbanded.

Ms. Campos and her two children share a love of visual arts; her hobbies include calligraphy, painting with watercolors, printmaking, and artists' books. She is a member of the Puget Sound Book Artists.



AUDREY LUNA is a Grammy Award-winning soprano, who regularly performs on the greatest stages, including the Metropolitan Opera, Vienna State Opera, Royal Opera House Covent Garden, Berlin Philharmonic, Salzburg Festival, Seattle Symphony, and Carnegie Hall. In recent seasons, she was the soprano soloist in *Carmina Burana* with The Dallas Symphony Orchestra, The Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Brussels Philharmonic. She also joined Vancouver Opera to sing one of her signature roles, the Queen of the Night in *Die Zauberflöte*, which she reprises this season at Opera San Antonio in Barry Kosky's production.

Ms. Luna made her début in the role at the Metropolitan Opera in Julie Taymor's beloved production and continued with roles such as Najade in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Fiakermilli in *Arabella*, and Olympia in *Les contes d'Hoffmann*. She set the record for singing the highest written note on the Metropolitan Opera stage, A6, in the role of Leticia for the American premiere production of Thomas Adès' new opera *The Exterminating Angel*, a role she also sang in the world premiere at the Salzburg Festival and in her début with the Royal Opera House Covent Garden.

Her repertoire for the concert stage includes Brahms' *Requiem*, Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony,* Mozart's *C Minor Mass*, Ligeti's *Requiem*, and Ligeti's *Le Grande Macabre*.



JOHN MARZANO '13 is praised for his "light lyric tenor voice" and "fine musicality" (*Boston Musical Intelligencer*). Pacific Northwest-based tenor John Marzano frequents operatic, recital, and concert stages alike. This season includes multiple role debuts such as The Witch in Humperdink's *Hansel und Gretel* at Vashon Opera, Third Jew in Strauss' *Salome*, and Hadgi in Delibes' *Lakmé* both with Seattle Opera. Highlighted by *Broadway World* as a fun night of "quick-witted storytelling, comedy and song", this season also marks the return of his one-woman holiday special *Gay Apparel* as his drag persona Anita Spritzer with Seattle Opera for the second year. Other recent seasons at Seattle Opera have included his 2024 debut recital *Divo to Diva*, Beppe in *Pagliacci*, Spoletta in *Tosca*, and Oronte in Handel's *Alcina*. He also was seen numerous seasons as the tenor soloist in Handel's *Messiah* with Symphony Tacoma, in which *Tacoma Weekly* quoted, "Marzano's rich tones exhibited what an amazing instrument the human voice can be."

Mr. Marzano was named a National Semifinalist in the 2021 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. Additionally, Mr. Marzano has received numerous awards from the Metropolitan Opera National Council, including Northwest Regional Winner in 2021, District Winner in 2013, 2015, and 2021, and as District and Regional Encouragement Awards. Mr. Marzano completed his undergraduate studies at PLU in 2013. During his post-graduate years, he studied at the New England Conservatory of Music.

American soprano **Angela Meade** 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 history's 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.

Recently, Angela Meade made notable returns to Teatro La Fenice, The Metropolitan Opera, Bayerische Staatsoper, and Teatro Carlo Felice in celebrated role portrayals. She returned to the Metropolitan Opera as Leonora in *Il Trovatore* in David McVicar's critically acclaimed production, conducted by Daniele Callegari. She sang the title role in Lucrezia Borgia in Munich and made her debut as the title role in *Die Liebe der Danae* at Teatro Carlo Felice, conducted by Fabio Luisi. Concert appearances included Mahler 8 with Nashville Symphony and Mahler 2 with San Diego Symphony and Rafael Payare.

On the concert stage, Ms. Meade has appeared as a soloist with the New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony, Baltimore Symphony, Boston Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Houston Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Orchestre Métropolitain, Philadelphia Orchestra, Pittsburgh Symphony, Cincinatti Symphony, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, San Antonio Symphony, and Seattle Symphony, among others. Conductors with whom she has collaborated include Roberto Abbado, Gustavo Dudamel, Marin Alsop, Marco Armiliato, Maurizio Benini, Will Crutchfield, Thomas Dausgaard, Plácido Domingo, Charles Dutoit, Riccardo Frizza, Manfred Honeck, Sebastian Lang-Lessing, James Levine, Fabio Luisi, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Gianandrea Noseda, Donald Runnicles, Gerard Schwarz, and Osmo Vänskä.

A native of Washington State and an alumna of 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 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, as documented in *The Audition*, a film 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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