
THE HENRY & MARIA HOLT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

221 LAMBERT AVENUE, PALO ALTO, CA 94306

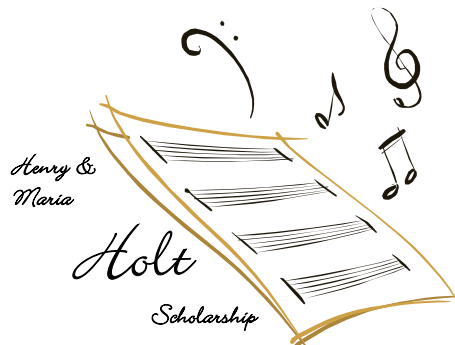
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November 2010

To Our Dear Friends,

Once again we forward the enclosed report on our 2010 vocal competition. Our auditions on March 2010 brought us a roster of young singers who were a delight to hear, many of them showing that exciting and magical spark of talent blossoming.

This is precisely the purpose for which **Maria Holt** founded the program in 1970. Her vision was to continue to serve the community and aspiring young artists with the benchmarks established by her husband, **Henry Holt**. This month marks the 14th anniversary of her passing in 1996 and we salute her memory.

We are privileged to continue her mission in tribute to her dedication.

We are particularly proud that, during the last three seasons, we were able to expand the services to young singers with the help of West Bay Opera, its Opera Guild, and the generosity of you, our donors. Six of the contestants appeared in a special Master Class conducted by the renowned Soprano, **Luana DeVol**. It was a marvelous experience for the singers as well as the fascinated audience. We plan to provide the Master Class again in late Spring 2011.

About our Scholarship Program

We continue to be blessed with applicants for each audition who have the talent and skill to go to the next step in seeking a career in grand opera. We have been happy to see a number of recent winners showcase their potential and hone their skills with Opera San José as resident artists. We also see, from a recent schedule for Houston Opera, that they featured two singers from our past, **John Del Carlo** and **Brian Leerhuber**. This is the quality of contestants that we have been able to attract over the years and explain the satisfaction and joy we feel in continuing our efforts to preserve the legacy of Henry and Maria as champions of the young, beginning singer. These efforts include many hours of hard work behind the scenes by our board members, all on a volunteer basis, and their willingness to furnish their whole-hearted support to this worthy venture.

Our Upcoming Year ~ 2011

Our 2011 competition will take place at the Palo Alto Art Center on **Sunday, March 27, 2011, starting at 1:00 p.m.** If you want an afternoon of glorious music and a first-hand look at budding talent in its infancy, you should plan to attend.

Another "Don't Miss" event is the Master Class at West Bay Opera's Holt Building at 221 Lambert Avenue ~ late Spring 2011.

Since our beginning, we have depended on the generosity of our friends for donations to pursue our mission. We are proud that, to this day, we operate with virtually no overhead. All services are volunteered and many expenses are absorbed by our members so that we can truly say that virtually every cent goes directly into the awards we make each year.

The need for funds increases each year so that we can keep the amount of our awards at a figure which will make a meaningful contribution to the contestants' future plans. That is why we are especially grateful for the generosity of our donors. We have set our fund-raising goal for the new year at \$6000. This amount would fund the awards for 2011, a repeat of our Master Class, as well as cover our two major expenses: insurance and auditorium rental. **This is our only fundraising letter for the entire year.**

The Henry & Maria Holt Memorial Scholarship Fund is a tax-exempt non-profit charitable organization and all donations are fully deductible for Federal and State income tax purposes. The Scholarship Fund is honored to receive your contributions. You will have our sincere gratitude for your expression of trust in our venture, and you can be assured that we will continue to look for that spark of talent that will develop and grow into the future artists in the world of opera.

Respectfully yours,



Ben DeBolt, President

Congratulations 2010 Scholarship Winners

Henry & Maria Holt Scholarship



Adam Lau, Bass-Baritone, is a student of Dr. Stephen King. He received his BA degree in music at Whitman College in 2006 and his Master of Music degree in Voice at Rice University in 2010. He completed vocal studies at Aspen Opera Theater, the Music Academy of the West and the Symphony & Opera Academy of the Pacific where he performed a role in Belcon's *A Wedding*. He also appeared in *Gianni Schicci* and in *Don Giovanni* at Rice University. He performed the role of Leporello in *Don Giovanni* at the Aspen Music Festival. Adam has won several awards, including West Bay Opera's Ellie Silver Award in 2008.

Ellie Silver Award



Clarissa Lyons, Soprano, is a student of Patricia Misslin. She received her BA in Music (with honors) and her Masters degree in Music at UC Berkeley. She also studied at the Bel Canto Institute and at the Bay Area Summer Opera Theater Institute. Her singing experience includes the role of

Mimi in *La Boheme*. In the UC Berkeley Chamber Chorus she sang in scenes from *Rusalka* and *Marriage of Figaro*. She was a soprano soloist in *Elijah* at UC Berkeley

Lisa Kalvelage Award



Kristen Choi, Mezzo-Soprano, is a student of Sylvia Anderson. She graduated with a BA in Vocal Performance from Cal Poly. She is currently attending the San Francisco Conservatory of Music for a Master's degree in Vocal Performance. She has sung in the Pacific Repertory

Opera production as Barbarina in *La Nozze di Figaro*, Witch in *Dido & Aeneas* and as Prince Orlofsky in *Die Fledermaus*. Kristen has also done vocal background studio recording for the reality TV series, "*Survivor*".

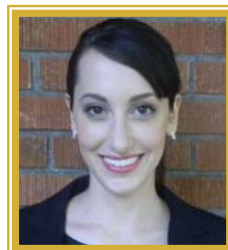
Tony Cuevas Memorial Award



Michael Desnoyers, Tenor, is a student of Cesar Ulloa. He earned his Masters of Music degree at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music in 2010, his Bachelors of Music degree at Slippery Rock University in 2007. He studied at Chautauqua Opera

Studio in 2009, and at the Opera Theater and Music Festival of Lucca Studio in 2006. His singing experience includes roles as Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni* at Berkeley Opera, Eisenstein in *Die Fledermaus* at Slippery Rock, Sellem in *Rake's Progress*, Witch in *Hansel & Gretel*, Pluto in *Orpheus* and Der Narr in *Wozzeck* at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music

Schoenfeld Award



Jennifer Panara, Mezzo-Soprano, is a student of Stephen Bailey. In 2009, she earned her Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and in 2007 her Bachelor of Music in Voice from the Eastman School of Music. In 2005-06 she participated in

the Rochester-Cologne Exchange Program at the University of Cologne in Germany. In recent performances, she sang Goffredo in Pocket Opera's *Rinaldo*, and Prince Orlofsky in Capitol Opera's *Die Fledermaus*. In San Francisco Conservatory of Music Opera's production of *Orpheus*, she sang the role of Public Opinion.



O. J. C. S./Chelma Dry Award

Ryan Bradford, Baritone, is a student of Cesar Ulloa. In 2009 he received his Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal performance at the De Paul University. His singing experience includes the roles of Koko in the *Mikado* and Betto di Signa in *Gianni Schicchi*.

IN APPRECIATION
TO THE GENEROSITY
OF OUR 2009-2010 DONORS,

*Our Sincere
Thanks*



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