

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC

2018
Voice Honors Recital

Brenda Brent, piano



Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 8 pm

Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center, Morgan Hall
Seventy-seventh Concert of the 2017-18 Concert Season



program

FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1809–1847)

from *Elijah*

Lord, God of Abraham

Marcel Benoit III, baritone

GIACOMO PUCCINI (1858–1924)

O mio babbino caro

from *Gianni Schicchi*

Xandria Edwards, soprano

STEFANO DONAUDY (1879–1925)

O del mio amato ben

Jeremiah Robinson, tenor

FERDINAND DAVID (1810–1873)

Unto the Hills

Deondria West, soprano

Ziara Greene, mezzo-soprano

GAETANO DONIZETTI (1797–1848)

Una furtiva lagrima

from *L'elisir d'amore*

Caleb Stack, tenor

Come paride

Lucas Gray, baritone

DOUGLAS MOORE (1893–1969)

Dearest Mama (Letter Aria)

from *The Ballad of Baby Doe*

Claire Pappas, soprano

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756–1791)

Non siate ritrosi

from *Così fan tutte*

Matthew Welsh, baritone

HENRY PURCELL (1659–1695)

To the Hills and the Vales

from *Dido and Aeneas*

Honors Recital Artists

**Special acknowledgment to Ms. Brenda Brent, our pianist for tonight.*

JENNIFER LARMORE | KSU Residency



2018 Honors Recital Artists had the distinct pleasure of working with Metropolitan Opera Artist and internationally recognized mezzo-soprano Jennifer Larmore, who was in residency at KSU School of Music recently. Ms. Larmore was born in Atlanta, Georgia, attended Sprayberry High School and graduated from Westminster Choir College.

Ms. Larmore won the Richard Tucker Award, a Gramophone award and the 2017 Grammy Award for Best Opera Recording for *Hansel and Gretel*. Ms. Larmore is particularly noted for her performances in coloratura and bel canto roles which she has performed in the world's major opera houses.

about the singers

Marcel Benoit, III is 19 years old and a Choral Music Education major at Kennesaw State University. He was born in Atlanta, Georgia, has sung at All-State four times, and performed at the 2018 GMEA Conference. Marcel has also been cast as Aeneas in *Dido and Aeneas* with the KSU Opera Theatre Department. He is an employee of Micro Center Electronics, one of the staff singers at St. James Episcopal Church in Marietta, GA, and a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia fraternity.

After graduation Mr. Benoit plans to begin his career as a public school music educator or pursue a master's degree in Vocal Performance or Conducting. Marcel's hobbies include musical theatre and linguistics.

Xandrya Edwards is 19 years old and was born in Marietta, Georgia. She is a sophomore Vocal Performance major. She was choir president in high school and has placed in the NATS competition for the past two years. She also has been cast as Belinda in the opera production of *Dido and Aeneas*. Xandrya is also part of many organizations on campus including Sigma Alpha Iota (a women's music fraternity), Gamma Phi Beta, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and the National Honor Society- Phi Eta Sigma.

Another interest Ms. Edwards has is Martial Arts. Xandrya is a third degree black belt and hopes to test for her fourth degree sometime this year.

After graduation, Ms. Edwards plans to pursue a masters degree in Vocal Performance and attend law school.

Jeremiah Robinson, tenor, hails from Cartersville, Georgia. Jeremiah is a recent NATS winner and is in his second year of vocal training in Music Education at Kennesaw State University. Mr. Robinson recently sang at GMEA with the KSU Chamber Singers, the KSU Star Spangled Spectacular and the Atlanta Pops Orchestra. Upon graduation, Jeremiah aspires to teach high school chorus, become a private voice teacher/vocal coach, and pursue his graduate degree in vocal performance. Mr. Robinson has had extensive experience in theater and dance.

Deondria West is a native of Cordele, Georgia, and is currently working toward her degree in Choral Music Education and Vocal Performance while studying voice with Professor Todd Wedge. During her studies at KSU, she has been selected to perform in numerous master classes with distinguished artists such as Stephanie Blythe and Lawrence Brownlee. One of her most recent accomplishments was performing the lead role in the one act opera *Savitri* which was sold out three nights in a row.

Ms. West is a member of the KSU Chamber Choir and Gospel Choir as well as the opera program. Deondria is a part of numerous organizations such as the Georgia Music Educators Association, the America Choral Director's Association, and a founding member of the KSU Chapter for the Student National Association for Teachers of Singing – of which she is the vice president.

Ziara Greene is a 21 year old Music Education major at Kennesaw State University. She was born in San Diego, California. This spring, she will be portraying the role of Dido in the university's production of *Dido and Aeneas*. She is also an active member of Sigma Alpha Iota and was recently inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda. After graduating, Ziara plans on continuing her education by pursuing her master's degree in Vocal Performance.

Caleb Stack, tenor, hails from Savannah, Georgia. He is currently a senior in the Bachelor of Arts program. Mr. Stack recently performed at GMEA with the KSU Chamber Singers. Caleb organized, directed and produced the very successful Benefit Concert for the victims of the recent hurricanes and raised hundreds of dollars in that effort. Mr. Stack served as

the summer intern with the Savannah Children's Chorus for the last three years. Upon graduation, Mr. Stack will be pursuing graduate degrees and entering law school. Mr. Stack is currently in rehearsal for the upcoming KSU production of *Dido and Aeneas*.

Lucas Gray, baritone, is from Warner Robbins, Georgia. He is in his second year of his Music Education degree and will be scheduled for his Senior Recital in 2019. Lucas recently performed at GMEA with the award-winning KSU Chamber Singers. At KSU, Lucas has served two consecutive years on the executive committee of the American Choral Director's Association. Mr. Lucas has plans to direct a high school choral program in the Cobb County Schools. In his spare time, he enjoys studying many subjects and watching movies.

Claire Pappas, soprano, was born and raised in Cumming, Georgia, and attended South Forsyth High School. Claire is currently a junior Music Education major with a focus in Choral Studies. After college, she plans to teach high school chorus. Ms. Pappas recently performed at Elm Street Theater in the production of *Next to Normal*, and also with the highly acclaimed KSU Chamber Singers. Claire is a 2017 GA NATS Winner who loves to paint, cook, and watch football with family.

Matthew Welsh, baritone, is a junior Music Performance major at Kennesaw State University. A title winner in both musical theatre and classical singing at 2016 and 2017 NATS competitions, Matthew is a competent performer in many styles. He is an alumni of the Cobb County Center for Excellence in the Performing Arts at Pebblebrook High School (Class of 2015) and the Governor's Honors Program (2014 Voice Major). He has been a part of numerous opera galas and full shows in his time at KSU. Matthew has been assistant music director for shows such as *Oklahoma!*, *Tarzan*, and *Les Misérables*, as well as both assistant music directing and playing piano in the pit of *Into The Woods* at ACT 3 Productions.

Mr. Welsh is also the current representative for Vocal Performance Majors in the KSU School of Music Advisory Council. Matthew is a staff singer at Marietta First Baptist Church and carols in the winter time with the Opera South Atlanta Carolers.

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Charles Jackson	Stephens
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Kelly Bryant, *Flute, Chamber Music*
Robert Cronin, *Flute*
Todd Skitch, *Flute*
Christina Smith, *Flute*
Cecilia Price, *Flute, Chamber Music*
Barbara Cook, *Oboe*
Elizabeth Koch Tiscione, *Oboe*
John Warren, *Clarinet, Chamber Music*
Andrew Brady, *Bassoon*
Sam Skelton, *Saxophone*
Luke Weathington, *Saxophone*

Brass & Percussion

Doug Lindsey, *Trumpet, Chamber Music*
Ryan Moser, *Trumpet*
Mike Tiscione, *Trumpet*
Jason Eklund, *Horn*
Richard Williams, *Horn*
Tom Gibson, *Trombone*
Brian Hecht, *Bass Trombone*
Jason Casanova, *Tuba / Euphonium*
Paul Dickinson, *Tuba / Euphonium*
Marja Kerney, *Percussion*
John Lawless, *Percussion*

Strings

Helen Kim, *Violin*
Kenn Wagner, *Violin, Chamber Music*
Stephen Majeske, *Orchestral Studies*
Catherine Lynn, *Viola*
Paul Murphy, *Viola*
Charae Krueger, *Cello*
James Barkef, *Double Bass*
Joseph McFadden, *Double Bass*
Elisabeth Remy Johnson, *Harp*
Mary Akerman, *Classical Guitar*

Voice

Eileen Moremen	Valerie Walters
Oral Moses	Todd Wedge
Nathan Munson	Jana Young

Piano

Judith Cole, *Collaborative Piano*
Erika Tazawa, *Collaborative Piano*
Julie Coucheron
Robert Henry
Huu Mai
John Marsh

Jazz

Justin Chesarek, *Jazz Percussion*
Wes Funderburk, *Jazz Trombone, Jazz Ensembles*
Karla Harris, *Vocal Jazz*
Tyrone Jackson, *Jazz Piano*
Marc Miller, *Jazz Bass*
Sam Skelton, *Jazz Ensembles*
Rob Opitz, *Jazz Trumpet*
Trey Wright, *Jazz Guitar, Jazz Combos*

Ensembles & Conductors

Leslie J. Blackwell, *Choral Activities*
Nancy Conley, *Philharmonic Orchestra*
Trey Harris, *University Band, Marching Band*
Alison Mann, *Choral Activities*
Oral Moses, *Gospel Choir*
Eileen Moremen, *Opera*
Nathaniel F. Parker, *Symphony Orchestra*
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David T. Kehler, *Wind Ensemble*

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Ensembles in Residence

KSU Faculty Jazz Parliament
Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
KSU Faculty Chamber Players
Summit Piano Trio
KSU Community and Alumni Choir

about the school of music



Welcome to the Bailey Performance Center!

The School of Music at Kennesaw State University is an exciting place! We have a wonderful slate of performances planned for this year's *Signature Series*, and if you have not yet purchased your season tickets, I encourage you to do so as soon as possible. The Atlanta Symphony returns again this year as well as a wonderful slate of other performances.

The Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center is celebrating its 10th Anniversary Season this year. When this building opened in October of 2007, it was transformational for the School of Music and for KSU! It continues to be a jewel in our crown and musicians from around the world love to perform here because of the wonderful acoustic properties of Morgan Hall.

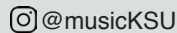
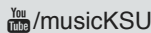
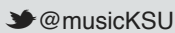
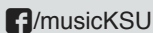
The weekend of October 7th–8th, we had an alumni recital on the 7th and a grand celebration Sunday afternoon October 8th, with full choir and orchestra to celebrate all this Center has meant to us these past 10 years! In honor of the Bailey 10th Anniversary, we officially launched our *Name a Seat Campaign* during our celebration in October. What a wonderful way to honor a loved one or to provide for future programming for Morgan Hall.

I look forward to a long and rewarding relationship with you. With your continued support of music and the arts, I look forward to all that we will accomplish together!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen W. Plate". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Stephen W. Plate, DMA
Director, KSU School of Music

connect with us



musicKSU.com

Visit the Live Streaming page on musicKSU.com to watch live broadcasts of many of our concerts and to view the full schedule of upcoming live streamed events.

Please consider a gift to the Kennesaw State University School of Music.

<http://community.kennesaw.edu/GiveToMusic>