



For Immediate Release

## The Santa Fe Opera Names **45** Apprentice Singers for the 2026 Season

**18** will make **Santa Fe Opera Debuts**, and **26** will perform **Named Roles** in **Mainstage Performances** running **July 3 - August 29, 2026**

**18 December 2025**

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**Santa Fe, NM** —The Santa Fe Opera is pleased to announce the **45 members** of the **2026 Apprentice Program for Singers**. The roster features promising international vocalists from the **USA, Belarus, China, South Korea and Wales**, highlighting the global relevance of the program. The class of 2026 was selected from a pool of more than 1,000 applicants by Program Director **Chandler Johnson**, Chief Artistic Advisor **David Lomelí** and Chorus Director **Susanne Sheston** through a competitive pre-screening and audition process. Says Mr. Johnson, “Each summer, it’s a thrill to see our campus come alive with new and returning artists. We are so pleased to offer the class of 2026 exceptional performance opportunities and look forward to witnessing their artistry deepen and flourish over 13 inspiring weeks here in Santa Fe.”

Each season, the Apprentice Singers comprise the chorus in mainstage productions, sing featured roles and stand ready as covers for principal artists. This year, 18 Apprentice Singers will make Santa Fe Opera debuts, and 26 will sing named roles in four of the five productions. In addition, two special Sunday evening performances will feature the singing and technical apprentices: the popular **Apprentice Scenes** on **August 16, 2026**, honors the longtime tradition of staged scenes from the repertoire. The second performance on **August 23, 2026**, features the singers in **Concert** alongside the **Santa Fe Opera Orchestra**, with lighting and technical support by the Apprentice Technicians. During their time at the Santa Fe Opera, each Apprentice Singer also has the opportunity to work with renowned guest faculty, participate in masterclasses with notable artists and audition for industry leaders from major companies both domestically and internationally.

## **Members of the 2026 Apprentice Program for Singers**

### **SOPRANOS**

Shreya Bhadriraju, Sugar Land, TX  
Kerrigan Bigelow, North Andover, MA  
Malone Blaich^, Kansas City, MO  
Lauryn Davis^, Atlanta, GA  
Alissa Goretsky^, Los Angeles, CA  
Scarlett Jones, Ruthin, North Wales  
Maggie Kindabrew, West Hartford, CT  
Sabrina Langlois, Port St. Lucie, FL  
Jazmine Saunders^, Rochester, NY  
Alexis Seminario^, Levittown, NY  
Jasmin Ward^, Richmond, VA  
Dani Jingdan Zhang, Hong Kong, China

### **MEZZO-SOPRANOS**

Sophia Baete, Louisville, KY  
Natalie Corrigan, Detroit, MI  
Maya Davis, South Bend, IN  
Deanna Ray Eberhart^, Kansas City, MO  
Julia Holoman, Raleigh, NC  
Anna Kelly^, Decatur, GA  
Lindsay Martin, San Diego, CA  
Darya Narymanava, Borisov, Belarus  
Lauren Randolph^, Chicago, IL  
Naomi Steele^, Bronx, NY  
Audrey Welsh, Houston, TX

### **TENORS**

Simon Brea, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY  
Matthew Goodheart^, Binghamton, NY  
Maximillian Jansen, Cincinnati, OH  
Sergio Mandujano, Norwalk, CT  
Aaron McKone^, Rock Hill, SC  
Hongrui Ren, Changchun, Jilin, China  
Dominic Salvati, Riverside, CA  
Tristan Tournaud, Nashville, TN  
Ángel Vargas^, San Juan, Puerto Rico  
Suowei Wu, Wenzhou, China

### **BARITONES**

Matthew Juhlin, Saint Louis, MO  
Joshua Klein^, Flower Mound, TX  
Yihe Wang, Heilongjiang, China  
Kyle White^, Berkeley, MI  
Ryan Wolfe^, Arlington Heights, IL  
Yeongtaek Yang^, Pohang, South Korea

### **BASS-BARITONES**

Tzvi Bat Asherah^, Albuquerque, NM  
Evan Lazdowski^, Moultonborough, NH

### **BASS**

Sunghoon Han, Seoul, South Korea  
Son Jin Kim, Busan, South Korea  
Will Ryan^, Brentwood, TN  
Christian Simmons^, Washington, DC

*^Denotes second-year Apprentice Singer*

## [\*\*Explore 2026 Apprentice Singer Biographies\*\*](#)

### **Apprentice Singer Role Assignments for 2026 Season**

#### ***Madama Butterfly***

**Yamadori** Yeongtaek Yang^\*  
**Imperial Commissioner** Matthew Juhlin\*  
**Kate Pinkerton** Alissa Goretsky^\*  
**Official Registrar** Evan Lazdowski^  
**Yakuside** Kyle White^\*  
**Cousin** Lauryn Davis^\*  
**Mother** Darya Narymanava\*  
**Aunt** Sophia Baete\*

#### ***The Magic Flute***

**First Lady** Jasmin Ward^  
**Second Lady** Deanna Ray Eberhart^  
**Third Lady** Lauren Randolph^  
**Papagena** Jazmine Saunders^  
**First Priest** Dominic Salvati\*

**Second Priest** Will Ryan^  
**First Boy** Dani Jingdan Zhang\*  
**Second Boy** Sabrina Langlois\*  
**Third Boy** Natalie Corrigan\*  
**First Armored Man** Matthew Goodheart^  
**Second Armored Man** Sunghoon Han\*

### *Eugene Onegin*

**Zaretsky** Tzvi Bat Asherah^  
**Captain** Will Ryan^  
**Peasant** Dominic Salvati

### *Lili Elbe*

**Dagmar** Deanna Ray Eberhart^  
**Matron** Alexis Seminario^\*  
**Hélène Allatini** Anna Kelly^\*  
**Orpheus/Anna Larssen** Lindsay Martin\*  
**Eric Allatini** Kyle White^  
**Marius Wegener** Ryan Wolfe^  
**Major Fernando Porta** Joshua Klein^\*  
**Danish Countess** Lauryn Davis^  
**Eurydice/Young Woman** Audrey Welsh\*  
**Christian X** Son Jin Kim\*  
**Art Critic** Evan Lazdowski^

<sup>^</sup>Denotes second-year Apprentice Singer, \*Denotes Santa Fe Opera debut

### *Apprentice Scenes*

August 16

Sung in various languages with opera titles in English and Spanish

Tickets from \$5 to \$25

Featuring:

**The Apprentice Program for Singers**  
**The Apprentice Program for Theater Technicians**

### *Apprentices in Concert with the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra*

August 23

Sung in various languages with opera titles in English and Spanish

Tickets from \$5 to \$25

Featuring:

**The Apprentice Program for Singers**  
**The Apprentice Program for Theater Technicians**  
**The Santa Fe Opera Orchestra**

### **About the Apprentice Program for Singers**

For nearly 70 years, the Apprentice Program for Singers has provided training, performance opportunities and international exposure to young singers transitioning from academic to professional life. The first of its kind in America, more than 1,500 aspiring singers have participated in the internationally recognized program. Former singing apprentices have gone on to careers as professional performers and include **Joyce DiDonato, John Holiday, Michael Fabiano, Rachel Willis-Sørensen, Sylvia D'Eramo, Jonah Hoskins, Will Liverman, Brandon Jovanovich, Kate Lindsey, Zachary Nelson, Anthony León, Meridian Prall, Caitlin Gotimer, Joshua Blue, Amber Monroe, Nicholas Newton, Kyle Miller and Darren Drone**, and **2025 Metropolitan Opera Eric and Dominique Laffont Competition** winners **Alissa Goretsky, Emma Marhefka, Michelle Mariposa** and **Luke Sutliff**, as well as numerous past **Operalia** winners. Others are now teachers, coaches and administrators at major opera companies and universities.

### **The 2026 Season**

Scheduled in the Santa Fe Opera's 69th Festival Season are 38 performances of five operas and two special evenings highlighting the work of the Santa Fe Opera apprentices. The company holds to its mission and time-tested programming model: a balanced and varied repertory of new, lesser-performed and standard works. Opening **July 3** is a revival of **Lee Blakeley's** acclaimed production of Puccini's ***Madama Butterfly***, directed by **Melanie Bacaling**. Next, on **July 4**, is a new co-production with **Garsington Opera** of Mozart's ***The Magic Flute*** directed by **Christopher Luscombe**. On **July 18**, the revival of **Alessandro Talevi's** production of Tchaikovsky's ***Eugene Onegin***, originally presented during the opera's 2021 season, returns. Opening **July 25** is Handel's ***Rodelinda***, offered for the first time at the Santa Fe Opera, directed by **R.B. Schlather**. Rounding out the festival from **August 1** is the American premiere of ***Lili Elbe***, an opera in two acts by Grammy-winning composer **Tobias Picker** and librettist **Aryeh Lev Stollman**. Individual tickets and subscriptions are on sale at [santafeopera.org](http://santafeopera.org), with the best pricing available now.

### **About The Santa Fe Opera**

Named "Festival of the Year" in 2022 by the **International Opera Awards**, the Santa Fe Opera annually draws 85,000 people from New Mexico and around the globe. Nestled atop a mountain vista in northern New Mexico, the company's iconic **Crosby Theatre** is open on three sides, allowing visitors to enjoy performances complemented by the elements. Since 1957, the company has presented over 2,000 performances of 180 operas by 92 composers spanning five centuries of opera, creating a legacy of 45 American premieres and 19 world premieres.

### **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility at the Santa Fe Opera**

Opera has the power to speak truth, broaden perspectives and invite empathy. The Santa Fe Opera is committed to the continuous work of becoming an antiracist and anti-oppressive organization and

incorporating the principles of equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility. Our goal is to create a joyful and engaging environment in which a diverse community of artists, staff, volunteers and audiences alike belong.

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*The mission of the Santa Fe Opera is to advance the operatic art form by presenting ensemble performances of the highest quality in a unique setting with a varied repertory of new, rarely performed, and standard works; to ensure the excellence of opera's future through Apprentice programs for singers, technicians and arts administrators; and to foster an understanding and appreciation of opera among a diverse public.*

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