

CEDAR
RAPIDS
OPERA

SEASON
28

BY JOHANN STRAUSS

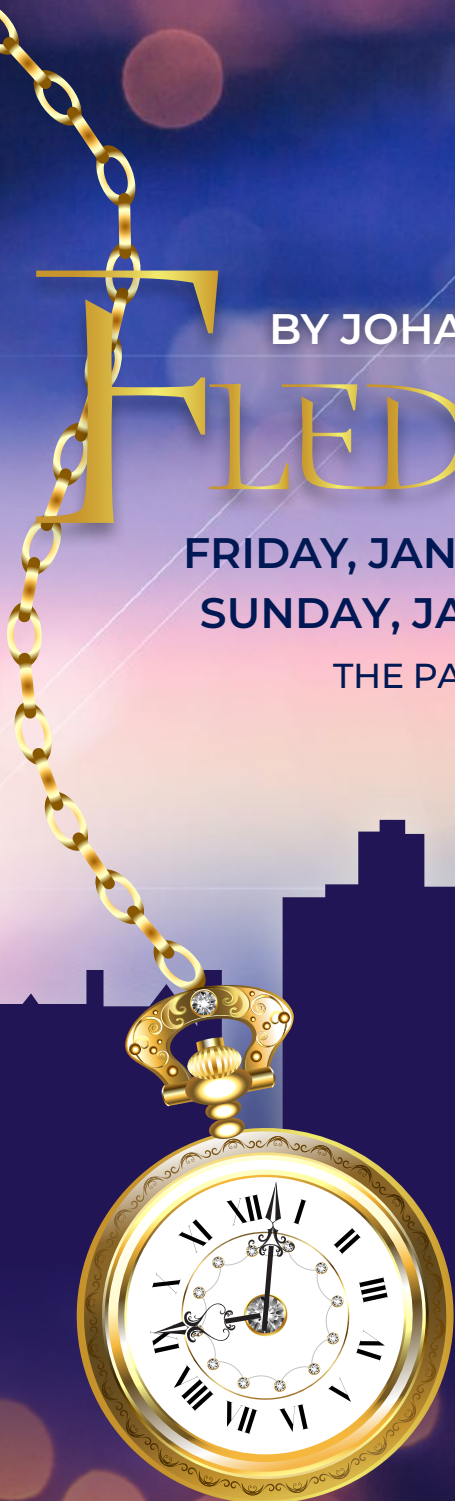


FLEDERMAUS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026 | 7:30 PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2026 | 2 PM

THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE





THADDEUS ENNEN

STAFF

Daniel Kleinknecht,
Founder, Artistic
Director & Conductor
Thaddeus Ennen,
General Director
Katie Stuelke,
Marketing &
Office Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joni Wallace,
President
Abigail Rethwisch,
Vice President
Martha Brown,
Secretary
Scot Brown,
Treasurer
David Caves,
Immediate Past
President

Chad Crawford
Alan Diehl
Adam Kaeffring
Tyler Kuehl
Cathy Leichter
Troy Reineke
Cecelia Rokusek
Lora Schmoll
Jamie Simmons
Chad Sonka
David Swaney
Mike Thome

Welcome to *Die Fledermaus*!

Thank you for joining us for Cedar Rapids Opera's January production of *Die Fledermaus* and for being part of this mischievous evening of live performance. There's something truly extraordinary about live opera — the music, the drama, the artistry — all unfolding in real time, never to be repeated in exactly the same way. It's a moment of connection that unites artists and audience in shared experience.

Now in our 28th season, Cedar Rapids Opera is proud to be one of only two professional opera companies in Iowa — and the only one producing during the academic year. We've staged over 100 productions, engaged thousands of audience members, and helped launch the careers of young professionals through the Smith Young Artist Program, which draws exceptional singers from across the country right here to Cedar Rapids.

Tonight's performance features both national talent and an incredible chorus of local artists. This combination is part of what makes our productions so unique and so meaningful to our community. Whether this is your first opera or your fiftieth, we're thrilled to share this joyful, sparkling production of *Die Fledermaus* with you.

We hope tonight's music brings warmth to your winter and reminds you of the beauty that can be found in laughter, melody, and a little mischief. Thank you for supporting live, professional opera. Your presence helps keep this vibrant art form alive in Eastern Iowa.

Cheers!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thaddeus Ennen". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "T" and a long, horizontal flourish at the end.

Thaddeus Ennen
GENERAL DIRECTOR

DIE FLEDERMAUS

Opera in Three Acts by Johann Strauss II
Libretto by Carl Haffner & Richard Genée
English Translation by Ruth & Thomas Martin

CAST

<i>Gabriel Eisenstein</i>	BRIAN JAMES MYER
<i>Rosalinda</i>	KEELY FUTTERER
<i>Adele</i>	EMILY SECOR
<i>Dr. Falke</i>	CHAD SONKA
<i>Prince Orlofsky</i>	CHUANYUAN LIU
<i>Alfred</i>	EDWARD BRENNAN
<i>Dr. Blind</i>	MAX ALEXANDER COOK
<i>Frank</i>	STEVE GROTH
<i>Sally</i>	VIRGINIA REED
<i>Frosch</i>	DEAN ANTHONY

<i>Conductor</i>	DANIEL KLEINKNECHT
<i>Stage Director</i>	DEAN ANTHONY

ACT I

At the Eisenstein Home

INTERMISSION

ACT II

At Prince Orlofsky's Party

INTERMISSION

ACT III

At the town jail



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Paul Salamon of
Acorn Acoustics
Theatre Cedar Rapids
Coe College
Department of Music
(Dr. Bill Carson and
Carter Broszeit)
Coe College
Coe College Security
Paramount Theatre,
Venue Works
Orchestra Iowa and
Opus Café
FaithLife Church
Kathleen Kleiman &
Mike Glaven
Lynn & Carl Hartman
Vanessia & David Klinsky
Barbara & Dave Koch
Wayne & Jill Flory
Dee Ann Johnson
Lisa & Steve Loesch
April Mead
Troy & Shawn Reineke
Gloria Zmolek
Ashlynn & Ben Clark
Jenni & Mike Hummel
David Swaney

Randy & Jan Hartman
Lawrence & Cathy
Leichliter
Cedar Rapids Opera
Board of Directors
Need Pizza
Julin Printing
Urban Boards
Scot Brown and
Julie Lammers
Green Acres Storage
Iowa Public Radio
(Jacqueline Halbloom)
Brewhemia
Almost Famous Popcorn
EPsychotherapy
New Leaf Media
Ben Werley
International Alliance
of Theatrical Stage
Employees and
Local 191
Cedar Rapids
Public Library
Downtown YMCA
Iowa State University
Knoxville Opera

***Costumes designed by Glenn Avery Breed
Costumes provided by Wardrobe Witchery
Set sponsored by Eastern Iowa Junk Removal***

GIVING CIRCLES & PRODUCTION SPONSORS



MASQUERADING UNDER COVER | \$44-153

Tad & Stephanie Ennen
Paula Miller
Megan Conrad
Alicia Helden
Charles & Mary Sue Vernon
Catherine Basile
Jean Frauenholz
Richard & Linda Randell
Jean Leonard
John & Karen Brandt
Abby Rethwisch
Marie Wallace Sears
Marie Schulte
Paul & Cindy Sale
John & Karen Roltgen
Jane Scheer & Rob Hursch
Sydney Lammers
Scot Brown
Mark & Corenne Liabo
Lena Gilbert
Clarissa Cejka
John Persick



THE VENGEANCE OF THE BAT | \$154-\$444

Susan Wolverton
Lora Schmoll
Lisa Doom
Denise Klemp
JD Eichhorn
Libby Slappey & Charles Crawley
Jane Scheer



KING OF EFFERVESSENCE \$750-\$1,509

David Maier & Matthew McGrane
Brian Westphalen
John & Ann Persick
Elizabeth Daly
Ann Lipsky



QUEEN OF HEARTS | \$445-\$749

Guy Booth
Marty Brown
Cathy & Lawrence Leichter



PRECIOUS LITTLE CLOCK \$1,510-\$2,000

Robert & Bertha Tribuno
Virginia Michalicek



CHACUN À SON GOÛT \$2,001+

Sarah Antin
Mary Susan Taylor
DNE Caplan
Family Foundation



FLEDERMAUS

CEDAR RAPIDS OPERA

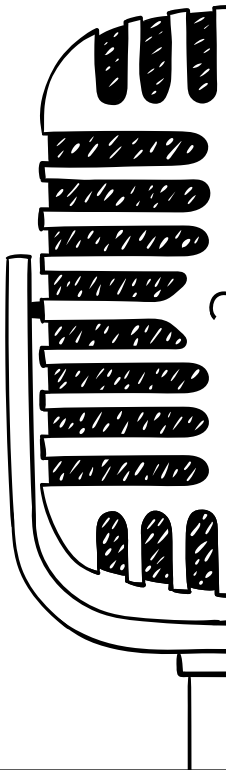
SEASON

28



**Where Iowa
news, music
and culture meet.**

• **iPr.org** • **90.9 fm** • **iPr app**



I'm not a robot



AND NEITHER ARE WE!

Real Instruments

Real People

Real Music

Listener-Supported Public Radio from
Kirkwood Community College

www.kcck.org



319-774-9201

easterniowajunkremoval.com

Junk Removal Service
in Cedar Rapids/Linn County

Act I: The parlor of Gabriel and Rosalinda von Eisenstein

The impetuous tenor, Alfred, is heard serenading his old flame, Rosalinda. The chambermaid Adele enters reading a letter from her sister Sally, a ballet dancer. The letter urges Adele to make up a story so she can get the night off and come to the ball being held at the villa of Prince Orlofsky, a wealthy, decadent young Russian nobleman. Adele laments her status as a chambermaid but resolves to go. She realizes that Alfred is a secret admirer of her mistress and runs after him to see if she can discover his identity. Rosalinda appears, amazed that Alfred has returned. When Adele returns, she asks Rosalinda if she can get the night off by telling her mistress that her “poor old aunt” is deathly ill. However, Rosalinda refuses to let her go, because tonight Eisenstein must start a short jail term for a civil offense. Adele exits weeping. Alfred appears and begins to woo Rosalinda. She manages to get him to leave by promising to see him later that night after her husband has left for jail. Before she can catch her breath, Eisenstein arrives, fighting with his lawyer, Doctor Blind. Eisenstein’s jail term has been extended by three days because of Blind’s alleged incompetence. Blind promises to appeal, but Eisenstein throws him out. Eisenstein’s friend, Doctor Falke, comes to visit. He persuades Eisenstein to postpone reporting to jail until the next morning and instead go to the ball at Prince Orlofsky’s. After Falke leaves, Rosalinda tells Adele that she has changed her mind and that Adele may have the night off to visit her “poor sick aunt.” Eisenstein reenters and bids Rosalinda and Adele a sorrowful goodbye — but each is secretly delighted at the turn of events. Eisenstein and Adele dance out of the room. Rosalinda, left alone, doubts the wisdom of receiving Alfred, who soon appears. He is well on the way to removing her doubts when they hear voices in the hallway. Herr Frank, the prison warden where Eisenstein is to spend his jail term, arrives to personally escort “Herr von Eisenstein” to his “cozy little prison.” Alfred starts to tell Frank that he is not Eisenstein when Rosalinda takes him aside and begs him to say that he is, to avert a scandal. Alfred agrees and leaves with Frank to take Eisenstein’s place in prison.

Act II: The ballroom of Prince Orlofsky

Everyone is having a wonderful time at the ball. Sally is surprised to see her sister Adele and denies having written the letter telling her to come to the ball. However, since Adele is already there, Ida decides to introduce her as an actress and gives her the stage name “Olga.” Falke enters with the Prince, who is lamenting his terminal boredom. Falke assures him that tonight he will laugh, as Falke has planned a little comedy entitled *The Revenge of the Bat*, to amuse him. Ida introduces “Olga” to the Prince, who gives the two girls his purse to take to the gaming room, as wagering for himself is too fatiguing. The girls excitedly rush off to gamble. Eisenstein enters, and Falke introduces him to the Prince as the “Marquis de Renard,” a French nobleman. Falke then takes the Prince aside and asks him to distract Eisenstein while Falke writes a note to Rosalinda informing her where her

husband is and what he is doing. Orlofsky agrees and insists that Eisenstein drink with him while Orlofsky expounds his philosophy of life. Adele and Sally return from the gaming room, having lost all their money. Eisenstein is flabbergasted to see his chambermaid at the ball. Adele is equally horrified to see her master but continues to insist that she is the actress, Olga. A new guest arrives, “the Chevalier Chagrin” — actually, the prison warden, Frank. Falke tells the guest that they are waiting for another guest, a mysterious Hungarian countess who will have to remain masked to protect her identity. The guests decide to stroll in the garden while awaiting the arrival of the mystery lady, leaving Falke alone in the ballroom. Rosalinda enters, masked, and asks Falke if what he had written to her is true. He shows her Eisenstein in the garden flirting with Adele, and she swears vengeance. The men reenter, and Eisenstein is immediately taken with the beauty of the “Hungarian countess.” He tells the “Chevalier Chagrin” and Falke to leave him alone with her and immediately takes out his famous chiming watch. This ploy — promising to give the lady his watch in return for her favors but never delivering, even when she does — has always worked for him. But Rosalinda turns the tables on him and steals the watch. The guests come back in from the garden and insist that the “Hungarian countess” unmask. Orlofsky defends her, telling them that in his house a lady may cover or uncover as much as she wishes. To prove that she is Hungarian, Rosalinda sings a stirring *csárdás*. Orlofsky calls for champagne. After a rousing toast, everyone is in the mood for romance and a waltz, but the clock is striking six, and Eisenstein and Frank are due at the jail. They rush off drunkenly as the waltz continues.

Act III: The prison

Frosch, the jailer, enters. His pleasant state of intoxication is interrupted by Alfred singing in his prison cell. Frosch exits just as Frank enters, still inebriated from the evening’s revelries. Adele and Sally arrive. They think Frank (or “Chevalier Chagrin,” as they know him) can help Adele break into show business. Frank tells Frosch to put the girls somewhere, but the only room free is an empty cell, so Frank tells him to take Sally and Adele there. Eisenstein enters and asks the “Chevalier” if he has been arrested too. Frank confesses that he is no chevalier but instead is the director of the prison. Eisenstein then confesses that he is no marquis but is Herr von Eisenstein, who has come to serve his short jail term. Frank refuses to believe him, as he himself arrested Herr von Eisenstein the evening before, while he was at home, dining with his wife. This revelation sobers Eisenstein completely. Frosch enters to tell Frank that there is another lady at the door. Frank exits to see who this mystery lady is, and the bell rings again. Frosch comes back in with Dr. Blind, whom the imposter “Eisenstein” (Alfred) has sent for. Frosch tells Blind he will bring Eisenstein from his cell. Blind is understandably confused, as he can

see Eisenstein already there. Eisenstein robs Blind of his wig, spectacles, and robe and pushes him off. Frosch brings in Alfred, who is annoyed to see no one there. Rosalinda enters, distraught. Alfred tells her that perhaps the lawyer he has sent for can help them. Eisenstein returns disguised as Blind. He questions the pair about their intimate dinner and then reveals himself. Rosalinda counters his insinuation that she has been unfaithful by producing his watch. Falke appears with Prince Orlofsky and all the party guests. The whole situation was a joke: *The Revenge of the Bat*. Everyone confesses that they were in on the joke, even if they were not! (As Alfred says to Orlofsky, “Why should we start confusion and end his fond illusion?”) All is forgiven, and the opera ends with more champagne and revelry.



DEAN ANTHONY
Producing Director,
Knoxville Opera and
Director of Opera,
Janiec Opera Company

DEAN ANTHONY, Stage Director

Dean Anthony draws inspiration and expertise from a comprehensive career spanning over 40 years and innumerable turns as performer, director, educator, producer and administrator. Most recently, Mr. Anthony was named as Producing Director of Knoxville Opera along with his position as Director of Opera at the Janiec Opera Company of the Brevard Music Center. As a stage director, Mr. Anthony's artistic process is hallmarked by an energetic, gritty, and physical style. In 2020, he received the Charles Nelson Reilly American Prize Stage Director Award for his work on Tom Cipullo's world premiere opera, *Mayo*. Mr. Anthony's recent projects include *Into the Woods* with Annapolis Opera, *Gianni Schicchi* and *Cavalleria Rusticana* with Opera Tampa, *Le Nozze di Figaro* with Opera Omaha and Opera Delaware, *Sweeney Todd* with Opera Tampa, *Glory Denied* and *The Merry Widow* with Knoxville Opera, and *HMS Pinafore* with Pensacola Opera. Planned 2025-26 engagements include *Cinderella* with Opera Montana and *Carmen* with Piedmont Opera. *Note: Mr. Anthony is also singing Frocsh in our performance.*



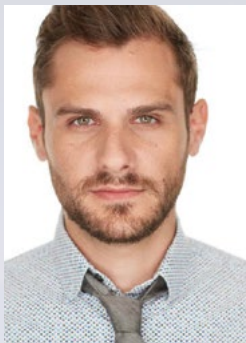
DANIEL KLEINKNECHT
Founder &
Artistic Director,
Cedar Rapids Opera

DANIEL KLEINKNECHT, Conductor

As founder, artistic director and conductor of Cedar Rapids Opera, Daniel Kleinknecht has led the company in over 70 performances of major operatic repertoire. Under his leadership, the company has received 11 National Endowment for the Arts grants, received the Governor's Award for Excellence, and has established a nationally recognized Young Artist Program that has hired over 800 graduate and undergraduate singers for the program. The company has commissioned several new works — *Too Many Sopranos*, *Frankenboy*, and *Strokes of Genius: The Grant Wood Operas*.

Kleinknecht was an associate professor of music at Mount Mercy University, where he led the choir on more than 15 national and international tours; he still teaches several classes there each year. He has been on several adjudication panels for the National Endowment for the Arts. Kleinknecht's articles can be found in the *American Choral Review* and the *Choral Journal*.

Kleinknecht has conducted orchestras throughout the country. He led the New York premiere of *Too Many Sopranos* at the Danny Kaye Playhouse, with the New York Chamber Orchestra, and has led several national tours of Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. The Peoria Journal wrote, "with Kleinknecht at the podium, the sound was wonderfully hall-filling and alive with exceptional power and grace." The Myrtle Beach Press said "what was most impressive was Kleinknecht . . . he controlled every aspect of the music." Live performances have been broadcast regularly on Iowa Public Radio. Productions of *Salome* and *Madama Butterfly* have been telecast on Iowa Public Television, and the *Salome* has been viewed by over 45,000 patrons on the CRO Youtube channel.



BRIAN JAMES MYER

Baritone
Las Vegas, NV
RECENT ROLES

Belcore, *L'elisir d'amore*
Dandini, *La Cenerentola*

BRIAN JAMES MYER (Gabriel Eisenstein)

Known for delivering hefty “panache” in many of opera’s favorite baritone roles, Puerto-Rican American baritone Brian James Myer brings his Eisenstein in *Die Fledermaus* to Cedar Rapids Opera in a season that includes Belcore in *L'elisir d'amore* (Opera Modesto), Sacristan in *Tosca* and Mathieu in *Andrea Chénier* (Opera Delaware), and Ponchel in *Silent Night* (Opera Orlando). Favorite roles include Figaro in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Le Dancaïre in *Carmen*, Papageno in *Die Zauberflöte*, and Dandini in *La Cenerentola*, as well as new works including *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis*, *Dear Erich*, and *Stonewall*. He has performed with companies including the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera, Atlanta Opera, Bard Summerscape, Opera Southwest, Opera San José, Lyric Fest, Brooklyn Art Song Society, New York Festival of Song, and the American Lyric Theatre.



KEELY FUTTERER

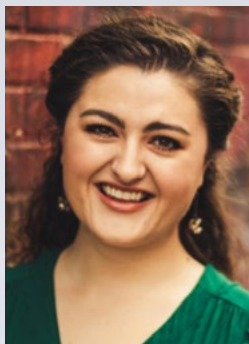
Soprano
Dover, AK
RECENT ROLES
Stéphano,
Roméo et Juliette
Eliza, *Omar*

KEELY FUTTERER (Rosalinda)

Soprano Keely Futterer is a native of Dover, Arkansas and has been praised by *Opera News* as a “high-quality lyric soprano with a keen verbal nuance.” In the 25/26 season, perform in concert with Arkansas Symphony in Orff’s *Carmina Burana* and Philharmonia Northwest in Kevin Puts’ *Letters from Georgia*.

Last season, Keely made debuts at Virginia Opera for *Così fan tutte* (Fiordiligi), Chicago Opera Theater for *Leonora* (Marcellina), and returned to Madison Opera for *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (Rosina) and Wolf Trap Opera for *Dialogues des Carmélites* (Madame Lidoine).

Operatic highlights of Ms. Futterer’s career include *La fille du régiment* (Marie) at Opera Saratoga, *Silent Night* (Anna Sørensen) at Wolf Trap Opera, and numerous credits at Minnesota opera including *La bohème* (Musetta), the world premiere of *Edward Tulane* (Abilene’s Mother/Abilene/Fancy Doll #2), *Rinaldo* (Armida), and *Don Giovanni* (Donna Anna cover). A champion of new music, Keely has also been seen in Victoria Bond’s *Mrs. President* (Isabella Beecher), the American premiere of Philip Glass’s *The Witches of Venice* (Witch Mother), and premiered *The Life and Death(s) of Alan Turing* (Sara Turing) with American Lyric Theatre.



EMILY SECOR
Soprano
Decorah, IA
RECENT ROLES

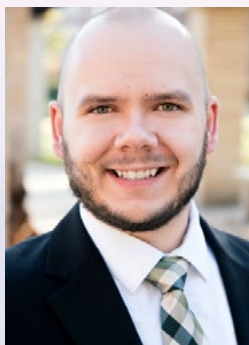
Musetta, *La bohème*
Soprano soloist in
Mozart's Requiem

EMILY SECOR (Adele)

Praised for her “spicy and rich lyric soprano,” (*Vocal Arts Chicago*) Wisconsin native Emily Secor enjoys performing on and off the operatic stage. Recent engagements include her role debut as Musetta in *La bohème* with Madison Opera, performances of Mozart's Requiem with Luther College, and receiving the Grand Prize in the 2024 Patricia Crump Vocal Competition, and fifth place in the Cedar Rapids Opera Esther & Myron Wilson Vocal Competition.

Performance engagements of the 23/24 season included touring Grétry and Borths' *Beauty and the Beast* with Des Moines Metro Opera's educational outreach program, OPERA Iowa, winning the Iowa Region Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition, and appearing as the soprano soloist in Mahler Symphony No. 4 with the Madison Symphony Orchestra. Emily has been a frequent artist in Madison Opera productions and is also an alumna of the young artist programs of Des Moines Metro Opera, Haymarket Summer Opera, and Harrower Summer Opera.

As an active teaching artist, Emily maintains a private voice studio, is on the voice faculty at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, and regularly adjudicates for the Wisconsin State Music Association's regional and state festivals. Emily holds an MM from the University of Northern Iowa and a BA from Luther College.



CHAD SONKA
Baritone
Cedar Rapids, IA
RECENT ROLES

Marcello, *La bohème*
Alidoro, *A Royal Feast*

CHAD SONKA (Dr. Falke)

Chad Sonka is establishing himself as an artist with a diverse array of skills in the world of voice. He performed Marcello in Quad Cities Opera's production of *La bohème*. Previous performing credits: *Tosca* (Scarpia — cover) with Central City Opera; *Gianni Schicchi* (Marco) with Savannah Music Festival; *Man of La Mancha* (Don Quixote) with Cedar Rapids Opera; title role of *Elijah* with Manhattan School of Music; and *Amahl and the Night Visitors* (King Melchior) with Nevada Opera. Equally versed in concert works, he has performed Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem* as his Carnegie Hall debut. He was also the first-place winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions — Iowa District in 2017. Chad's accolades extend beyond his own singing as a director, teacher, and administrator. Since 2017, Chad has served on Iowa State University's voice and opera faculty. He currently serves as President of the Iowa Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) and Education and Outreach Coordinator of the Sherrill Milnes VOICE Programs.



CHUANYUAN LIU
Countertenor
Changchun, China
RECENT ROLES

Raven,
White Raven
Black Dove
 Tolomeo,
Giulio Cesare

CHUANYUAN LIU (Prince Orlofsky)

Praised for his “iridescent countertenor” (*The New York Times*) and “intense stage presence” (*Classical Voice North America*), Chinese countertenor Chuanyuan Liu is recognized as a leading voice of his generation. Previous highlights include performances with The Philadelphia Orchestra, Pittsburgh Opera, Kansas City Symphony, Santa Fe Opera, Aspen Opera Theater, Chautauqua Opera Company, and Opera Saratoga. In 2024, he earned third prize in Cedar Rapids Opera’s Esther & Myron Wilson Vocal Competition. A Sullivan Foundation Award winner and two-time Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition Semifinalist, he holds graduate degrees from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and Bard College Conservatory. Upcoming work includes Bernstein’s Chichester Psalms with the Handel Choir of Baltimore.



EDWARD BRENNAN
Tenor
New Lenox, IL
RECENT ROLES

Canio, *Pagliacci*
 Titular Role, *Lohengrin*

EDWARD BRENNAN (Alfred)

Edward Brennan, an American tenor described as “fierce” and possessing a rich, “baritone” vocal quality, is in the early stages of an exciting operatic career. With a broad and growing repertoire, he has performed with numerous opera companies and orchestras across the United States. He is a proud alumnus of the Institute for Young Dramatic Voices and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where he developed his craft as a dramatic tenor. In addition to his performance career, Edward currently serves as the Director of Development and Operations for Charleston Opera Theater in Charleston, South Carolina, helping shape its artistic and organizational vision.

THEATRE CEDAR RAPIDS

2025-2026 SEASON

SUBSCRIBERS
SAVE 25% ON ALL
TICKETS!
PLUS FREE EXCHANGES



ALL TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

BOOK ONLINE AT [THEATRECR.ORG](https://theatreocr.org)

OR CALL THE TCR BOX OFFICE AT 319-366-8591

100 TCR
THEATRE CEDAR RAPIDS

The Iowa Theatre Building and home to TCR is celebrating its 100th year!

Be part of the next 100 by supporting vital theatre renovations.

Learn more at tcnext100.org

WORLD PREMIERE

FAIR STATE



Written and performed by
MEGAN GOCERTY
JANUARY 22 - FEBRUARY 1

PRIMARY TRUST

by **EBONI BOOTH**
FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 15



WORLD PREMIERE

THE FIANCÉ

by **EMILY BOHANNON**
APRIL 16 - MAY 3





HAYLEY ABRAMOWITZ

SOPRANO

Olney, MD

Chorus

RECENT ROLES

Nella, Gianni Schicchi

Königin der Nacht,

Die Zauberflöte



SHREYA BHADRIRAJU

SOPRANO

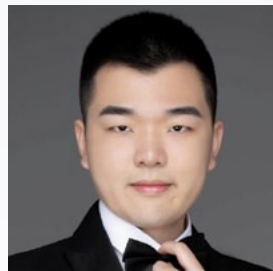
Sugar Land, TX

Chorus

RECENT ROLES

Queen of the Night,

The Magic Flute



YILIN CHEN

BARITONE

Linyi, China

Frank

RECENT ROLES

Dandini, La Cenerentola

Title Role, Don Giovanni



MAX ALEXANDER COOK

TENOR

Ashland, VA

Dr. Blind

RECENT ROLES

Contino Belfiore,

La finta giardiniera

Frederic, Pirates of Penzance



ISABELLA DALTOSO

MEZZO-SOPRANO

Vancouver, WA

Chorus

RECENT ROLES

Madeline Mitchell,

Three Decembers

Third Lady, The Magic Flute



LIFAN DENG

BARITONE

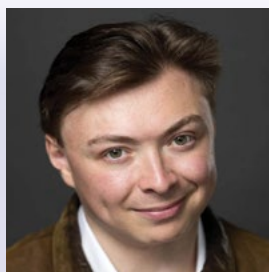
Shenzhen, China

Chorus

RECENT ROLES

Schaunard, La bohème

Musikleher, Ariadne auf Naxos



SPENCER GREENE

TENOR

Novato, CA

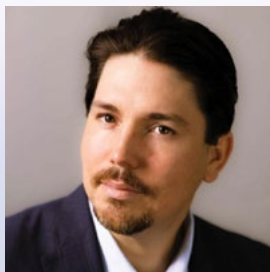
Chorus

RECENT ROLES

Tanzmeister, Ariadne auf

Naxos

Danilo, Die Lustige Witwe



STEVE GROTH

BARITONE

Delafield, WI

Frank

RECENT ROLES

Marullo, Rigoletto

Tonio, Pagliacci



HALEY GUERRA

SOPRANO

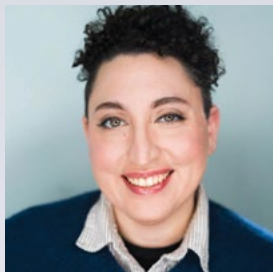
McAllen, TX

Chorus

RECENT ROLES

Sylviane, The Merry Widow

Sarah Kavalier, The Amazing
Adventures of Kavalier & Clay



CORNELIA LOTITO

MEZZO-SOPRANO

Boonton, NJ

Chorus

RECENT ROLES

Queen Aggravain,
Once Upon a Mattress
Stephano, *Romeo et Juliette*



AI RA

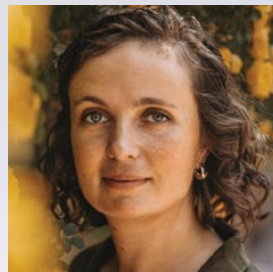
TENOR

Cooper City, FL

Chorus

RECENT ROLES

Alfred, *Die Fledermaus*
Ferrando, *Così fan tutte*



VIRGINIA REED

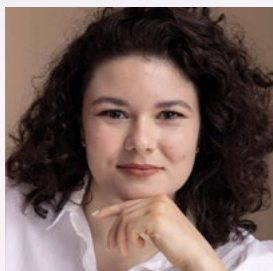
MEZZO-SOPRANO

Albany, NY

Sally

RECENT ROLES

Rosina, *Il barbiere di Siviglia*
Grandmother,
Maya & the Magic Ring



NICOLA SANTORO

SOPRANO

Mountain View, CA

Chorus

RECENT ROLES

Mabel, *Pirates of Penzance*
Frasquita (cover), *Carmen*



SYDNEY SORBET

MEZZO-SOPRANO

Covington, LA

Chorus

RECENT ROLES

Le Prince Charmant,
Cendrillon
Woodpecker,
The Cunning Little Vixen



JUAN TELLO

TENOR

Mexico City, Mexico

Chorus

RECENT ROLES

Count Almaviva,
Il barbiere di Siviglia
Alfred, *Die Fledermaus*



These 15 Smith Young Artists were selected for Cedar Rapids Opera's 28th Season from an applicant pool of over 400!

This program is made possible through the generosity of John & Dyan Smith.



See the world.

[THEGAZETTE.COM/TRAVEL](https://thegazette.com/travel)



Unforgettable travel experiences that support local journalism.

THEATRE *UNI* 25-26 SEASON

STORIES *Unbound*

GET TICKETS AT: UNITIX.UNI.EDU

..... Proud supporter of the
..... Cedar Rapids Opera



Business Solutions

As a trusted business-to-business printer, we provide high-quality printing to help your business stand out. From marketing materials to product inserts, we deliver excellence with every project.

Personal Solutions

Need print services for personal projects? We work with individuals too! Whether it's invitations, posters, or custom designs, we bring your ideas to life.

..... Partner with a team that cares
..... about your success, no matter
..... the size of your project.

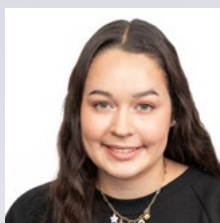
801 North Birch Street
Monticello Iowa
319-465-3558
www.julin.com

Your trusted partner for all things print.

COMMUNITY CHORUS



**DR. GERRY
KREITZER**
CHORUS MASTER



AVERY ANDERSON
Cedar Rapids, IA
3rd CRO Production



KYRA ENGEN
Cedar Rapids, IA
3rd CRO Production



EILEEN GAVIN
Cedar Rapids, IA
1st CRO Production



HISAKAZU HOSHI
Iowa City, IA
1st CRO Production



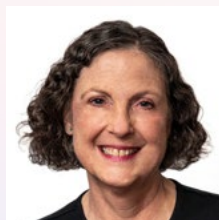
JONATHAN ICE
Cedar Rapids, IA
2nd CRO Production



ISABELLA KOCH
Cedar Rapids, IA
6th CRO Production



CHARLIE KUCERA
Cedar Rapids, IA
9th CRO Production



DEB KUCERA
LeMars, IA
7th CRO Production



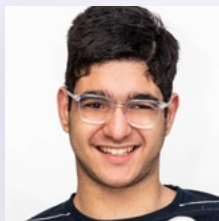
DAVE MEDIN
Marion, IA
6th CRO Production



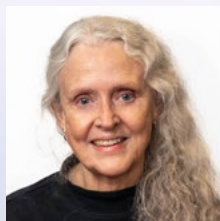
JOSH MOREY
Mount Pleasant, IA
3rd CRO Production



AUDREY PETERSON
Cedar Rapids, IA
1st CRO Production



JUDE SALTEN
Iowa City, IA
4th CRO Production



LORA SCHMOLL
Creston, IA
25th CRO Production



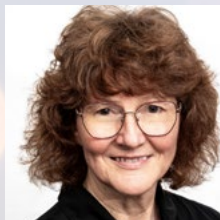
DECLAN SCOTT
Marion, IA
2nd CRO Production



JAMIE SIMMONS
Donnellson, IA
2nd CRO Production



KATIE STUELKE
Vinton, IA
4th CRO Production



MARY SUE VERNON
Anamosa, IA
5th CRO Production



REBECCA VERNON
Anamosa, IA
3rd CRO Production

RÉPÉTITEURS

Thomas Getty
Pianist and Coach

Matthew Gemmill
Rehearsal Pianist

Gail Williams
Chorus Pianist

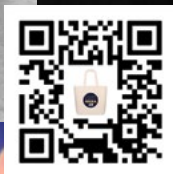
Sing with CROpera!

There may be a spot for you in the community chorus! Register your name on the email list and be the first to know about auditions! Scan code or tap to complete the form.

CEDAR
RAPIDS
OPERA



Have you visited our
new merch shop?
Go online or visit us
in the lobby!



MAY
YOUR
HOME
BE FILLED
WITH THE
SOUND
OF MUSIC.

Lena Gilbert

Licensed REALTOR®
in the State of Iowa
319.241.9249

lenagilbert@skogman.com
417 1st Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401

SKOGMAN
REALTY



Elizabeth Kimmel	<i>Production Manager</i>
Maggie McClellan	<i>Production Stage Manager</i>
Jefferson Ridenour	<i>Set Designer</i>
Scott Olinger.....	<i>Lighting Designer</i>
Kristen Olinger.....	<i>Projection Designer</i>
Sarah Fried.....	<i>Hair and Makeup Designer</i>
Joni Sackett.....	<i>Costume Manager</i>
Jason Lester	<i>Technical Director</i>
Gerry Kreitzer	<i>Chorus Master</i>
Edward Karr	<i>Sound Engineer</i>
Kelly Shriver Kolln	<i>Assistant Stage Manager/Props Master</i>
Aasrith Veerapaneni	<i>Second Assistant Stage Manager</i>
Abbie Talken.....	<i>Second Assistant Stage Manager</i>
Grace Black.....	<i>Hair/Makeup Assistant</i>
Zhen Rammelsburg	<i>Hair/Makeup Assistant</i>
Lauren Galliard.....	<i>Hair/Makeup Assistant</i>
Jane Sloane	<i>Dresser/Fitter</i>
Jan Keene	<i>Dresser/Fitter</i>
Deb Winter	<i>Dresser/Fitter</i>
Nancy Patrick.....	<i>Dresser/Fitter</i>
Melody Wiebold.....	<i>Alterations</i>
Dean Anthony	<i>Supertitle Creator</i>
Blaine Cunningham	<i>Supertitle Operator</i>
Leslie Delavan.....	<i>Set Painter</i>
Katrina Sandvik.....	<i>Set Painter</i>
Anna Barker	<i>Pre-Opera Lecturer</i>
Juliette Philippe.....	<i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Ron Koinzan.....	<i>Set Builder</i>
Gus Bush	<i>Set Build Assistant</i>
Riley Wright.....	<i>Set Build Assistant</i>
Ava Powers.....	<i>Set Build Assistant</i>
Max Hofsommer.....	<i>Set Build Assistant</i>
Nathan Litterer	<i>Set Build Assistant</i>
Sonja Woerner.....	<i>Set Build Assistant</i>

VIOLIN

Anita Tucker, *Concertmaster*
Madeline Capistran,
Associate Concertmaster
Howard Spencer, *Assistant*
Concertmaster
Crystal Qi
Michael Hall
Linda Pfund Swanson

VIOLIN II

Rachel Walter, *Principal*
Emily Nardo, *Associate Principal*
Alla Cross, *Assistant Principal*
John Schultz
Bryce Christensen

VIOLA

David Beytas, *Principal*
Alyssa Ottmar, *Associate Principal*
Hui Yun Hu, *Assistant Principal*
Yulong Han

CELLO

Philip Bergman, *Principal*
Cameron Slaugh, *Associate Principal*
Diane Platte, *Assistant Principal*

BASS

Michael Van Ryn, *Principal*
Austin Vawter, *Associate Principal*

FLUTE

Jane Walker, *Principal*
Shivhan Dohse Morton

OBOE

Paul Chinen, *Principal*

CLARINET

Christine Bellomy, *Principal*
Jesse Bruer

BASSOON

Matt Ransom, *Principal*

HORN

Andy Harris, *Principal*
Dan Malloy Jr.

TRUMPET

Andrew Classen, *Principal*
Andrew Bishop

TROMBONE

Robert Parker, *Principal*
Caleb Lambert

TIMPANI

Alan Lawrence, *Principal*

PERCUSSION

Michael Geary, *Principal*
Keith Hammer

HARP

Gretchen Brumwell, *Principal*

STAFF

Edward Karr
Jan Rosauer
Blaine Cunningham



A woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a dark green pleated top. She is adorned with several pieces of jewelry: long chain-link earrings, a multi-strand necklace featuring a chain-link, a diamond chain, and a chain with a star pendant, and multiple bracelets on her left wrist including a chain-link, a diamond chain, and a leather band. She also wears a ring on her left ring finger. The background is dark and moody.

**SIEBKE
HOYT**
JEWELERS

Celebrating Life's Most Beautiful Moments
SINCE 1889

4800 1ST Ave NE | siebkehoyt.com

CITY CIRCLE THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS

JESUS CHRIST SUPER STAR

March 20-22, 27-29, 2026



TICKETS:
CoralvilleArts.org
319.248.9370



CORALVILLE
CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING
ARTS
1301 5TH STREET, CORALVILLE



Behind every mask is a story
worth telling—unmask
what's really going on.

E Psychotherapy
epsychtherapy.com
888-270-1924



Z/102.9
today's **hit** music

**your dog's favorite
radio station**

stream now on the free radio app

SEASON 28 DONORS

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our generous supporters whose contributions fuel the passion and creativity of our performances in our 28th season!

FOUNDATION: UP TO \$249

Jeff Brown
Tracey & Jon Brown
Ben & Kara Lammers
Deborah Brown
Robert Kemp
Julie & Chris Brown
Joe Oleary
Carol Brown
Paul Cassani
Dennis Wangeman
Jean Frauenholz
Kelle Kucharski
Katherine Borowiec
Luke Malone
Jim & Anna Barker
Catherine Blando
Henry Lammers
Sally & Randy Davison
Amanda Nichols
Alan Lange
Sandra Scaia
Richard &
Linden Aerts
John Hudson
Kenneth Bauer
Rachel Mills
Catherine Biro
Dennis Willhoit
Dr. William A. Davis &
Kathryn Franzenburg
Nathan Callahan

Kalvin Keele
Mike & Monica Dunbar
Rebecca Mumaw & Mark
Johnson
Eric Ferring
Judy & Pat Baird
Scott Brunscheen
Mark & Molly Williams
Jim & Christine Walters
Taylor Fiser
Stephanie Michalicek
Cary Brock
Jacqueline Halbloom
Charles &
Mary Sue Vernon
Marlene Horton
Marcia Lofdahl
Alicia Helden
Megan Conrad
Susan Wolverton
Paula Miller
Tad & Stephanie Ennen
Dee Ann Schwitters Johnson
Catherine Basile
John & Karen Brandt
Jean Leonard
Richard & Linda Randell
Marie Schulte
Sydney Lammers
Jane Scheer &
Rob Hursch

John & Karen Roltgen
Paul & Cindy Sale
Kathleen Gass
Mark Logan
Zhen E. Rammelsberg
Caitlin Hartman
Clarissa Cejka
Pamella Hughes
Steven & Heather Mescher
Judy & Matt Ramsey
Kevin Papp
Dr. David Judisch
Karla & Dennis Goettel
Diana & William Heinemann
Jeanette Kellerman
Richard Kohl
Brandon & Kimberly
Blankenship
Bruce Johnson
Gaye Roberts
Martha & Harold Brown
Denise Klemp
Nancy Baumgartner
Sarah & Tim Krumm
Suzanne M. Lagina
William & Susan Jones
John & Karen Brandt
Susan Groff VanArendonk
Nancy Hagen & Jonathan Thull
Margie & Robert Marrs
Alliant Energy

FRIENDS: \$250-\$499

Robyn Ginther	Jean Leonard	Mark & Corenne Liabo
Matt Ramsey	Brandon & Kim Blankenship	Guy Booth
Barb & Joe Schmall	Suzanne Lagina	Denise Klemp
Brian Talyat	Jim Arenson	Libby Slappey & Charles Crawley
Arlon Berkhof & Tara Beem	Barbara & David Koch	Cathy & Larry Leichliter
Lisa Doom	Lora Schmoll	

ADVOCATES: \$500-\$999

Rebecca Marek	Joan & Peter Riley	Scot Brown & Julie Lammers
Stephen & Cyndy Logue	Joyce Summerwill	David & Mary Jo Rater
Abigail Rethwisch	Joni & Marc Wallace	James Beranek
Jennifer Bliss & Eric Hoffman	Keith & Cheryl Krewer	

LEADERS: \$1,000-\$2,499

Curt Cox	David & Mary Ellen Rethwisch	Marty & Harold Brown
Paul & Gail Williams	David Maier & Matt McGrane	John & Ann Persick
Shuttleworth & Ingersoll	Cedar Rapids Community School District	Robert & Bertha Tribuno
Adam & Stephanie Kaeffring	Sallie Sun Streib	Ann Lipsky
Patricia Koza	International Paper	Anonymous
Troy & Shawn Reineke		

CHAMPIONS: \$2,500-\$4,999

Mike & Sandra Thome	Sarah Antin	Deb & Charlie Kucera
Kolln Foundation	DNE Caplan Family	

AMBASSADORS: \$5,000-\$9,999

Krumm Charitable Trust	Beth Ann Swaney	Mary Susan Taylor
------------------------	-----------------	-------------------

APEX: \$10,000+

Nile & Lois Dusdieker	John & Dyan Smith
Virginia Michalicek	Mark & Tracy Zimmerman
Jared and Carol Hills Foundation	Anonymous

Current as of January 1, 2026. Please let us know if you see an error — thank you!



SCAN OR TAP
TO DONATE



CUPID CABARET

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6 | 7 pm
Olympic South Side Theater



SCAN OR TAP TO
BUY TICKETS

Celebrate the next generation of Iowa opera singers! This cabaret will put college opera students from programs across the state on display at the beautiful Olympic Theatre. Bring your valentine and enjoy a selection of opera's most romantic arias sung by young talent currently training in Iowa!

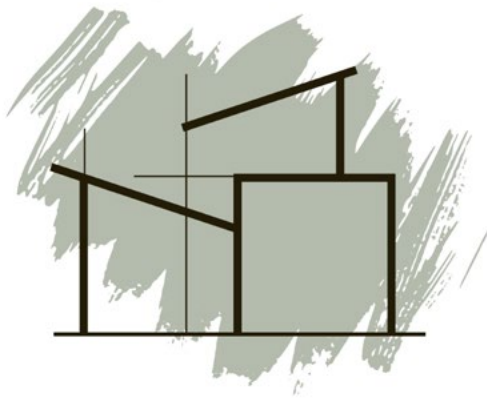
SALON

s e r i e s

A tour of beautiful voices in beautiful homes across the Corridor. This series of fundraising concerts will each feature a different exceptional singer, with ties to Iowa, performing in the home of a generous CROpera patron. With six home concerts and a final performance featuring all six singers, this series is sure to thrill and amaze. Home concert tickets are limited, so be sure to get yours soon!



SCAN OR TAP FOR SALON
SERIES INFO. TICKETS ON
SALE JANUARY 16



Thome Homes

REAL ESTATE TEAM

Real Estate in Perfect Harmony.

Your Father-Daughter Duo for a Standing Ovation

**Ruhl
&Ruhl**
REALTORS

Michael Thome & Caroline Thome Schindel
Licensed REALTORS® in Iowa
319.363.5289
thomehomes@ruhlhomes.com



Northwestern Mutual®



FREEDOM CAPITAL
STRATEGIES



Brian Talyat
Financial Advisor



Jeffrey Bean
Wealth Management
Advisor



Adam Kaefring, CFP®
Associate Wealth
Management Advisor



Ian Carlson, RICP®
Associate
Financial Advisor

IDENTIFY, PROTECT & ACHIEVE FINANCIAL FREEDOM

www.freedomcapitalstrategies.com

Northwestern Mutual is the marketing name for The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company (NM) and its subsidiaries in Milwaukee, WI. Members of Freedom Capital Strategies use Freedom Capital Strategies as a marketing name for doing business as a representative of NM. Freedom Capital Strategies is not a registered investment advisor, broker-dealer, insurance agency or federal savings bank. Learn more at their website.



**“...One of the country’s most ambitious
and successful smaller companies.”**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

2026 FESTIVAL SEASON

JUNE 26 - JULY 19

PUCCINI **TOSCA**

FLOYD **OF MICE AND MEN**

SZYMANOWSKI **KING ROGER**

For tickets, visit **DMMO.ORG** or call **(515) 209-3257**