

LOYOLA OPERA THEATRE PRESENTS

Street Scene

by Kurt Weill

January 20 & 22, 2017

Louis J. Roussel Hall

Based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Elmer Rice, with lyrics by Harlem Renaissance poet Langston Hughes, *Street Scene* ranks with *Porgy and Bess* and *West Side Story* as a true American classic.

Music Director/Conductor: Carol Rausch
Stage Director/Choreographer: Cara Consilvio

LOYOLA
UNIVERSITY
NEW ORLEANS

Kurt Weill's Street Scene

American Opera in 2 Acts

Book by Elmer Rice, based on his play of the same name

Lyrics by Langston Hughes and Elmer Rice

Used by arrangement with European American Music Corporation, agent for The Kurt Weill Foundation for Music, Inc., the Rice Estate and the Hughes Estate

First performance – January 9, 1947, at New York City's Adelphi Theatre, presented by Dwight Deere Wiman and The Playwrights' Company.

New Orleans – this weekend's performances are the first in the city

CAST (in order of appearance)

Greta Fiorentino
Emma Jones
Louie, the dog
Olga Olsen
Woman
Carl Olsen
Shirley Kaplan
Abraham Kaplan
Salvation Army Girl 1
Salvation Army Girl 2
Henry Davis
Anna Maurrant
Sam Kaplan
Daniel Buchanan
Voice of Mrs. Buchanan
Frank Maurrant
George Jones
Steve Sankey
Lippo Fiorentino
Jenny Hildebrand
2nd Graduate
3rd Graduate
Mrs. Hildebrand
Rose Maurrant
Harry Easter
Mae Jones
Dick McGann
Vincent Jones
Dr. Wilson
Policewoman
Milkman
Workman
Voice of Corn Vendor
Violin Student
City Marshall James Henry
Fred Cullen
Voice of Strawberry Vendor
Old Clothes Woman
A Man
Officer Murphy
Ambulance Driver
Intern

Friday, January 20

Rachel Looney
Zara Zemmels
Louie
Pamela Nions
Emily Braverman
Andres Benavides Cascante
Gloria Cosenza
Tyler Smith
Isabella Vanderhoof
Allison Joiner
Reid Canal
Emma Mountcastle
Christian Patterson
Mark Anthony Thomas
Emily Barber
Spencer Reichman
David Murray
Kyle Grubbs
Alexander Sibley
Audrey Harmon
Abigail White
Marinna Carmichael
Julia Tuneberg
Haley Whitney
Alex Lucas
Caroline Boudreaux
Kentro Mason, Jr.
Devon Mederos
Ryan Reynolds
Allison Joiner
Grant Rothermel
Kentrell Roberts
Emily Barber
Casey Dawson
Philip Nodurft
Nathan Ward
Alyssa Hernandez
Olivia Garcia
Devon Mederos
Justin Blanchard
Bryton Gunther
Sofia Riggio

Sunday, January 22

Mary Cloud
Olivia Garcia
Louie
Sarah Neal
Emily Braverman
Andres Benavides Cascante
Gloria Cosenza
Tyler Smith
Linden Uter
Meghan Kessel
Reid Canal
Cherita Monche Covington
Bryton Gunther
Mark Anthony Thomas
Emily Barber
Spencer Reichman
David Murray
Kyle Grubbs
Alexander Sibley
Christina Hera
Brittany Schaubhut
Zoë Spangler
Julia Tuneberg
Kathryn Domyan
Alex Lucas
Caroline Boudreaux
Kentro Mason, Jr.
Devon Mederos
Ryan Reynolds
Allison Joiner
Grant Rothermel
Kentrell Roberts
Emily Barber
Casey Dawson
Philip Nodurft
Nathan Ward
Alyssa Hernandez
Zara Zemmels
Devon Mederos
Justin Blanchard
Christian Patterson
Sofia Riggio

First Nursemaid
Second Nursemaid
Apartment Seeker
Apartment Seeker

Jacqueline McCarthy
Kelsey Bergey
Grant Rothermel
Sallie Anderson

Alyssa Hernandez
Kelsey Bergey
Grant Rothermel
Sallie Anderson

NEIGHBORS: Samantha Frese, Alexis Langlois, Colleen Ryan, Emilie Tolley, Mary Van

UNDERSTUDIES:

Greta Fiorentino – Audrey Harmon
Henry Davis – Kentrell Roberts
Daniel Buchanan – Nathan Ward
Frank Murrant – Andres Benavides Cascante
Lippo Fiorentino – Philip Nodurt
Second Nursemaid – Emily Braverman

THE CHILDREN (both performances):

Willie Murrant – Wesley Adams (Jaden Norris, understudy)
George – Jaden Norris
Mary Hildebrand – Cécile Curran
Charlie Hildebrand – James Favor (Clayton Morris, understudy)
Grace Davis – Meghan Gaffney
Joan – Sophia Parigi
Myrtle – Chloë Soto
Joe Connolly – Eli Barron (Jake Heap, understudy)
Sylvia – Summer Robinson
Johnny (grocery boy) – Clayton Morris
Pete – Jake Heap

SYNOPSIS AND MUSICAL NUMBERS:

Act One

1. **Introduction and Opening Ensemble** – In suffocating heat, tenement dwellers of many nationalities gather to chat on the stoop in a poor neighborhood on New York’s Lower East Side.
2. **Blues** – Henry Davis, the janitor, sings as he tends to his duties.
3. **Scene and Trio** – Grumbles about the heat give way to gossip about the affair between a tenant, Mrs. Murrant, and Steve Sankey, the milk collector. Mrs. Murrant herself joins the group just before Sam Kaplan, a studious boy in love with Mrs. Murrant’s daughter, Rose, pauses on his way to the library.
4. **Arietta** – Daniel Buchanan laments the pressures of upcoming fatherhood until summoned by his wife’s cries, all to the women’s amusement.
5. **Scene and Aria** – Mr. Murrant, home from his work as a stagehand, reveals a domineering, inflexible attitude toward his gentle wife. As he goes up into their apartment, Mrs. Murrant gives an impassioned expression of her longing for happiness, filled with desperate optimism.
6. **Scene and Quartet** – Sankey passes by, and Mrs. Murrant slips away under the pretext of looking for her son. The gossips draw their own conclusions, wondering what would happen if Mr. Murrant were to find out.
7. **Ice-Cream Sextet** – Lippo Fiorentino, a gregarious Italian musician, arrives bearing ice cream cones for everyone, sparking praise for the American institution of the ice cream parlor. Afterward, Murrant seems to accept his wife’s explanation of her brief absence, but his smoldering anger flares up in a political argument with Abraham Kaplan, Sam’s “radical-thinking” father.
8. **Aria** – The argument started with a disagreement about parenting, and Murrant’s credo, “Let things be like they always was,” again betrays his unyielding nature.
9. **Scene and Ensemble** – A group of recent school graduates enter, with focus on the achievements of Jenny Hildebrand. Aided by her brother Charlie and sister Mary, she describes the ceremony and is warmly congratulated by all the neighbors. Sadly, the family is scheduled to be evicted the very next day for not paying the rent. To cheer them up, Lippo proposes a dance and is joined by Mrs. Murrant, who stops in confusion when Sankey comes by. Murrant berates his wife and then his son, Willie, who has again gotten into a

fight with local bully Joe Connolly. After the Maurrants exit, tongues again start wagging. Sam explodes at their cruelty.

10. **Arioso** – Left alone, Sam sings “Lonely house, lonely me!” and eventually retires himself. Rose enters with Harry Easter, trying to keep at bay the attentions of her office colleague.
11. **Scene and Song** – Easter tells Rose she could have the chance to be a Broadway actress and live a life of luxury if she decides to be his mistress.
12. **Cavatina and Scene** – Rose, a romantic like her mother, rejects the promises of material wealth, hoping instead for true love in her life, and Easter leaves. Interrupted by Buchanan, Rose offers her own and her mother’s assistance and runs for the doctor.
13. **Song, Scene and Dance** – Mae Jones and Dick McGann flirt, get drunk, dance, and eventually stagger off. When Rose returns, she is subjected to the sexual advances of Vincent Jones. Sam tries to rescue her, but is knocked down by Vincent, who leaves. Rose attempts to bolster Sam’s confidence, recognizing his superior qualities despite his lack of physical prowess.
14. **Duet and Finaletto** – Rose and Sam confide in each other, and share a favorite poem. They both want to escape their depressing surroundings. Rose tells Sam she will always care for and believe in him. They exchange a kiss and then bid each other an affectionate good-night.

Act Two

15. **Introduction and Children’s Game** – The following morning the street and tenement building wake up. People start to go about their business and children emerge to play a taunting game that escalates into a fight. Buchanan expresses gratitude that Mrs. Maurrant stayed all night during the birth of his new baby girl. Before Maurrant leaves for work, Rose asks if he could just be a little nicer to her mother.
16. **Scene and Trio** – Maurrant rejects Rose’s suggestion and attacks his wife for being gone all night, refusing her explanation about helping the new mother. A bitter quarrel ensues before Maurrant, half-drunk, leaves. Mrs. Maurrant, at a new low point, shares with Rose that she has tried to be a good wife and mother, but her husband never seemed to care, and she might as well be dead. Willie emerges, disheveled, and Rose tries to attend to clean him up, to no avail.
17. **Song** - Mrs. Maurrant is more successful with her affectionate tact. Sam appears, and is appalled when Rose tells him about Easter’s offer. Instead he proposes going away together.
18. **Duet and Scene** – Rose agrees, and they sing of an idyllic future until Easter reappears to accompany Rose to their boss’s funeral. Sankey comes by, and Mrs. Maurrant invites him to join her upstairs. A violin student arrives for her lesson with Lippo. City officials show up to evict the Hildebrands. Maurrant then unexpectedly returns. Sam, horrified, tries to prevent him from entering the house, but fails. Screams and then shots are heard. The police quickly arrive on the scene, but when Maurrant runs out, having killed Sankey and wounded his wife, he evades them. The ambulance arrives and Rose pieces together the awful truth of the situation.
19. **Choral Scene and Lament** – While the crowd murmurs in shocked excitement, Mrs. Maurrant is carried out, and the ambulance leaves.

Interlude

20. **Lullaby** – Several hours later two nursemaids with baby carriages stop, stare and comment until chased away by a policeman.
21. **Scene** – Sam and his sister Shirley comfort Rose as best they can. More shots ring out, and Maurrant is caught. When he is led in by the police, Rose insists on speaking to him.
22. **Finale** – Maurrant tries to explain that, despite how things look, he really loved his wife but was driven mad by the talk and the prospect of losing her. The crowd mutters sympathetically, leaving Sam and Rose alone. They must face the fact that everything has changed, and that their dreams are a thing of the past. Rose has decided to go away, but just with her brother Willie. Sam is heartbroken. As evening settles in, the gossip and grumbles of the tenement begin all over again. Nothing seems to have changed.

ARTIST PROFILES:

Cara Consilvio (Stage Director/Choreographer) is a director and producer working in opera and film. In the 2016-2017 season, she will direct *Hansel and Gretel* for Tri-Cities Opera, *Street Scene* for Loyola University, and *Hydrogen Jukebox* at Chautauqua Opera as well as educational outreach shows for Tulsa Opera and Opera Saratoga. Other recent directing projects include educational outreach shows at Tri-Cities Opera and Chautauqua Opera and directing the 2014-2016 Chautauqua Studio Scenes program. Consilvio has been an assistant director for Fort Worth Opera, Opera Saratoga, Chautauqua Opera, and American Opera Projects. She will also assist at Portland Opera in the spring of 2017. As an assistant director, Cara worked on the world premieres of *As One* and *The Long Walk*. Her teaching engagements include an adjunct lecturer position at the Boston University Opera Institute in 2014-2015, where she taught acting and directed the one-act operas *Gallantry* and *Fables*, as well as the scenes programs. Cara is the co-founder of Hup! Productions. Her film directing projects include her narrative short film *C.I.T.*, which will screen at eight festivals this year. As a film producer, Consilvio has produced the NEA Opera Honors video tributes, NEA Jazz Masters videos, and the New Works Forum OPERA America videos as well as narrative films, including the award winning *Bowes Academy* and an upcoming feature film titled *Camp Wedding*. www.caraconsilvio.com www.hupproductions.com

Carol Rausch (Conductor/Music Director) is the Chorus Master, Music Administrator and Education Director for the New Orleans Opera Association. She also serves as Chorus Master/Music Administrator each summer at Chautauqua Opera, where she heads the music staff and oversees the nationally recognized young artist program. Ms. Rausch has previously worked for Greater Miami Opera (now Florida Grand Opera), Virginia Opera, Ohio Light Opera and Opera Columbus. Her educational background includes degrees from Indiana University and The Ohio State University, plus a year of study at the Conservatoire Royal de Musique in Brussels, Belgium, as a Rotary Foundation Graduate Fellow. She has studied with pianists Jorge Bolet, Earl Wild, Richard Tetley-Kardos and Sonja Anshütz. Ms. Rausch has taught at Ohio State, Kenyon College (Ohio) and the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University (Houston). In the fall of 2002 she joined the faculty of Loyola University New Orleans, and in 2010 she became Director of Loyola Opera Theatre after the retirement of David Morelock. Several main stage opera productions, as well as scenes programs, have won *Gambit* magazine's "Tribute to the Classical Arts" awards. Ms. Rausch has remained active as a freelance vocal coach and recital accompanist, and she is a frequent judge for the Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions throughout the country.

Wesley Adams is a student at Stuart Hall School for Boys in New Orleans and a Jefferson Performing Arts Society (JPAS) Theatre Kid. He is thrilled to perform with Loyola Opera Theatre as Willie Maurant in this wonderful production of *Street Scene*. Wesley's other recent and upcoming roles include: Young Tarzan in *Tarzan the Musical* (JPAS); Hero Boy for The Polar Express Train Ride (Rail Events Productions); Jojo in *Seussical, Jr.* (JPAS); Michael Hobbs in *Elf, Jr.* (JPAS); Young Simba in *The Lion King, Jr.* (JPAS); Michael Banks u/s in *Mary Poppins* (JPAS); and Lumière in *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.* (JPAS). He also enjoyed his prior work with Carol Rausch in *Brundibár*, produced by the New Orleans Opera Association and the National WWII Museum. When not on stage, Wesley represents his school on the academic games team and in the choir and bell choir, and enjoys college football, piano lessons, and karaoke night at home. Wesley thanks Ms. Cara and Ms. Carol for this wonderful opportunity, and also his family and friends for their abundant support.

Sallie Anderson, from Atlanta, Georgia, is a Loyola freshman in the studio of Ellen Frohnmayer. Past experience includes participation in Brevard's 2014 summer opera scenes program.

Eli Barron, 13, attends Lusher Charter School, where he is in the seventh grade. Eli has done many school performances. Favorites include: *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Grandpa Joe), *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Oberon); and *Somebody Save My Baby Ruth* (Sidney Swindle). He has also been in Le Petit plays: Stephen Sondheim's *Merrily We Roll Along* (Frank Jr.) and *Our Town* (Joe/Si Cowell). Other favorite credits include: JPAS - *Alice in Wonderland* (Mad Hatter); Tulane Little Lyric - *Seussical the Musical* (Horton); and many more. Eli takes dance classes at Encore Studios and acting lessons with David Dahlgeren. Eli loves theater and hopes to do it forever! Thanks to all friends and family for their love and support. He is delighted to be part of his first Loyola Opera production.

Kelsey Bergey, mezzo-soprano, is a second year graduate Music Therapy student from Aberdeen, Washington. She is in the voice studio of Ellen Frohnmayer. Prior to attending Loyola, Kelsey earned her Bachelor of Music in Voice degree from Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, and her Master of Music in Voice from the University of Washington in Seattle. She also operated her own voice studio in Aberdeen. This is her second opera production at Loyola.

Justin Blanchard, tenor, is currently in his third year as a vocal Music Education major, studying under Dreux Montegut. Besides his work with Loyola Opera, he can be found at various theatre companies in the city as a musician or music director. Previously, he has been seen performing with the New Orleans Opera Chorus in productions of Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* and Verdi's *La traviata*, as well as Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette* with Loyola Opera. After graduation, Justin plans to receive a Master's Degree in Choral Conducting. Justin would like to thank his family, friends, and mentors for their constant support in his musical aspirations.

Caroline Boudreaux, soprano, is a sophomore Music Therapy major at Loyola, studying with Ellen Frohnmayer. Although this is Caroline's first University role, she is no stranger to the stage. Caroline has previously been seen in The Performing Arts Academy production of *Anything Goes* (Hope Harcourt), of *Shrek the Musical* (Fiona) and most recently in *Beauty and the Beast* (Babette). She has also previously played the roles of Christina from *The Phantom of the Opera* and Elphaba from *Wicked* in revue-style shows.

Emily Braverman, mezzo-soprano, is a Music Education major in the studio of Dr. Marcus St. Julien. This is her first appearance on the Loyola Opera stage. She would like to thank the cast and crew for this experience!

Reid Canal is a senior Vocal Performance major from Orlando, FL, studying under Dr. Tyler Smith. Reid was last seen on Loyola Opera Theatre's stage in *Roméo et Juliette* as Benvolio, and in the *H2Opera* and *A Musical Menagerie* opera scenes programs. Reid is a member of the New Orleans Opera Chorus, and sang in the company's productions of *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Dead Man Walking* and *Tosca* last season. He joins NOAA's upcoming production of *Sweeney Todd* in February. He made his New Orleans musical theater debut last summer as Judah in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* with Summer Lyric. Other credits include Orlando Repertory Theatre, Orlando International Fringe Festival and Garden Theatre. Reid is a proud Equity Membership Candidate.

Marinna Carmichael, soprano, is a senior Vocal Performance major, studying with Ellen Frohnmayer. Last year she was a chorus member in *Roméo et Juliette* and participated in the opera scenes program. She sings at Christ Church Cathedral and in Loyola Chorale, Loyola Chamber Singers, and NOVA, where she has had many opportunities to collaborate with the LPO. Thank you to everyone who worked on the production!

Andres Benavides Cascante was born in 1993 in Costa Rica, and started his musical formation at age 9 in the Conservatory of Castella, initially studying saxophone and classical guitar, and eventually adding voice and theater classes. He graduated at the age of 17 after performing *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. Andres started his college career at the University of Costa Rica School of Music, where he performed the title role in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* and the baritone solos for Orff's *Carmina Burana* and Dvořák's *Te Deum*. In 2013 he transferred to Loyola, where he has studied with both Philip and Ellen Frohnmayer. He is currently in the studio of Loretta Bybee. Andres has received two recognition awards from the Metropolitan Opera National Council (MONC), and was a finalist in the New Orleans regional auditions in 2014. He has participated in the young artist program of Harrower Opera, performing the title role in *Falstaff*, and of the Savannah Voice Festival, working with famed baritone Sherrill Milnes.

Mary Cloud is a soprano from Atlanta, Georgia. Mary performed the role of Despina in Mozart's *Così fan tutte* at the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival and the Metro Detroit Opera Workshop. She also sang the role of the Second Lady in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* at the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival. Mary has a Bachelor of Music degree from Indiana University, where she performed in many opera choruses and sang the role of La catterice seconda in Puccini's *Suor Angelica*. In the spring, Mary will finish her Master of Music degree and would like to thank her teacher, Ms. Loretta Bybee, for all of her wisdom and support!

Gloria Cosenza is a recent graduate of Loyola's Vocal Performance program. She is pursuing a career in vocal and theatrical performance while also staying active as a member of Loyola's staff and music community. Last fall she performed with the Jefferson Performing Arts Society as Rosalia in a production of *West Side Story*. She also understudied the role of Fanny Brice in *Funny Girl*. Gloria is thrilled to be a part of the New Orleans debut of Kurt Weill's *Street Scene*. She has enjoyed the challenges and rewards of studying and performing such a unique piece of American opera. Happy New Year and thank you for supporting Loyola Opera Theatre!

Cherita Monche Covington, soprano, a native of Alexandria, Virginia, is currently working toward her Master of Music in Vocal Performance degree at Loyola in the studio of Ellen Frohnmayer. In January 2016 she was seen on Loyola's stage as Gertrude in *Roméo et Juliette*. She also performs with Loyola's Chorale (including the Brahms *Requiem* with the LPO) and University Chorus. Cherita was the concerto aria competition winner and will be performing with the Loyola Orchestra in spring 2017. She received her Bachelor of Science in Vocal Performance degree from Mississippi College. During her undergraduate career, Cherita was selected to perform in the 2011 Thomas Hampson masterclass, made her debut in the musical theater production of *Ragtime* as Sarah, and performed major operatic roles - Lady Valerie from *Cabildo* (2013) and Rosalinda from *Die Fledermaus* (2014). In May 2014, she traveled to South Africa with the Mississippi College Choir. She has also collaborated in concerts with jazz pianists from the Mississippi College faculty, featuring works ranging from Cole Porter to Antonio Carlos Jobim (bossa-nova jazz). Cherita joined the New Orleans Opera Chorus for last October's production of *Don Giovanni* and plans to remain an active performer in the New Orleans area, singing jazz, opera and choral music.

Casey Dawson is currently a sophomore English Literature major at Loyola. She has played violin for fifteen years and is proud to be a part of this performance of *Street Scene*.

Kathryn Domyan, soprano, is a first year graduate student working toward her Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance in the studio of Dreux Montegut. A native of Allentown, Pennsylvania, Kathryn graduated *summa cum laude* with a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education from Susquehanna University, where she studied with Dr. Nina Tober. At Susquehanna, Kathryn performed the title role in Puccini's *Suor Angelica* and scenes from Mozart's *Così fan tutte* as Fiordiligi, and Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Carousel* as Julie Jordan. When she isn't studying or practicing, Kathryn works as a nanny and a waitress, and sings in the choir at the St. Charles Presbyterian Church under the direction of Steven Blackmon. Kathryn would like to thank Dreux Montegut for his excellent guidance and encouragement and Carol Rausch for her time, amazing direction, and for the opportunity to perform her first leading role at Loyola.

James Favor is 10 years old, and in the fourth grade at St. George's Episcopal School in New Orleans. He enjoys sewing, designing fashions, horseback riding, and theatre dance. Above all, he loves to sing and act on stage. He is a member of the New Orleans Children's Chorus. His past performances include *Guys and Dolls*, *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Seussical*. He routinely performs at the Jefferson Performing Arts Society and Tulane University Theatre.

Meghan Gaffney is a 6th grader at Haynes Academy. She has performed with the New Orleans Opera Association in *Dead Man Walking*, *Tosca*, *Brundibár*, and *Friedl* (Anita). She was recently in Tulane Summer Lyric's production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. She has performed in JPAS productions of *Peter Pan*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *The Lion King*. At Rivertown, she was in *Alladin, Jr.* and *Seussical, Jr.* Her most recent production was with Haynes in *Shrek Jr.* (dancer). Meghan studies voice with Brigid Higgins. She is excited to have this opportunity to perform for the first time with Loyola Opera Theatre.

Olivia Garcia, mezzo-soprano, is a senior from San Antonio, TX, and will receive her B. M. in Vocal Performance in May 2017. Olivia has studied with Ellen Frohnmayer and is currently in the studio of Loretta Bybee. This is her fourth production with Loyola Opera Theatre. She has previously sung the role of La Badessa in *Suor Angelica* and chorus in *The Magic Flute*. She also sings in the choir at Immaculate Conception Jesuit Church, and regularly performs as a chorister in productions of the New Orleans Opera Association. She is grateful to her parents, cast members, Cara Consilvio and Carol

Rausch for allowing her the opportunities this opera has presented. She wishes all the best for her fellow cast members - toi toi toi!

Kyle Grubbs is a sophomore Vocal Performance major who is excited to be appearing onstage in his first full Loyola Opera production. Kyle participated in the spring 2016 opera scenes showcase, *The Play's The Thing*.

Audrey Harmon is a senior Vocal Performance major currently studying with Ellen Frohnmayer. She grew up in New Orleans and has been singing and dancing her whole life. Her past Loyola performances include the 3rd Spirit in *The Magic Flute*, the 1st Tourière in *Suor Angelica*, and a member of the chorus in *Roméo et Juliette*. She also performs with the New Orleans Opera and will be in the company's upcoming production of *Sweeney Todd*. She recently completed *Funny Girl* with JPAS. When she graduates she hopes to continue singing for as long as possible and is thrilled to be in this production.

Jake Heap, 11, is home schooled and is currently in 5th grade. Jake has been performing with JPAS since the spring of 2016. His first performance was in *Alice in Wonderland, Jr.*, in which he played a Royal Cardsman and Wonderland Creature. In the summer of 2016, he was cast as a Security Guard in *Elf, Jr.*, and he most recently played a Wickersham Brother in *Seussical, Jr.* Jake takes private piano lessons with Ms. Terry Liberto. This is Jake's first experience in a production outside of JPAS, and he is extremely excited for the opportunity.

Christina Hera, mezzo-soprano, from Marrero, Louisiana, is a sophomore Vocal Performance major in the studio of Ellen Frohnmayer. She is currently a chorus member with the New Orleans Opera Association, appearing in *Don Giovanni* last fall, and *Sweeney Todd* in February. In Loyola's Spring 2016 opera scenes program, she played Lucia from *The Boys From Syracuse*. This past year, she was a soloist in Loyola University Chorus's performance of Howard Goodall's *Requiem*. She feels both humbled and ecstatic to play her first role in Loyola Opera as Jenny Hildebrand.

Alyssa Hernandez, a native of Metairie, LA, is currently working toward a Master of Music Therapy degree in the studio of Dr. Tyler Smith. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Southeastern Louisiana University, where she performed in many productions: scenes from Strauss's *Die Fledermaus* (Rosalinde); Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*; Offenbach's *La Périchole* (title role); and John Buccino's *It's Only Life* (Jessica). She was also the soprano soloist in Beethoven's *Fantasia C Minor, Op. 80* with SELU Orchestra. In January 2014 she performed in scenes from Massenet's *Cendrillon* as the Fairy Godmother at the National Opera Convention in NYC, as part of a premiere of the English translation of the opera. Currently she is an active member of the New Orleans Opera Chorus. At Loyola, she has been seen as soprano soloist in Mozart's *Requiem* with Loyola's choirs and in the chorus of *Roméo et Juliette* and a scene from Nicolai's *The Merry Wives Of Windsor* for Loyola Opera. Alyssa aspires to have a performance career upon graduation. She would like to thank her family for their never-ending support, and her peers for making this experience so worthwhile.

Allison Joiner, from Hammond, LA, is a graduate student working toward a Master of Music in Vocal Performance degree. She is in the studio of Loretta Bybee. Allison was a featured performer in Southeastern Louisiana University's Opera Workshop's 75th Anniversary Gala and has appeared in *Suor Angelica*, *South Pacific* (Liat), *Street Scene* (Shirley), *Hansel and Gretel* (Hansel), *The Magic Flute*, *La Périchole*, and *Sweeney Todd*. She was last seen onstage in the New Orleans Opera Association's *Macbeth*. Allison thanks her family and friends for their support and love.

Meghan Kessel is a senior at Loyola majoring in Music Education with a concentration in Voice. She studies with Dr. Betsy Uschkrat, and is a student assistant conductor under Dr. Meg Frazier. Meghan has appeared in productions with the Jefferson Performing Arts Society, Southern Rep, and the New Orleans Opera Association, where she was seen onstage last October in *Don Giovanni*. She performs in two of Loyola's choirs and with their opera program every year. Meghan is a member of Sigma Alpha Iota, a women's music fraternity, and serves as their treasurer. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support and love!

Rachel Looney, soprano, is a native of Lake Charles, Louisiana. She currently performs with the Victory Belles of the National WWII Museum, New Orleans Opera Chorus, and Immaculate Conception Jesuit

Church Choir. Ms. Looney's roles include Juliette in Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette*, Tytania in excerpts from Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Wife in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Suor Genovieffa in *Suor Angelica*, Hidalgo in *Zehn Mädchen und kein Mann*, Héro in *Béatrice et Bénédicte*, Abigail Williams in excerpts from Ward's *The Crucible*, Venus in *Dido and Aeneas*, Sadie Pollock in *The Cradle Will Rock*, Jou-Jou in *The Merry Widow*, Anna II in *Die sieben Todsünden*, Mama Rose in *Jack and the Beanstalk*, and Laurey Williams in *Oklahoma!*. Ms. Looney has performed with Loyola Opera Theatre, Tulane Summer Lyric Theatre, Opera on Tap New Orleans, James Madison University Summer Opera in Freiberg, Germany, Louisiana State University Opera, LSU Opera Outreach Program (LOOP), LSU A Cappella Choir, Southern University Opera, and Opéra Louisiane. Ms. Looney holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance from Louisiana State University (May 2015), where she studied with Robert Grayson. Currently, she is pursuing her Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance at Loyola, studying with Loretta Bybee.

Louie, a French Bulldog who hails from Alexandria, Louisiana, is excited to make his operatic debut as Mrs. Jones's headstrong pet! Louie seemed destined for a career, since his parents - Haley Whitney and Kameron Loppreore - are both singers. When Louie has a break from his extensive performance schedule he can be seen playing fetch, munching on socks, and spending quality time with his friends and family.

Alex Lucas is thrilled to be making his operatic debut on the Loyola Opera stage as Harry Easter! He has been performing since he was eight years old, having utilized his talents on a large array of both local and national stages, ranging from the JPAS Theatre Kids program and the Brother Martin Dionysians to Disney's Candlelight Processional and New York's historic Carnegie Hall in their 125th anniversary season. He has performed in nearly thirty musicals, some of his favorite roles being Lumière in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* (St. Luke's UMC) and King Charlemagne in *Pippin* (Brother Martin). He is a freshman Vocal Performance and History double major at Loyola University in the studio of Dreux Montegut. In March Alex will be originating the role of Serpent in a brand-new musical entitled *Garden: An Original Love Story* at Notre Dame Seminary. He would like to thank all his friends and family who have consistently supported him in his performing endeavors over the years! alexchristianlucas.com

Kentro Mason, Jr. from Baton Rouge, LA, began his career formation in high school, with an interest in the visual arts and jazz dance, and participation in multiple interstate choirs. His first real exposure to classical art forms was at Loyola. He has enjoyed wonderful opportunities in New Orleans - singing with the Louisiana Philharmonic (including the reopening of the Orpheum), dancing for the Marigny Opera House, and participating in the first annual Valentina Kozlova International Ballet Competition. Kentro plans to move to New York to pursue his dream of dancing with Alvin Ailey's American Dance Theater and of becoming a known recording artist. He intends to use his gifts to make an impactful difference to the people of the world and to preach a message that not all value: "Love is the only way!"

Jacqueline McCarthy is a recent graduate of Louisiana State University, earning a degree in Vocal Performance under Terry Patrick Harris. During her time at LSU, Jacqueline sang in the chorus for productions of *Così fan tutte*, *The Merry Widow*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *The Mikado*, and most recently starred as Mabel in the Louisiana Opera Outreach Program's production of *The Pirates of Penzance*. Jacqueline has also sung with the touring LSU A Cappella choir under the direction of international conductor John Dickson. At Loyola Jacqueline is pursuing a Master's in Music Therapy degree, and in the future hopes to work with children with cancer to ease and enrich their lives through music.

Devon P. Mederos, tenor, is a vocalist and musician from Miami, Florida. He has eight years of experience in clarinet and saxophone performance, with a background in both classical and jazz studies, and has performed in Carnegie Hall, Strathmore, and Lincoln Music Center. He is currently a sophomore at Loyola, where he studies Music and Criminology.

Clayton Morris, 10, attends Stuart Hall School for Boys, where he is in the 5th grade. Clayton regularly performs with JPAS, and was seen onstage most recently as The Cat in the Hat in their production of *Seussical*. Clayton is delighted to be part of his first Loyola Opera production and thanks his fellow cast members for a wonderful new experience. He would also like to thank his family for their continued support for his love of performing.

Emma Mountcastle is a soprano from Baltimore, Maryland, who recently acquired her Bachelor of Arts in Vocal Performance at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She performed in the Honor Recital at her alma mater from fall 2013 through spring 2015. She has performed scenes as both Fiordiligi and Dorabella from *Così fan tutte*, Frasquita from *Carmen*, First Lady from *The Magic Flute*, the title role from *Anna Bolena*, and Mrs. Ford from *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, as well as Alice Ford from *Falstaff*. Emma sang the role of Cio-Cio San in the "Flower Duet" from Puccini's *Madame Butterfly*, as well as the role of Sister Alisa in the East Coast premiere of Henry Mollicone's opera *Children of the Sun* with the Little Patuxent Opera Institute. She is honored to be singing the role of Anna Murrant this weekend. Emma is currently working toward her Master of Music degree at Loyola in the studio of Dr. Tyler Smith.

David Murray, a baritone from New Orleans, Louisiana, is a sophomore Vocal Performance major in the studio of Dreux Montegut. In 2015, he graduated from the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA) as a member of the first graduating class of the Academic Studio. David studied with Phyllis Treigle and performed in many opera scenes productions, as well as two full-length operas. He began his Loyola studies in fall 2015 and debuted with Loyola Opera as Gregorio in Charles Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette* last January. David made his main stage debut with New Orleans Opera as Joseph De Rocher's younger brother in their March 2016 production of *Dead Man Walking* and sang the role of the Policeman last May in *Brundibár*, a co-production with the National WWII Museum. He has been a chorister with New Orleans Opera for recent productions of *Tosca* and *Don Giovanni*, and next month will be seen in *Sweeney Todd*. David is thrilled to be in his second production with Loyola Opera Theatre.

Sarah Neal, mezzo-soprano, is a sophomore at Loyola, pursuing a major in English and a minor in Music. She participated as a chorus member with the Notre Dame Opera from 2013-2015 in her hometown of South Bend, Indiana. Those operas included *Dialogues des Carmélites* by Francis Poulenc, *L'incoronazione di Poppea* by Claudio Monteverdi, and *Candide* by Leonard Bernstein. In the spring of 2016, Sarah was a chorus member in Loyola University's production of *Roméo et Juliette*, and she is eager to fulfill the role of Olga Olsen in this year's production of *Street Scene* by Kurt Weill.

Pamela Nions, mezzo-soprano, enjoys singing operatic roles, art song, Rhythm and Blues, Neo-Soul, and Jazz. She was born in New Orleans, grew up in Inkster, Michigan, and attended Claflin University in Orangeburg, South Carolina, graduating in May 2015. At Claflin she studied voice with Dr. Lori Hicks and sang in the concert choir under the direction of Dr. Isaiah McGee. Her performance credits include: chorus member in George Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*; alto soloist in Handel's *Messiah*; Lala in *Minette Fontaine* and soloist in the St. Louis Cathedral's Christmas concert with OperaCréole; and Gertrude in Loyola's January 2016 *Roméo et Juliette*. She performed scenes from *Falstaff* and *Il matrimonio segreto* at the Opera Viva! summer program in Verona, Italy. She has also performed at Baker's Keyboard Lounge in Detroit, the oldest jazz club in the world. Ms. Nions was first-place winner at the district and regional National Association of Teachers of Singing (N. A. T. S.) competition and participated in the 2015 Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions in South Carolina. She also has had the opportunity to teach vocal technique and health to children ages five to twelve. Currently Ms. Nions is pursuing a Master's degree in vocal performance at Loyola in the studio of Loretta Bybee. Her heart's desire is to have an international performance career, and to inspire others to follow their dreams.

Philip Nodurft, tenor, is a newcomer to the opera world. He is very grateful to be studying his first role as the cover for Lippo alongside the talented Mr. Sibley and under the incomparable guidance of Dr. Tyler Smith and Ms. Carol Rausch. Philip would like to thank Dr. Marcus St. Julien and his parents for giving him the gift of music as a child and for nurturing and supporting it all his life. A very special thanks to the donors who keep the arts alive in this wonderful community and encourage a bright, gifted new generation of performers. Your generosity is truly appreciated.

Jaden Norris, born in New Orleans, is in 8th grade at Arden Cahill Academy and attends NOCCA's after school high-school prep program. He has been performing since he was 5 years old, starting with Jefferson Performing Arts Society's Theatre Kids. More recently he has performed in main stage productions around New Orleans, including *Merrily We Roll Along* at Le Petit and *Peter Pan* at Rivertown Rep. He also played the lead role of an autistic boy in a UNO Student Thesis Film, "Just Like Wild Pete."

Jaden will be auditioning for NOCCA's high school program this coming Spring and has Broadway aspirations. He loves to read and draw and is a self-proclaimed "Whovian."

Sophia Parigi received the highest honors as a student of the Academy of the Sacred Heart and is in the Duke University TIP program for the gifted, as well as being a member of Mensa National Honor Society. Sophia turned 12 earlier this month and has been playing piano since age 4. She became a vocalist just a few years ago and has already earned opportunities onstage at Carnegie Hall in New York, at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, at the National WWII Museum, and in two productions for the New Orleans Opera. This year, Sophia was accepted as an intern in the Tipitina's High School Internship Program. Sophia also donates her time, performing for local charities and non-profits. She lives with her mother and toy poodle in New Orleans but travels often to Florence Italy, home of her late father, where she learned the Italian language and spends summers with her grandparents. www.sophiaparigi.com

Christian Leon Patterson is a senior Vocal Performance Major at Loyola, studying with Loretta Bybee. This is his third production with Loyola Opera, and he is very excited to be performing his first tenor leading role. His past credits include Mercutio in *Roméo et Juliette*, and Marco in *Gianni Schicchi*. This past summer he had the opportunity to study in Verona, Italy with the Opera Viva intensive opera program, where he performed in many venues throughout the city. Christian would like to thank his wonderful parents, Cheryl and James, and his little sister, Rachel, for their continuous love and support. He would also like to thank Carol Rausch for believing in him. Lastly, he thanks Loretta Bybee for all of the work that she has done to prepare him vocally for where he is today.

Summer Janaya Robinson, 11, attends Harper McCaughn Elementary School in Long Beach Mississippi, where she is in the 6th grade. These performances mark her singing debut, but she has performed as a tap and ballet dancer with the Island School of Performing Arts in Gulfport, MS, and the Just Dance Academy in Clinton, MS. Summer also plays the tuba in her concert band. She is delighted to explore the worlds of theatre and voice through this Loyola Opera production with her mother, Cherita Covington.

Baritone **Spencer Reichman** has thrilled audiences in the central Texas region through his performances as Leporello in *Don Giovanni*, the title role in *Gianni Schicchi*, and the role of Juan Diego in the premiere of Henry Mollicone's *Children of the Sun* (Texas State Opera Theatre). In 2011, Mr. Reichman was invited to portray the title character of *The Mikado* at the International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Recently Mr. Reichman was seen at Des Moines Metro Opera, New Orleans Opera Association, and the International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival in Harrogate, UK. He will join the Chautauqua Opera in summer 2017 as a member of the company's Studio Artist Program. A born entertainer who loves to sing and be on stage, Mr. Reichman has presented concerts to full houses with much acclaim. A finalist at the Tuesday Music Club of San Antonio, in 2016 Mr. Reichman advanced to the Gulf Coast Regional Division of the Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions, where he received an Encouragement Award. Mr. Reichman is currently working on his Master's degree at Loyola as a student of Loretta Bybee. He received his undergraduate degree from Texas State University, studying with Cheryl Parrish. Outside of singing, Mr. Reichman enjoys a nice dinner with friends or a day out flying his kite.

Ryan Reynolds, tenor, is a New Orleans native and freshman studying with Dr. Tyler Smith. This is his first production with Loyola Opera. He attended the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA), where he was cast as Prince Charming in Pauline Viardot's *Cendrillon*, and a Herald in Handel's *Rinaldo*. In addition to these performances, he also appeared in the New Orleans Opera Association's production of *Dead Man Walking* as the Older Brother of Joseph De Rocher. He currently is a choir member at St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Sofia Riggio, soprano, is a native New Yorker and a freshman at Loyola. She has done many musical theater performances, but *Street Scene* is just her second opera. In the summer of 2015, she performed in Narni, Italy, as the Prima Cercatrice in Puccini's *Suor Angelica*. She is currently studying under the ever-talented Dr. Tyler Smith. Sofia would like to thank her family for supporting her and the cast of *Street Scene* for providing a fun and engaging environment.

Kentrell Roberts is a lyric baritone from New Orleans, LA. He graduated from Dillard University with a bachelor's degree in Vocal Performance and is currently attending Loyola to obtain a master's degree in Vocal Performance. He was cast as Cleon in OperaCréole's 2015 production of *Minette Fontaine*. Kentrell is the assistant director of the Abundant Life Church praise team and is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Grant Rothermel, born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, is a sophomore Music with Elective Studies Major in the studio of Dreux Montegut. He began performing six years ago in high school and hasn't stopped since. He is honored to be working with Loyola's opera department and wants to thank his professors for their wisdom and the opportunities they have given him. Grant would also like to thank his family for the support to help him reach his dreams. He would especially like to thank Carol Rausch for accommodating his busy schedule and making the production a fun and enjoyable experience.

Colleen Ryan, a soprano from Spring, Texas, is a junior Music Education major in the studio of Mr. Dreux Montegut. *Street Scene* will be her second Loyola Opera Theatre production. She also had the pleasure of being a part of the chorus for *Roméo et Juliette*. Colleen is a member of two Loyola University choirs - Chorale and Chamber Singers - both under the direction of Dr. Meg Frazier. Colleen is a proud member of Sigma Alpha Iota. She wishes to thank the entire voice faculty, Carol, Cara, and all her fellow cast and crew members for giving her such unforgettable opportunities and experiences.

Brittany Schaubhut is a sophomore studying Vocal Performance with Dreux Montegut. She hails from Luling, Louisiana, and is an alumna of Hahnville High School. Brittany was last seen in the chorus of Loyola's production of *Roméo et Juliette* and is thrilled to be returning to the opera stage again.

Alexander Sibley graduated from Tulane University, earning a B.F.A. in Vocal Performance and fulfilling all requirements in the Pre-Med curriculum. He is now in his final year as a Master of Music in Vocal Performance student at Loyola in the studio of Luretta Bybee. He is a musical theater enthusiast who has appeared as the Baker in Sondheim's *Into the Woods*, Sancho Panza in *Man of La Mancha*, Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and Nicely-Nicely Johnson in *Guys and Dolls*. He has appeared in Italy twice with La Musica Lirica, singing Goro in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* and Bardolfo in Verdi's *Falstaff*. He also made his New Orleans Opera Association debut in Verdi's *La traviata* in October 2015 and will perform in *Sweeney Todd* next month. He is an active performer around the city of New Orleans and sings with the choir at St. Patrick's Church. Alexander will celebrate Mardi Gras 2017 by getting married to his high school sweetheart, Kaley!

Tyler Smith, tenor, maintains a very active performing career and is currently an Extraordinary Professor of Voice at Loyola University. He has performed in Europe, South America, and throughout the U.S. For his performance of *I Pagliacci*, *Opera News* praised his "powerful voice..remarkably in touch with the drama." Other roles performed include Don José in *Carmen*, Rodolfo in *La bohème*, Max in *Der Freischütz*, Boris in *Katya Kabanova*, the title role in Offenbach's *Tales of Hoffmann*, Florestan in *Fidelio*, and Belfiore in Argento's *Casanova's Homecoming* (released on the Newport Classics label). In 2001 he made his Houston Grand Opera Debut as Carlson in Carlisle Floyd's *Of Mice and Men* (released on the Albany label).

Chloë Soto, 8, is a 3rd-grader at Metairie Academy for Advanced Studies and participates in the Talented Music program, led by Brigid Higgins. She was ranked "Superior" in the spring 2016 music festival. She has participated in talent shows at school and was Annie in the Thanksgiving play. Chloë portrayed Shirley Temple for the annual Biography Day. *Street Scene* is her first opera production.

Zoë Spangler, soprano, is from Salem, Oregon, and is a senior at Loyola this year. She is a Music with Elective Studies major with a Minor in Philosophy, in the studio of Betsy Uschkrat. Zoë was Bo-Peep from *Babes in Toyland* in Loyola's 2015 opera scenes production. This is her third main stage opera production at Loyola and she is very excited to be part of *Street Scene*!

Mark Anthony Thomas, a native of New Orleans, is a graduate of McDonough 35 Senior High School and the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA), where he studied vocal music and received a Certificate of Artistry under the tutelage of Phyllis Treigle. He was selected as a winner of the Junior Philharmonic Society competition in 2009. Mark spent a summer in Italy at the Siena Summer Music

Festival, studying opera under the direction of Metropolitan Opera veteran Dana Talley. He is a member of the New Orleans Opera Chorus and has appeared in productions of *Madama Butterfly*, *La bohème*, *Carmen*, *Die Fledermaus*, and *Tosca*. In November 2012, Mark performed the title role in Chris Burton's *The Self Portrait* of Jonathan Jenkins with New Fangled Opera and returned in July 2013 to perform in Jennifer Jolley's *Krispy Kremes and Butter Queens* as the Angel/Announcer #2. For Loyola Opera Mark has performed the roles of Gherardo in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and Tybalt in Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette*. He has also performed the role of Peter in Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* with Nicholls State University Opera Studio. Mark was also a soloist in Handel's *Messiah* for performances by the New Orleans Volunteer Orchestra and St. Paul Lutheran Church. After studying at the Boston Conservatory for one year under Kathryn Wright, Mark continues his pursuit of a B.M degree in Vocal Performance at Loyola in the studio of Loretta Bybee.

Emilie Tolley, soprano, hails from Charlotte, NC, and is currently pursuing a degree in Vocal Performance and Pre-law Philosophy at Loyola. She has been part of previous performances with Loyola Opera, including *Roméo et Juliette* in January 2016. Emilie has relished opportunities to join Loyola's Chorale and University Chorus for performances with the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra and has sung with the Charlotte Symphony as a member of the Charlotte Children's Choir and Bella Voce. She also experienced solo opportunities abroad in Italy and Scotland with Bella Voce and has enjoyed cantoring with St. Matthew's Catholic Church, as well as St. Paul's Episcopal. Emilie attended Charlotte Catholic High School, and enjoyed traveling with their choir and participating in staged productions such as *The Wiz* and *Fiddler On the Roof*.

Linden Uter is a soprano from Lafayette, Louisiana, who recently attained her Master's of Music in Vocal Performance from Loyola. Prior roles and experience include being a chorus member in New Orleans Opera's production of *Don Giovanni*, Drusilla in *L'incoronazione di Poppea* in Harrower's Summer Opera program, Lady Montague and chorus member in Loyola's *Roméo et Juliette*, Edith in *The Pirates of Penzance* at Louisiana State University, and a Hooverville soloist/Boylan Sister in Theatre Baton Rouge's production of *Annie the Musical*. She is also a pianist and is currently music director at Mater Dolorosa church in New Orleans.

Mary Van is a sophomore Music Therapy major in the studio of Dr. Betsy Uschkrat. She debuted in Loyola Opera's scenes production in April 2016 as Cobweb in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and sang in Carnegie Hall this past fall, performing Howard Goodall's *Eternal Light: Requiem* with Loyola's University Chorus. She is excited to be in her first fully staged opera and hopes to do more!

Isabella Vanderhoof is a sophomore Vocal Performance major at Loyola, studying with Ellen Frohnmayer. She is a graduate of Chattanooga High School Center for Creative Arts in Chattanooga, TN, where she grew up. Isabella was the first place winner of the Joyce Mathis Vocal Competition, and the Performing Arts League Vocal Competition, and was also a finalist in NPR's "From the Top" radio competition. She played the role of the Mother in Chattanooga High's production of *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, as well as the role of Héro in a scene from *Béatrice et Bénédicte* at Loyola in spring 2016. Isabella has been a featured soloist at Carnegie Hall for the American Choirs Festival in 2014, and was a soprano soloist in the Loyola Chorale performance of Mozart's *Requiem* last year. She spent summer 2016 at the AIMS Summer Opera Program in Graz, Austria, and hopes to return to Europe for her graduate studies.

Cécile (Céci) Rose Valentine Curran is 13 years old and is in 7th grade at The Academy of the Sacred Heart. Always at the top of her class, she is both an honor student and a Duke Talent Search student, with a profound love of math and science. Céci has been onstage since age 3 and began studying classical ballet shortly thereafter. Her training also includes piano, voice, jazz and modern dance, as well as Irish dancing. Some of the credits in her busy performing schedule include: *The Jungle Book, Jr.* (Shanti); *Cinderella, Jr.* (Luc the Mouse); *The Wizard of Oz* (Dorothy); *Frog and Toad, Jr.* (Frog); *Scrooge* (Marley); *Seussical, Jr.* (Mayzie); *James and the Giant Peach* (Spiker); *High School Musical, Jr.* (Jackie Scott); *Brundibár/Friedl* (chorus and Ruth) for New Orleans Opera; and the Spanish Baby Doll soloist in New Orleans Ballet Theater's December 2016 *Nutcracker*. Céci is also an accomplished horsewoman who began riding at age 2. She is honored to join this Loyola Opera production. Céci thanks her family for their loving support and her directors and cast for a fabulous experience.

Nathan Ward is a keyboardist, vocalist and trumpet player from Barrington, Rhode Island. He moved to New Orleans in 2012 to pursue a degree in Jazz Studies at Loyola. While studying jazz trumpet he became involved in the voice program and has continued singing ever since. Nathan graduated in May 2016 and is currently singing and playing keyboard professionally throughout New Orleans

Abigail White, soprano, is pursuing a master's degree in Vocal Performance in the studio of Luretta Bybee. Her undergraduate career was spent at Western Kentucky University, where she performed roles including Susanna in Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*, Gianetta in Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Gondoliers*, and Laetitia in Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief*. She has also performed abroad in Salzburg, Austria, and, most recently, as a guest artist in Quito, Ecuador, with the Teatro Nacional Sucre. Abigail has appeared as the soprano soloist in Schubert's Mass in G with the WKU Orchestra, with the Northern Kentucky University Chamber Orchestra, and in the Utah Vocal Arts Academy's "Opera in the Park" concert in Provo, Utah. She is also a church musician and voice teacher. Her own past teachers include Mark Calkins, Dr. Grant Knox, and Dr. Wayne Pope.

Haley Whitney, soprano, from Mandeville, Louisiana is a junior Vocal Performance major in the studio of Luretta Bybee. She was most recently seen as Micaela in *Carmen* last summer. For Loyola Opera she sang Suor Genovieffa in *Suor Angelica* in January 2015 and covered Juliette in *Roméo et Juliette* for the January 2016 performances. She is the recipient of the 2016 Panzeca Italian-American scholarship award. Haley is a 2013 graduate of the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA), where she studied with Phyllis Treigle. Haley sings with the New Orleans Opera Chorus, "Opera on Tap" and St. Charles Ave. Presbyterian Church. Haley is thrilled to bring the complex role of Rose Murrant to life this weekend.

Zara Zemmels, mezzo-soprano, began studying classical voice with Dr. Tyler Smith in 2012. She has participated in three previous Loyola Opera productions: as a chorus member in Bernstein's *Candide* (2013); as The Monitor in Puccini's *Suor Angelica* (2015); and as Stephano in Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette* (2016). She has been an active member of the New Orleans Opera Chorus since 2014, participating in a total of nine productions with the company, including *Don Giovanni* and *Macbeth* in the fall, and *Sweeney Todd*, coming up in February. She is currently studying with Luretta Bybee as a graduate student of voice at Loyola.

FROHNMAYER LEGACY FUND

Loyola's long tradition of operatic excellence thrives on the bountiful gifts of all our donors. Created by Philip and Ellen Frohnmayer in 2011, the special endowment of the Frohnmayer Legacy Fund goes directly to the support of Loyola Opera into the future. Please consider making a gift today via the enclosed envelope, or on-line at: giving.loyno.edu/cmfa (type in "Frohnmayer Legacy Fund" for your gift designation).

SPECIAL THANKS:

Dean Shapiro, *The Advocate*; Brigid Higgins, Metairie Academy; Jefferson Performing Arts Society; Rivertown Rep; Laura Zambrano, Department of Dance; Carmen Balthazar, Cheryl Conway, Flora Petterson and Windie Lowe in the Office of the College of Music and Fine Arts; Dr. Anthony Decuir, Dean; Dr. Victoria P. Vega, Associate Dean

ORCHESTRA PERSONNEL:

Violin 1

Amy Thiaville-Concertmaster¹
Dhani Juan²
Jennifer Waldron²
Mike Perez²

Violin 2

Ellen Johnston²
Tara Simons²
Camila Casaw²

Viola

Bruce Owen^{1/3}
Ross Donovan²

Cello

Josh Sierra²
Emily Alves²

Bass

Alden Devoe²

Oboe

Jane Gabka^{1/3}

Clarinet

Alex Morano²
Alexandra Freeman²

Bass Clarinet

John Claxton²

Bassoon

Nathaniel Deshler²

French Horn

Keiron Oliver²
Maureen Kelly²

Trumpet

Tyler Lindsay²
Jackson Delany²

Trombone

Jeff Albert^{1/4}
Thomas Lilly²

Timpani

Gabe Montemayor²

Percussion

Gil Anfone²

Harp

Avery Sanford²

Piano

Claire Bigley⁴

¹ Loyola Faculty

² Loyola Student

³ Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra

^G Guest (former LPO/faculty/student)

LOYOLA VOICE FACULTY:

Luretta Bybee
Dreux Montegut
Claire Shackleton

Meg Frazier
Ivan Griffin
Tyler Smith

Ellen Frohnmayer
Marcus St. Julien
Betsy Uschkrat

PRODUCTION STAFF:

Set Design
Technical Director
Painter
Properties
Lighting Design
Costumes
Costume Coordinator
Wigs & Makeup
Wig & Makeup Staff
Facilities Manager
Facilities Technician
Production Stage Manager
1st Assistant Stage Manager
2nd Assistant Stage Manager
Rehearsal Accompanists
Dialect Coach
Orchestra Contractor
Orchestra materials
Supertitles
Supertitle Operator
Program Book
Box Office
Marketing:

New Orleans Opera Scenic Studio
Keith Christopher
Nathan Arthur
Jonathan Uhlman
Joan Long
A.T. Jones & Sons
Anamarys Perez
Don and Linda Guillot
Amanda Bravender, Craig Calico, Laurin Hart, Maggie McGovern
Clinton Keene
Jeff Zielinski
Emily Barber
Justin Blanchard
Dylan Tran
Claire Bigley, Jonathan Szymanski
Allison Voth
Jack Gardner
European American Music Distributors Company
Chadwick Creative Arts
Beth Rota
Flora Petterson
Flora Petterson
Laura Kurzu, Patricia Murret, Kristen Nicholson, Allee Parker, Theresa Ryan

UPCOMING MONTAGE EVENTS:

Loyola Faculty Perform the Great American Songbook

Saturday, February 4, 2017 7:30 pm
Louis J. Roussel Hall
Ticket Required

Jazz Underground Performance Series: 2nd Annual New Orleans All Star Jam

Thursday, February 9, 2017 7:30pm
Nunemaker Auditorium
Ticket Required

Brian Blade & the Fellowship Band with the Loyola Symphony Orchestra

Friday, February 10, 2017 7:30 pm
Louis J. Roussel Hall
Ticket Required

Guest Artist Catherine Lysinger Piano Recital

Sunday, February 12, 2017 3:00 pm
Louis J. Roussel Hall
Free to the public

Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg performs the Mendelssohn Octet with Loyola Faculty

Thursday, February 16, 2017 7:30pm
Nunemaker Auditorium
Ticket required

Metropolitan Opera District Auditions

Saturday, February 18, 2017 9:00 am, Sunday, February 19, 2017 1:30 pm
Louis J. Roussel Hall
Free to the Public

John Fedchock performs with the Loyola Jazz Band

Saturday, March 11, 4:30 PM
Louis J. Roussel Hall
Ticket Required

Loyola Musical Theatre presents: The Spitfire Grill

March 24- April 1, 2017
Lower Depths Theatre
Ticket Required

The Boston Brass performs with the Loyola University Wind Ensemble

Saturday, April 1, 2017 4:00 pm
Nunemaker Auditorium
Ticket Required

**For more information on upcoming Loyola events,
visit loyno.edu/program or call 504-865-2074.**

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