Patricia Crump
Vocal Competition

Saturday, October 17th, 2026

12:30PM

Recital Hall

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

SUPPORTERS *of*
OPERA SINGERS

SOS Mission Statement:

Supporters of Opera Singers strives to support exceptionally talented early career opera singers who have strong Wisconsin ties, such as having been raised in, gone to school in, or are currently living in Wisconsin, as well as Wisconsin-based organizations that promote and produce classical music featuring the artists with these ties.

The **Patricia Crump Vocal Competition** honors the founder of SOS, and provides a platform for young singers with strong Wisconsin ties to be supported during the crucial beginnings of their careers. The preliminary round is held virtually, with finalists advancing to an in-person audition. All finalists will receive $500, Philip Crump Encouragement Award winner(s) will receive $2500, and the winner of the Patricia Crump Grand Prize will receive $5000.* All finalists are eligible to apply for additional career grants for the next three years, a unique aspect of SOS's commitment to early career singers. These grants are typically designated to assist with musical, dramatic, vocal, and language preparation for auditions, young artist programs, and professional engagements. However, other career related expenses may be considered at the discretion of the board of directors.

*Winners will be announced on our website on Monday, October 19th - www.supportersofoperasingers.org

Order of Singers

1.	Michael Segura	Baritone
2.	Liv Olson	Soprano
3.	Nicholas Huff	Tenor
4.	Katiann Nelson	Mezzo-Soprano
5.	Jackson Ahern	Bass-Baritone
6.	Tabetha Steege	Soprano

INTERMISSION (10 minutes)

7.	Ilanna Starr	Mezzo-Soprano
8.	Zachary Taylor	Tenor
9.	Marissa Lake	Soprano
10.	Nicholas Fahrenkrug	Baritone
11.	Emily Bergeron	Mezzo-Soprano

Janna Vinson, Pianist

Michael Segura, baritone, 30, joins The Florentine Opera as a Baumgartner Studio Artist for the 2026-27 season. Previously seen with the Lyric Opera of Orange County, Opera Santa Barbara, Opera Saratoga, and Tri-Cities Opera.

Come un'ape ne giorni d'aprile	LA CENERENTOLA	Rossini
E fra quest'ansie	I PAGLIACCI	Leoncavallo
Mab, la reine des mensonges	ROMÉO ET JULIETTE	Gounod
Pierrots Tanzlied	DIE TOTE STADT	Korngold

Liv Olson, soprano, 21, is currently pursuing a BFA in Vocal Performance at UW-Milwaukee. At UWM, Liv has portrayed Susanna (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), Ilia (*Idomeno*), and Johanna (*Sweeney Todd*) in opera scenes

Kommt ein schlanker	DER FREISCHÜTZ	Weber
My Darling Jim	GLORY DENIED	Cipullo
Pâle et Blond	HAMLET	Thomas
Sul fil d'un soffio etesio	FALSTAFF	Verdi

Nicholas Huff, tenor, 33, recently performed with the Apollo Orchestra, Washington National Opera and the Alexandria Symphony. He studied at Carthage College, Eastman School of Music, and was a Young Artist at The Florentine Opera.

Pourqoui me réveiller	WERTHER	Massenet
Nessun dorma	TURANDOT	Puccini
Goliath	THE REVOLUTION OF STEVE JOBS	Bates
Addio, fiorito asil	MADAMA BUTTERFLY	Puccini

Katiann Nelson, mezzo, 26, was named winner of the 2026 Colorado-Wyoming District Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition. Originally from Waterford, WI, she can be seen this season at Central City Opera and Opera Colorado.

Air des larmes- Va!	WERTHER	Massenet
Wie du warst!	DER ROSENKAVALIER	R. Strauss
Give him this orchid	THE RAPE OF LUCRETIA	Britten
Una voce poco fa	IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA	Rossini

Jackson Ahern, bass-baritone, 22, is a second-year master's student pursuing a degree in Voice and Opera at the UW-Madison. This fall, Jackson will perform the role of Don Magnifico in Rossini's *La Cenerentola*.

La vendetta	LE NOZZE DI FIGARO	Mozart
Studia il passo, o mio figlio	MACBETH	Verdi
Vi ravviso	LA SONNAMBULA	Bellini
O Isis und Osiris	DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE	Mozart

Tabetha Steege, soprano, 26, is a Wisconsin native and graduate of UW–Milwaukee. She recently joined Operísima Mexico Studio, where she performed Mimì in *La Bohème* and Contessa Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro*.

Je dis que rien ne m'épouvante	CARMEN	Bizet
Come scoglio	COSÌ FAN TUTTE	Mozart
Pace, pace, mio Dio!	LA FORZA DEL DESTINO	Verdi
After you hear me out	GLORY DENIED	Cipullo

INTERMISSION (10 minutes)

Ilanna Starr, mezzo, 31, recently won Second Prize in the Lotte Lenya Competition and First Prize in the Annapolis Opera Vocal Competition. A current Madison resident, she spent two seasons with Atelier lyrique de l'Opéra de Montréal.

The Seguidilla	CARMEN	Bizet
Sta nell'ircana	ALCINA	Handel
Am I in your light?	DOCTOR ATOMIC	Adams
Addio, addio, o miei sospiri	ORFEO ED EURIDICE	Gluck

Zachary Taylor, tenor, 28, is a second-year Baumgartner Studio Artist with The Florentine Opera, He has sung with Berkshire Opera Festival, Opera Carolina, Greensboro Symphony, Charlotte Symphony, and Music on Site.

Ah, la paterna mano	MACBETH	Verdi
Ah! lève-toi soleil!	ROMÉO ET JULIETTE	Gounod
Dies Bildnis	DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE	Mozart
I See	MOBY DICK	Heggie

Marissa Lake, soprano, 26, recently performed Gretel in *Hänsel und Gretel* with the Brew City Opera and the Oshkosh Symphony Orchestra. She holds a BM from Lawrence University and a MM from McGill University.

Wo bin ich?	HANSEL UND GRETEL	Humperdinck
Prendi per me sei libero	L'ELISIR D'AMORE	Donizetti
It's My Wedding	THE ENCHANTED PIG	Dove
Du gai soleil	WERTHER	Massenet

Nicholas Fahrenkrug, baritone, 28, debuts with Bold City Opera in Dvorak's *Rusalka* as the Prince, and joins The Philadelphia Orchestra for *Carmina Burana.* He holds degrees from Louisiana State University and Lawrence University.

Vision Lovely, Wonderous, Pale	RUSALKA	Dvorak
Per me giunto	DON CARLO	Verdi
Avant de quitter ces lieux	FAUST	Gounod
Warm as the autumn light	THE BALLAD OF BABY DOE	Moore

Emily Bergeron, mezzo, 25, joins The Florentine Opera Chorus and the Milwaukee Symphony Chorus this season. She received her BA in Vocal Performance from Bemidji State University and MM from UW-Milwaukee.

Cruda sorte!	L' ITALIANA IN ALGERI	Rossini
Che farò senza Euridice?	ORFEO ED EURIDICE	Gluck
Minkswoman's Aria	FLIGHT	Dove
Air des larmes - Va!	WERTHER	Massenet

Janna Vinson, pianist, has worked continuously as a vocal coach, life coach and music director for over 25 years. With her support and guidance, clients excel both on and off the stage. She has performed with such houses as New Orleans, Virginia Opera, Cincinnati Opera, The Florentine Opera, Milwaukee Opera Theater and Skylight Music Theatre. A dedicated educator, she has held teaching and coaching positions at Southern Methodist University, the University of Oklahoma and the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee. She earned her Certification as a Life Coach in Positive Psychology and is currently coaching individuals and couples at Lakeshore Psychology Services in Mequon.

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SOS would like to thank UW-Milwaukee, and especially Dr. Aaron Agulay, for all their help facilitating this competition.

Thank you for joining us today!

For more information on our finalists, please follow this QR code:

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