



**The Druid City Opera Workshop
at The University of Alabama
School of Music, Moody Music Building
and Bryant-Jordan Hall**

Sponsored by the UA Opera Theatre, Paul Houghtaling, director

May 16-24, 2018

2018 Faculty Artists

Prof. Stacy Alley – choreographer and dance instructor (UA Dept. of Theatre & Dance)
Mr. Tom Alsip – stage director, audition panelist (Oklahoma State University)
Ms Maris Bosworth – collaborative pianist intern (Utah Valley University)
Dr. Kevin T. Chance – pianist and vocal coach (UA)
Dr. Susan Fleming – mezzo-soprano, mezzo class (UA)
Dr. Paul Houghtaling – bass-baritone, producer, master class, business of opera (UA)
Prof. Amanda Johnston – pianist and vocal coach, master class (University of Mississippi)
Dr. Kristin Kenning – stage director, audition panelist (Samford University)
Dr. Linda Lister – soprano, stage director, Yoga for Singers (University of Nevada Las Vegas)
Dr. Richard Masters – pianist and vocal coach, lecture (Virginia Tech)
Dr. Joshua May – stage directing intern (University of Michigan-Flint)
Dr. Dawn Neely – soprano, stage director, acting for singers (University of West Georgia)
Prof. David Ronis – tenor, stage director, acting for singers (University of Wisconsin, Madison)
Mr. Scott Santoro – collaborative pianist intern (UA)
Dr. Susan Williams – soprano, soprano class (UA)
Mr. Matthew von Redlich – stage combat, Society for American Fight Directors (SAFD)
Mr. Keith Wolfe – stage director, General Director, Opera Birmingham, audition panelist
Prof. Ariana Wyatt – stage directing intern (Virginia Tech)

2018 Administrative Assistants

Mr. Garrett Torbert, 2016 Druid City Alum, DMA candidate, UA
Mr. Christopher Withrow, 2016 Druid City Alum, DMA candidate, UA

2018 Druid City Young Artists

SOPRANOS

Emily Clements, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Brydon Fox, University of Mobile
Ashton Griffin, Baylor University, Texas
Grace Hall, Mississippi College
Mary Haugh, Virginia Tech
Crystal Kachevas, Arkansas State University
Olivia Kliewer, Tabor College, Kansas
Amy Stone, Louisiana State University
Ariel Zaichick, Queen's University, Canada

MEZZO SOPRANOS

Colleen McGonigle, Peabody Conservatory, Baltimore, MD
Kate Meyer, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Gilda Parlatto, University of Louisiana, Lafayette
Kaitlin Pearson, University of South Dakota
Megan Saslow, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Florida

TENORS

Jonathan Elmore, Virginia Tech
William Tiffin, Mississippi State University
Jeffrey Steward, Arkansas State University

BARITONES/BASS-BARITONES

Trevor Austin Blood, Mississippi State University
Connor Dalton, Mars Hill University, North Carolina
Spencer McIntire, Kansas State University
Jordan Roth, Tabor College, Kansas
Jerry Vargo, University of Michigan-Flint

CLASS, WORKSHOP, AND REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Some room locations are still TBA. The exact rehearsal schedule (which scenes are called when, music or staging, etc.) will be posted daily. Most classes are in the Choral Opera Room of the Moody Music Building, but a few are in other locations, as noted.

COLLABORATIVE PIANIST INTERN SCHEDULE

Ms Bosworth and Mr. Santoro

Dr. Chance, Prof. Johnston, Dr. Masters

Starting on **Thursday, May 17 and through Tuesday, May 23**, (excluding Sunday) a daily schedule of collaborative coachings and meetings/informal discussions will occur from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

Collaborative pianist interns will coach their assigned repertoire with one or more of the three principal coaches and are welcome and encouraged to sit in on any additional rehearsals to which they are not directly assigned, time permitting. Pianist interns are also welcome to sit in on, or participate in, all classes for the singers as well, and are encouraged to attend the master classes in which they do not have playing duties.

STAGE DIRECTING INTERN SCHEDULE

Prof. Wyatt and Dr. May

Dr. Lister, Dr. Neely, and Prof. Ronis

In addition to the dedicated sessions listed below, stage directing interns will have opportunities for more informal discussions and gatherings with each of the directors, perhaps over lunch or between rehearsals.

Stage directing interns will attend the four acting classes taught by Prof. Ronis and Dr. Neely, as either observers or participants, depending on the class needs, and are welcome to participate in other classes for the singers as well, time permitting.

Stage directing interns should plan to attend the lunch sessions in which Social Media is discussed, but are welcome to sit in on any other lunch session if not required to be with a director or in preparation. The information and topics discussed in the lunch sessions are pertinent to those pursuing a teaching career which will involve the training of young singers as well.

COACHING SCHEDULE FOR SINGERS

Singers will be scheduled for two private coachings with a member of the coaching faculty during the course of the Druid City program based around the class and rehearsal schedule. That schedule will be compiled and posted daily once the daily rehearsal schedule is in place.

WEDNESDAY, May 16 –

Various times Arrival, airport and bus pickups, dorm check-ins.
Welcome to Tuscaloosa!

7:30 Reception and opening Meet-and-Greet for all young artists and
faculty who are in town (some faculty arrive later); tour of facilities,
orientation. There will be food and drink, so no need for a big
dinner before.

THURSDAY, May 17 –

9:00-10:15	<i>Dance Technique I: Jazz</i>	Prof. Alley
	This will be a class focusing on jazz technique emphasizing work in correct body alignment, improvisation, flexibility, and strengthening exercises.	
10:25-11:25	<i>Stage Combat I: It's Time for Fussing and Fighting My Friend</i>	Mr. von Redlich
	Introduction to Stage Combat techniques including proper warm-ups, slaps, punches, kicks, and falls—the most common combat skills every actor needs.	
10:20-11:20	<i>Stage Directing Interns I: The Process of the Director</i>	Dr. Neely Room 176
	How does the director begin? The “P” word for a director ... preparation! What type of director are YOU? What's your directing <i>style</i> ? What will you bring to the process?	
	Prof. Wyatt and Dr. May	
11:35-12:50	<i>Acting for Singers I: Michael Chekhov Technique for Singers – Part 1</i>	Prof. Ronis
	This session will introduce Michael Chekhov's psycho-physical acting technique using exercises that develop the actor's concentration, imagination, and mind/heart/body connection.	
12:55-2:00	LUNCH – provided for singers and interns!	Dr. Houghtaling Room 176
	During lunch periods, discussions will take place on <i>The Business of Singing</i> – résumés, headshots, websites, recordings, networking ... singing is our BUSINESS !!!	
2:15-3:45	Rehearsals and coachings TBA Musical rehearsals for assigned scenes	All coach/pianists (stage directors welcome)
	Precise schedules of rehearsals and coachings will be posted daily.	

4:00-5:30

*Master Class: English and German Diction
for Singers: A Comparative Approach*

Prof. Johnston
Pianist: Mr. Santoro

Prof. Johnston, a highly regarded collaborative pianist and vocal coach, will present a master class based on her important book by the same title.

5:30-7:00

DINNER BREAK – Dinner on your own

7:00-10:00

Rehearsals and coachings TBA
Musical rehearsals for assigned scenes

All coach/pianists
(stage directors welcome)

Precise schedules of rehearsals and coachings will be posted daily.

FRIDAY, May 18 –

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|-------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 9:00-10:15 | <i>Dance Technique II: Language</i> | Prof. Alley |
| | In this session, young artists will continue the exploration of the fundamentals of dance language and the execution of fundamental dance techniques necessary for performance and success in the fields of opera and musical theatre. Warm-up, stretching, jumps, turns, and across-the-floor exercises will be practiced. | |
| 10:25-11:30 | <i>Stage Combat II:
Weapons 101: Sharpen Your Skills</i> | Mr. von Redlich |
| | This session is an introduction to effective sword work including foot work, defense, and attacks. Skills from Session I will also be reviewed. Rehearsals begin for combat scenes. | |
| 10:20-11:20 | <i>Stage Directing Interns II:
Communication and the Director</i> | Dr. Lister
Room 176 |
| | The Director is the great communicator. In this session we will discuss best (or different) ways to communicate with Conductors, Designers, Performers, Producers ... helping you get your vision on the stage. | |
| | Prof. Wyatt and Dr. May | |
| 11:40-12:50 | <i>Acting for Singers II:
Improvisation to free the body and speaking voice</i> | Dr. Neely |
| | Improvisation is not just about games. It's about freeing up the mind to allow for more creative choices and instincts. In this session, we'll explore improvisational exercises that focus on the body and then speaking/dialogue. Remember the answer is "yes and...!" | |
| 1:00-2:00 | LUNCH – provided for singers and interns! | Dr. Houghtaling
Room 176 |
| | More <i>Business of Singing</i>
Headshots and bios | |

2:00-3:45	Rehearsals and coachings TBA Musical rehearsals for assigned scenes	All coach/pianists (stage directors welcome)
	Precise schedules of rehearsals and coachings will be posted daily.	
4:00-5:30	<i>Master Class: From Tuscaloosa to Toulouse, Tolyatti and Toledo: French, Russian, and Spanish Diction for the English Speaker</i>	Dr. Fleming Pianist: Ms Bosworth
	Dr. Fleming is a specialist on French diction and has performed an impressive array of French repertoire to critical acclaim. She has also studied and taught Russian and Spanish diction and this class will focus on specific issues of concern for English- speaking singers with regard to each of these languages.	
5:30-7:00	DINNER BREAK – Dinner on you own	
7:00-10:00	Rehearsals and coachings TBA Musical rehearsals	All coach/pianists (stage directors welcome)
	Precise schedules of rehearsals and coachings will be posted daily.	

SATURDAY, May 19 –

9:00-10:15	<i>Musical Theatre Performance I: Execution</i>	Prof. Alley
	This class will introduce musical theatre dance language and the execution of musical theatre choreography. Students will be taught a dance combination in classical musical theatre dance style to enhance technical skills and prepare them for professional work.	
10:25-11:45	<i>Acting for Singers III: Michael Chekhov Technique for Singers – Part 2</i>	Prof. Ronis
	This session will continue the work with the Chekhov technique, focusing on <i>Physiological Gesture</i> and its application to sung texts.	
11:55-1:15	LUNCH – provided for singers and interns!	Dr. Houghtaling Room 176
	<i>More Business of Singing</i> Networking and the power of social media: general DO's and DON'Ts and insights into digital potential; business ethics and demeanor.	
1:30-3:45	Rehearsals and coachings TBA Staging rehearsals begin for most scenes	All coach/pianists and stage directors
	Precise schedules of rehearsals and coachings will be posted daily.	
4:00-5:30	<i>Class-Lecture Presentation – Master Class From the Top: Practice Makes Perfect</i>	Dr. Masters
	In this session, Dr. Masters will walk you through every step of successfully preparing your music, from purchasing a score to taking full advantage of your private coachings/lessons. With these tips, you will feel more confident in tackling new music from Bellini to Boulez.	
5:30-7:00	DINNER BREAK – Dinner on you own	
7:00-10:00	Rehearsals and coachings TBA Music rehearsals continue and staging begins for most scenes.	All coach/pianists and stage directors
	Precise schedules of rehearsals and coachings will be posted daily.	

SUNDAY, May 20 –

Morning	Church on your own, for those interested. Warm up on your own. Late morning lunch on your own.	
Noon-3:45	Rehearsals and coachings TBA Staging rehearsals continue for all scenes Precise schedules of rehearsals and coachings will be posted daily.	All coach/pianists and stage directors
4:00-5:30	<i>Joint Master Class: Bring Your Arias to Life: The Audition as a Complete Performance I</i>	Dr. Houghtaling Prof. Wyatt Dr. Williams Pianist: Mr. Santoro
	Singers have to make an audition a total performance if they are going to make an impression. This session will help you synthesize your work in the acting and movement classes and will focus on how to clarify your character's objective, obstacles, actions, and subtext.	
5:30-7:10	DINNER BREAK – Dinner on you own	
7:00-10:00	Rehearsals and coachings TBA Staging rehearsals continue for all scenes Precise schedules of rehearsals and coachings will be posted daily.	All coach/pianists and stage directors

MONDAY, May 21 –

9:00-10:00	<i>Yoga for Singers I: Asanas for Alignment and Enlivenment</i>	Dr. Lister
	Stage director and soprano Dr. Linda Lister offers the first of two yoga classes designed especially with singers in mind. Those new to yoga will fall in love with what it can do for your mind and body, your breathing and your nerves, and your comfort on stage. These classes are based on Dr. Lister's acclaimed book <i>Yoga for Singers: Freeing Your Voice and Spirit Through Yoga</i>	
10:10-11:20	<i>Improvisation: Bravery and Imagination</i>	Dr. Houghtaling
	This session will include some continuing discussion on important topics related to the pursuit of your careers, and then move on to a variety of improvisation exercises.	
11:35-12:50	<i>Acting for Singers IV: More Improvisation ... More Freedom!</i>	Dr. Neely
	This session continues our work with improvised speaking and spoken scenes. Then, we'll delve into improvisational singing as well as improvised operatic scenes. The answer is still "yes and..." but now that includes the music!	
1:00-2:05	LUNCH – provided for singers and interns!	Dr. Houghtaling Room 176
	<i>Presentation: An Innovative Comparative Approach to English and German Diction</i>	Prof. Johnston
	This multimedia lecture presentation will cover common phonemes in both languages, illustrating how the study of one greatly benefits the other.	
2:15-3:45	Rehearsals and coachings TBA Staging rehearsals continue for all scenes	All coach/pianists and stage directors
	Precise schedules of rehearsals and coachings will be posted daily.	

4:00-5:30

*Joint Master Class: Bring Your Arias to Life:
The Audition as a Complete Performance II*

Dr. Lister
Dr. May
Pianist: Ms Bosworth

This session will continue our work
on how to enliven your best audition piece
so you can both sing and act your aria
with ease and authenticity... and win the job!

5:30-7:00

DINNER BREAK – Dinner on you own

7:00-10:00

Rehearsals and coachings TBA
Staging rehearsals continue for all scenes

All coach/pianists
and stage directors

Precise schedules of rehearsals and
coachings will be posted daily.

TUESDAY, May 22 –

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|-------------|---|---|
| 9:00-10:15 | <i>Yoga for Singers II:
Fighting Stage Fright and Finding Focus</i> | Dr. Lister |
| | Stage fright is very real. This session will offer ways to help yourself relax through yoga in your dressing room, back stage, or even as you're about to walk on stage. | |
| 10:25-11:45 | <i>Stage Combat III:
Is the Fight Ready for the Audience?</i> | Mr. von Redlich |
| | This will be a review of the combat skills studied through a polishing of the final scenes. The session will conclude with a performance of the final combat scenes for an invited audience. | |
| 10:30-11:30 | <i>Stage Directing Interns III:
Storytelling and Dramaturgy</i> | Prof. Ronis
Room 176 |
| | This session will address the importance of clear storytelling. Which stories are we telling and why? And the all-important How? We'll address time and place – rethinking/resetting your show, or leaving it in a traditional setting. | |
| | Prof. Wyatt and Dr. May | |
| 11:50-12:45 | LUNCH – casual lunch provided; time to warm up and change into audition attire | |
| 11:50-12:45 | Round Table Discussion over Lunch | Room 176 |
| | Dr. Houghtaling will lead a discussion for directors on the issues facing professional singers who turn to directing and the unique challenges of directing as a second career. | Dr. Lister
Dr. Neely
Prof. Ronis
Dr. Houghtaling
Dr. Williams |
| | Prof. Wyatt and Dr. May | |

1:00-2:30 *Putting it all together!!*
Win the Job With Your Audition
FIVE simultaneous master classes
on Audition Techniques Dr. Neely
Dr. Lister
Prof. Ronis/Prof. Wyatt
Dr. Williams
Dr. Houghtaling/Dr. May

Exact rooms TBA
Meet first in Choral/Opera Room

Pianists
Mr. Santoro
Ms Bosworth
Dr. Masters
Prof. Johnston
Dr. Chance

Four to five singers per room. You will perform an aria of your choosing, perhaps one which you've been working on during the week, or it could be another aria you regularly audition with. The entire audition package will be evaluated and discussed, including attire, walking into the room, introducing yourself and your selection, and overall presentation.

2:30 BREAK – prepare for performance!

3:00 Call at Bryant-Jordan Hall (five minute ride from music building;
Easy directions will be distributed and car pools arranged)

3:15-5:45 *The Audition:*

Performance of arias for mock audition panel.
All singers audition with the aria or musical theatre selection which was worked on earlier in the day in the 1:00 *Win the Job* class.

AUDITION PANELISTS:

Mr. Keith Wolfe – General Director, Opera Birmingham

Dr. Kristin Kenning – Soprano and Stage Director,
Samford University

Mr. Tom Alsip – Stage Director, Oklahoma State University

5:45-7:15 DINNER BREAK – Dinner on you own

7:15-10:15 Rehearsals and coachings TBA

Staging rehearsals; musical and dramatic polishing. Final “room runs” of each scene before dress rehearsal.

All coach/pianists
and stage directors

WEDNESDAY, May 23 –

9:00-10:15

*Musical Theatre Performance II:
Communication*

Prof. Alley

This class will be used to clarify and clean choreography previously taught with an emphasis on performance and the communication of a story.

10:25-11:30

“Soprano Class” with Dr. Williams
“Mezzo Class” with Dr. Fleming
“Tenor Class” with Prof. Ronis
“Baritone and Bass Class” with Dr. Houghtaling

These unique sessions are your chance to explore issues and ask questions unique to your voice part. Everyone will sing their hardest phrase – their scariest note. Just a phrase, or even a measure, not a complete aria. Or it may be just conversation and sharing of ideas. The session will include honest discussions of things only a [soprano/mezzo/tenor/baritone/bass] can understand!

11:45-1:00

LUNCH – for everybody!!!!
Faculty and all!!!

Dr. Houghtaling
and all are welcome
CHORAL OPERA ROOM

A final roundtable discussion, a great big question and answer session. The tables are desks, actually, but here is a chance to have open and honest discussions about anything and everything – our business, the state of opera today, shared concerns, mutual curiosities, summer programs, graduate school, all of that!! You’ll hear good advice and many varying opinions.

1:30-5:00

TECH and DRESS rehearsal
for final performance at
Bryant-Jordan Hall.

All coach/pianists
and stage directors

5:30

EVENING FREE

THURSDAY, May 24 –

Performance day. Sleep in a little bit.

11:00-12:30	Group warm up	Dr. Houghtaling Dr. Lister
	Stretching, moving, dancing to PH's favorite dance tune, getting focused together.	
	A chance to talk the day through ... what do singers do on performance days? Start some new habits!!	
12:30	Final opportunity to polish anything needed –	Stand by – TBA
	A scene, the dance segment, or the stage combat segment.	
Afternoon	Free – prepare for final performance.	
5:30	Call – Bryant-Jordan Hall	
7:00	THE 2018 DRUID CITY OPERA WORKSHOP Final Performance!!	Tutti
	Closing reception and good-byes!!!	

FRIDAY, May 25 –

Departures and return trips to airport!