

# OPERA IOWA TROUPE BIOS



Originally from Houston, Texas, **ALYSSA BARNES** earned a bachelor of music at the University of Texas at Austin and a master of music at Southern Methodist University. She was a winner of the 2019 Texas Camerata Baroque Aria Competition and a semifinalist in the Concert Artists Guild 2021 national competition. Ms. Barnes participated in the Houston Grand Opera community and learning program, which brings musical performances and storytelling to communities throughout the city. This year she returns to DMMO as an Apprentice Artist, performing the roles of Belle in *Beauty and the Beast* and The Clown in *Sid the Serpent* as part of the OPERA Iowa tour. Ms. Barnes will cover Ninette in *The Love for Three Oranges* during DMMO's summer festival.



**LOGAN DELL'ACQUA** is an American lyric baritone from Traverse City, Michigan. He received a bachelor of music in voice from DePauw University under the direction of professor Caroline Smith and a master of music from the University of Michigan under the direction of professors Stephan Lusmann and George Shirley. Recent operatic roles include Marullo (*Rigoletto*, Nashville Opera), Bob (*The Old Maid and the Thief*, Seagle Music Colony), Dr. Falke (*Die Fledermaus*, University of Michigan), Marcello (*La Bohème*, University of Michigan) and Elijah from the oratorio *Elijah* (American Choral Society). Notable musical theater accolades include Bobby (*Company*, DePauw University) and Sir Lancelot (*Spamalot*, DePauw University).



**BRANDON HEARRELL** has been doing theatre since 2016 when he immediately fell in love with the art form back in high school. He attended the University of Houston and has spent several summers as an intern with Des Moines Metro Opera. Most recently he was DMMO's assistant stage supervisor for the 2022 Festival Season. Mr. Hearrell is very excited to be part of the OPERA Iowa troupe and to bring wonderful theatre to schools across the state of Iowa!



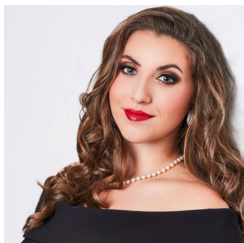
Tenor **NICHOLAS HUFF**'s "vocal and dramatic fearlessness" has led him to such roles as Don Ottavio (*Don Giovanni*, Florida Grand Opera), Tonio (*The Daughter of the Regiment*, Kenosha Opera Festival), Mitch (*A Streetcar Named Desire*, FGO), Fabian Hart (*If I Were You*, Merola Opera), Tamino (*The Magic Flute*, Opera Fort Collins), Alfred (*Die Fledermaus*) and Nemorino (*The Elixir of Love*, Miami Lyric Opera). Mr. Huff was part of the definitive, Grammy nominated production recording of Carlisle Floyd's final opera, *Prince of Players*, in the Studio at Florida Grand Opera and the Merola Opera Program. Mr. Huff earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Carthage College and the Eastman School of Music.



**DURA JUN** is one of the most frequently featured, predominantly talented collaborative pianists and vocal coaches in NYC. She currently works at Manhattan School of Music, Bard College and Fiorello LaGuardia High School for Music and Art. She has worked with City Lyric Opera for several seasons, including this previous year which featured Lori Laitman's newest opera, *Uncovered*. Ms. Jun has also worked with Thomas Hampson, Stephanie Blythe, as well as Marilyn Horne in master classes. Ms. Jun holds her bachelor's degree from Seoul National University and master's degree and professional studies diploma from Manhattan School of Music. In addition to serving as the music director for the OPERA Iowa tour, Ms. Jun will be joining DMMO's summer music staff as a coach for the Apprentice Artist Program.



**SARAH ROSALES** is a Salvadoran-American coloratura soprano from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Known for her versatility across many genres of music, she has starred in operatic roles such as the Queen of the Night (*The Magic Flute*), Cunegonde (*Candide*), Despina (*Così fan tutte*). She is also known for her performance of the U.S. national anthem for the 7th Presidential Debate during the 2020 U.S. election cycle, becoming the first Salvadoran individual to perform on CNN International LIVE. Sarah is a recipient of awards from organizations such as Opera Mississippi, The Schubert Club, National Society of Arts and Letters, Musicians Club of Women, and The Edvard Grieg Society of Minnesota. She is a graduate of Drake University and studies under tutelage of Leanne Freeman-Miller.



**ARIANA WARREN** is a mezzo-soprano from Long Island, NY. She is excited to be returning for a second season with OPERA Iowa. Last year, she sang The Sea Witch in *Rusalka: The Littlest Mermaid*. She recently completed her third year as a young artist at The Glimmerglass Festival where she covered the title role in *Carmen* under the direction of Denyce Graves. Other recent credits include: Paquette (*Candide*), Second Lady (*The Magic Flute*) and Mastrilla (*Songbird*). Ms. Warren earned an Encouragement Award from the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and the Opera Club of Syracuse Award through the Civic Morning Musicals Competition. She holds degrees from Arizona State University and Ithaca College. While home on Long Island, Ariana performs with Opera Night Long Island.



**MICAH ZIMMERMAN** was born and raised in Houston, TX. Finding a passion for music at an early age, he participated in choir and solo and ensemble competitions at Parker Elementary and remained involved through middle and high school, even earning a spot in the All-State Men's Chorus in Texas. In college his passions expanded into other areas of theatre as he gained experience as a stage electrician. Mr. Zimmerman was part of several productions at Simpson College including *Kiss Me Kate*, *The Magic Flute* and *Gallantry*. He also gained professional production experience as a stage operations intern for Des Moines Metro Opera during the 2022 Festival Season. Most recently, he received his bachelor of music in music performance at Simpson College.