

Born in the city of Merida, Mexico, **Karim Ayala** started to play the violin at the age of 9. Karim was a member of the Yucatan Symphony Orchestra at the age of 16, being the youngest member ever to join the professional ensemble. He also was a member and rotating concert master with the National Youth Orchestra of Mexico, has performed with the Jalisco Philharmonic Orchestra and has also performed the Scheherazade soli with the Round Top Festival Orchestra in 2016. As a soloist, Karim has performed several times with the Yucatan Youth Orchestra, the Yucatan Superior Arts University Orchestra, and the Yucatan Symphony Orchestra. As part of his musical education, Karim has studied with several internationally acclaimed artists such as the violinist Iliana Stefanova, Christopher Collins Lee, Dr. Felix Olschofka and Professor Katrin Ten Hagen at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy in Leipzig. Karim just completed a Bachelor of Music in violin performance with Professor Julia Bushkova at the University of North Texas.

Xavier Bernazard, tenor, is a second-year master's student from Caguas, Puerto Rico studying vocal performance with Dr. Daniel Bubeck. At Oklahoma State University he received his bachelor of music with elective studies in business. Recent roles include Gherardo(*Gianni Schicchi*), Rinuccio(*Gianni Schicchi* cover) with Red River Lyric Opera, Monostatos(*Die Zauberflöte*), Oronte(*Alcina*), Abraham Kaplan(*Street Scene*) with UNT Opera, Little Batt and Elder Hayes(*Susannah*) with OSU Opera. Last spring, Xavier performed in the chorus of Fort Worth opera's production of *Don Pasquale*. In this upcoming season with UNT Opera he will be performing Mosquito(*Vixen*), Schoolmaster(*Vixen* cover), and a part of the chorus of Moles(*Vixen*). Xavier is a recipient of the Art Glass Opera Scholarship.

Hailed as “discerningly intense” (The Boston Globe), giving a “riveting performance that engaged us both musically and intellectually” (The Dayton City Paper), and praised for “great playing” (The Boston Globe), pianist **Michael Bukhman** is becoming widely known as a top collaborator, chamber musician, and solo artist. His 2013 performance with violinist Itzhak Perlman in Sarasota, Florida, was lauded for its “brilliant playing” and having “pushed the audience to the edge of frenzy” (Herald-Tribune). In June of 2016 Bukhman performed a duo recital with Grammy award-winning violist Kim Kashkashian to great acclaim at the American Viola Society Festival in Oberlin, OH. He has also collaborated with Nobuko Imai, Donald Weilerstein, Dawn Upshaw, Sergiu Schwartz, Peter Frankl, Roger Tapping, Anthony Marwood, and many others.

Bukhman's concert appearances have taken him all across the United States, Israel, Canada, and Europe. He has recently performed in several cities in China with his wife, violist Xinyi Xu, and has given his Japan recital debut in Tokyo's Ginza Yamaha Hall. An award-winning pianist, Bukhman's accolades include: medalist in the 2009 Hilton Head International Piano Competition; top-ranked winner of the 2005 Jacob K. Javits Fellowship; first-prize winner at the 2006 Corpus Christi International Competition for Piano and Strings; and laureate of the 2006 Gina Bachauer Competition at the Juilliard School. Notable music festival concert appearances include Yellow Barn Music Festival, The Perlman Music Program, and the Ojai Music Festival. He has also performed on Boston's charitable *Music For Food* concert series with members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. In addition to the standard repertoire, Bukhman has a keen interest in showcasing the music of our time, performing and premiering the solo piano and chamber music of such composers as Jonathan Harvey, Osvaldo Golijov, Philippe Hersant, Arlene Sierra, Judith Shatin, Tzvi Avni, and others.

Bukhman served as visiting assistant professor of music at Bard College, where he founded *Play/Chat@Bard*, a concert series showcasing young musicians in performance with informal conversation. These popular concerts featured some of the most up-and-coming musicians of our time with Bukhman at the piano, including the Attacca Quartet, Metropolitan Opera soprano Rebecca Ringle, and violinist Tessa Lark. He had previously taught at Vassar College, and has served as faculty for the Young Artist Program at Yellow Barn Music Festival and the Killington Music Festival. In the Spring of 2017 Bukhman was Guest Artist in Residence at Oberlin Conservatory in Oberlin, OH. He was also recently invited to present solo and chamber masterclasses at Soochow University in Taipei, and previously taught, performed, and presented masterclasses at Shenandoah University, Concordia College, and Towson University. Bukhman attended the Oberlin Conservatory of Music as a student of Robert Shannon, where he became the first in that institution's history to graduate with Honors in Piano Performance. As part of his Honors project, Bukhman recorded and self-produced the complete 24 Preludes and Fugues of Shostakovich, performing ten of them in one recital. He holds Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from The Juilliard School, where he studied with Robert McDonald. Bukhman served on the staff and faculty of the New England Conservatory in Boston, MA and is currently Assistant Professor of Collaborative Piano and Chamber Music at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, TX.

Autumn Capocci, mezzo-soprano, is a first-year master's student from Buffalo, New York. She received her Bachelor of Music Education from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam. While there, she performed in the chorus of *The Tender Land* with the Crane Opera Ensemble, as well as in the chorus of the world-premiere opera *SHOT!* with the Nickel City Opera Company. Most recently, she participated in the Westchester Summer Vocal Institute in Bronxville, New York, where she performed Le Prince Charmante (*Cendrillon*) and Carmen (*Carmen*) in their scenes program. In performance with UNT Opera, she will perform the role of Zita (*Gianni Schicchi*) this spring. Autumn is a voice student of Professor Jennifer Lane and is the recipient of the Dr. Patricia Evans Voice Scholarship.

Pianist **Xin Chang** is originally from China. She is active as a collaborative pianist and chamber musician with singers and instrumentalists throughout North America and Asia. Dr. Chang is currently Collaborative Pianist at the University of Wyoming. As a collaborative pianist, Dr. Chang has been on staff at the International Violin Festival and Competition in Singapore. She has also worked as a collaborative pianist at the Interlochen Center for the Arts and attended many summer festivals including SongFest, Brevard Music Festival, Aspen Music Festival and School, Banff Centre and the Castleman Quartet Program. Dr. Chang has performed with violinist Charles Castleman and recorded with double bass player DaXun Zhang. As a soloist, Dr. Chang won 2nd prize in the Colorado International Piano Competition at Northern Colorado University. She has also performed with the Jiangsu Orchestra of China. Dr. Chang holds a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Texas at Austin, a Master of Music from the Eastman School of Music and a Bachelor's degree from Renmin University of China. Her principal teachers were Colette Valentine, Anne Epperson, Jean Barr and Fang Zhang.

Heeyoung Choi actively works as a collaborative pianist and has appeared in song, instrument, and chamber music recitals. She has worked with great singers and instrumentalists and played also in orchestras and choirs, including Wind Symphony in UT Arlington, New Philharmonic

Orchestra in Irving and Symphony Orchestra in University of North Texas, University Choir in UT Arlington, A Capella Choir in UT Arlington, Concert Choir in University of North Texas, and Chamber Choir in University of North Texas. She also has worked as a staff pianist for operas, including *Lucia di Lammermoor* (2011), *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (2014), *Die Walküre* (2015), and *Turandot* (2017) in University of North Texas, and *The Flying Dutchman* (2018) in The Dallas Opera. Also, as a member of the Dallas Opera Education and Outreach program, she has played for *Dr. Miracle* (2011), *Jack and the Beanstalk* (2012-2013), and numerous recitals with outstanding singers. In past summer, she was hired as a staff pianist for 15th Annual Piraastro Strings Elite Soloists Program. With a wide variety of repertoire in her collaborations and extraordinary experiences, she has been very active in both in-school and beyond. She is pursuing DMA in collaborative piano at University of North Texas under the guidance of Dr. Elvia Puccinelli and Dr. Steven Harlos. Under the program, she has been a participants of numerous Masterclasses and private coachings, thus worked with wonderful composers, coaches and collaborative pedagogues, such as Tom Cipullo, Jake Heggie, Jean Barr, Ann Aperson, Susan Youens, and Alan Smith. She currently works as a Teaching Assistantship at University of North Texas and a staff pianist at Texas Woman's University.

Jiha Choi, a native of Korea, began her piano studies at the age of five. After further study at the New England Conservatory, she completed her Bachelor of Music degree at Cameron University where she was awarded numerous honors and scholarships including the Presser Scholar Award. For her Master's and Doctoral degrees, she received a Teaching Fellowship for five years from the University of North Texas where she currently studies with Joseph Banowetz. Her previous piano instructors included Hyunsoon Whang, Thomas Labé, and Gabriel Chodos. In addition to her performances as a soloist, Choi has extensive experience collaborating with other musicians, as well as giving instruction in keyboard skills and piano classes.

Júlia Coelho, soprano, comes from Portugal and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Musicology at UNT, where she studies voice with Prof. Jennifer Lane and early music with Prof. Paul Leenhouts, and is a Teaching Assistant in Music History. She has an MA in Musicology (2018) and an MM in Vocal Performance (2017) from the University of Missouri, where she studied with Prof. Steven Tharp and worked as graduate teaching and research assistant in voice, music theory, and musicology. Ms. Coelho also has a Master's Degree in Canto Lirico (2013) from the Conservatory Domenico Cimarosa in Avellino, Italy, studying with mezzo-soprano Susanna Anselmi, and completed a BA in Philosophy (2010) from the University of Lisbon, Portugal, with a minor in foreign languages. Ms. Coelho has performed as a soloist in concerts, recitals, staged works/operas, and music festivals (with Dr. Julianne Baird) in Italy, Portugal, and the USA, with repertoire from early music to art song and new music. She has sung Poppea and Fortuna in Monteverdi's *Poppea*, Orontea in Cesti's *Orontea*, Cleopatra in Händel's *Giulio Cesare*, Susanna in Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*, Amina in Bellini's *La Sonnambula*, among other roles. She has presented at conferences in the U.S., Italy, and the U.K. on Monteverdi and Mozart, and has music, philosophy, and poetry publications and translations in English, Portuguese, and Italian.

Violist **Kathleen Crabtree** studies with Drs. Susan Dubois and Daphne Gerling at the University of North Texas as a Doctor of Musical Arts student. She earned an MM with Stanley Konopka at the Cleveland Institute of Music and a BM from the Eastman School of Music as a

student of George Taylor. Notable masterclass performances have been with Carol Rodland, Roger Tapping, and Paul Coletti, and chamber music studies with the Cavani Quartet, Ying Quartet, and Peter Salaff of the Cleveland Quartet. Kathleen attended the Quartet Program at SUNY Fredonia, Meadowmount School of Music, Colorado College Summer Music Festival, and Chautauqua Summer Music Festival. She won Eastman's concerto competition, soloed at the 2012 International Viola Congress, was a finalist in the Long Island Conservatory Competition, and received an Honorable Mention in the College/Professional Adult Division of the 2012 Alexander and Buono International String Competition. In the vibrant arts scene of Dallas/ Ft. Worth, she has enjoyed playing with artists such as Evanescence, Amy Grant, TransSiberian Orchestra, and Josh Groban. As part of the Crabtree-Wong duo, Kathleen and pianist Esme Wong are thrilled to be performing for a second year in UNT's CollabFest.

From Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Mr. **Bryce Allen Dalton** is a Music Performance Major at the University of Central Oklahoma (Edmond, OK). Throughout the years of Mr. Dalton's career, he has studied under the direction of Abby Bruce (Tulsa, OK) and Dr. Dawn Marie Lindblade-Evans (Edmond, OK). Mr. Dalton has had the opportunity to travel to Germany with the UCO Wind Symphony (Under the direction of Dr. Brian Lamb) to play David Maslanka's "Symphony No. 4" as well as another work from the composer, "Remember Me" that featured Dr. Tess Remy-Schumacher.

Mr. Dalton has played in various chamber groups that have included Dr. Tess Remy-Schumacher, Dr. Sallie Pollack, Chenxi Li, and Dr. Dawn Marie Lindblade-Evans. Together, they have performed pieces by Béla Bartók, Johannes Brahms, Charles Delaney, Alan Hovhaness, Scott McAllister, Kevin McKee, and Francis Poulenc.

Along with being a part of numerous ensembles, Mr. Dalton has also played for many world-renowned clarinetists such as Julian Bliss, Dr. Jonathan Holden, and Dr. Elsa Ludewig-Verdehr.

Samantha Dapcic, soprano, is a doctoral student and teaching fellow at the University of North Texas. Hailing from Webster City, Iowa, she is in the studio of Carol Wilson and is a recipient of the Robert B. Toulouse Fellowship as well as a winner of the University of North Texas Concerto Competition. Samantha received her undergraduate and master's degrees from the University of Northern Iowa, where she sang the roles of Nora in *Riders to the Sea*, Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte*, Geraldine in *A Hand of Bridge*, and Dido in *Dido and Aeneas*. While at UNI, she was also a featured soloist in Vaughan Williams's *Hodie*, Ticheli's *Angels in the Architecture*, and Brahms's *Ein deutsches Requiem*. She performed the title role in *Suor Angelica* at the Amalfi Coast Festival in 2014 and was a featured soloist with Vox Peregrini in 2015. While at UNT, Samantha has performed the roles of Giulietta in *Les contes d'Hoffmann* and Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*, Nerone in *L'incoronazione di Poppea*, and covered Liù in *Turandot*. Samantha has performed with the Abilene Philharmonic Orchestra in their "Easy To Love—A Celebration of Love Songs from Broadway" Gala; Chelsea Opera; and McCall Summerfest.

Soprano **Rachel Doehring** made her debut with the Albany Symphony in the 2017-2018 season as Susanna in scenes from *Le nozze di Figaro*, and as a soprano soloist in the symphony's American Music Festival. She has collaborated with artists such as world-renowned pianist Peter Serkin, and the internationally acclaimed percussion ensemble Sō Percussion at Bard College Conservatory. She has also performed operatic roles ranging from Flaminia in Haydn's *Il mondo*

della luna, to Milica in Anna Sokolovic's *Svadba*. Concert highlights include the soprano soloist in Poulenc's *Gloria* at Pittsburgh's Carnegie Music Hall (Carnegie Mellon University Philharmonic and Chorus), soprano soloist in Steve Reich's *Daniel Variations* (Carnegie Mellon Contemporary Ensemble), and premieres of songs by Shawn Jaeger and Alex Wieser at the Morgan Library in New York City. Ms. Doehring holds degrees from Carnegie Mellon University (BFA 16') and the Bard College Conservatory Graduate Vocal Arts Program, led by Dawn Upshaw (MM 18').

Claire Dugan, an incoming freshman from Austin, Texas, was awarded the Deborah Miller Memorial scholarship to pursue her studies in voice. She currently studies as a soprano in Professor Molly Fillmore's studio. Over the summer she competed in the SMART Opera program, winning a \$250 scholarship towards school and a \$500 scholarship to the Butler Opera Center Young Artist Program (BOCYAP). There, she had the opportunity to sing with many other growing musicians and perform as Lakme in the Lakme duet.

Hollie Dzierzanowski is a classically trained violist from San Antonio, Texas. Ms. Dzierzanowski has attended several prestigious music festivals including the Texas Music Festival, Interlochen Arts Camp, Cactus Pear Music Festival, and Round Top Festival Institute. A strong chamber musician and lover of chamber music, Ms. Dzierzanowski has also performed and taught as a member of the first quartet in residence at the Interlochen Arts Camp. Ms. Dzierzanowski began studying viola privately with Emily Watkins-Freudigman. She received her Bachelor's and Master's of Music from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where she studied with Stanley Konopka and Mark Jackobs. Ms. Dzierzanowski is currently studying with Susan Dubois at the University of North Texas where she is pursuing her DMA in Viola Performance.

Sarah England is a collaborative pianist and teacher in the Dallas Fort Worth area. Sarah has worked extensively as a collaborative pianist with vocalists, instrumentalists, choral ensembles, and the Meadows Wind Ensemble at Southern Methodist University, where she currently works as a staff pianist. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance from SMU, and currently she is pursuing her MM in Collaborative Piano at the University of North Texas, where she also serves as a Graduate Teaching Assistant in Collaborative Piano.

Collaborative pianist **Gloria Engle** is currently a doctoral candidate at the Eastman School of Music, where she is the recipient of Barbara Koeng Award (2018) and Jean Barr Scholarship (2016). She has appeared in concerts throughout the United States, including the Aspen Music Festival, Port Townsend Chamber Music Workshop in Washington, and International Piano Festival at University of Houston. In 2015, Engle's performance in the premiere of Anne LeBaron's song cycle *Radiant Depth Unfolded*, won her praise in the *LA Times* for "capturing exquisite intricacies of sonorities."

Gloria's most recent concerts include performances at the George Eastman Museum where she curated diverse concert programs of art song, instrumental sonatas, and Holocaust memorial concert.

Engle has special love for art song and received fellowships to SongFest, Fall Island Vocal Seminar, and Hidden Valley Vocal Intensive. She has played in masterclasses by Sir Thomas Allen, Stephanie Blythe, Margo Garrett, Graham Johnson, Martin Katz, and Alan Smith.

As a dedicated member of community outreach, Gloria regularly gives concerts in the greater Rochester area with her Eastman colleagues and the members of Rochester Philharmonic. She holds a Bachelor's degree from The University of Texas at Austin and a Master's degree from Rice University in piano performance.

Hannah Essington, lyric soprano, earned her Bachelor of Music Education at Oklahoma Christian University in 2017, and continues her study with Professor Laura Coale at Oklahoma Christian. Her most recent engagement was performing as the Mother in "Amahl and the Night Visitors" at Oklahoma Christian. She desires to pursue a master's degree in Vocal Pedagogy/Performance. Hannah currently serves as a certified music teacher at Centennial Elementary School in Edmond, Oklahoma, teaching young children about the wonders of music. She established and directs Centennial's honor choir "Buddy's Chorale." Hannah wants her students to grow in knowledge and courage and in order to achieve this, she must grow in these areas herself. She hopes to achieve this by performing while being a teacher.

Rachael Maura Fant is originally from Northern Ireland. She is a graduate of the Royal Northern College of Music (Bachelors of Music) and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (Guildhall Artist Graduate Diploma). She is currently undertaking her Masters degree in Vocal Performance at University of North Texas studying with William Joyner. Past performances with UNT Opera include Mrs Segstrom in *A Little Night Music*, Cousin in *Madama Butterfly*, Sister Felicity in *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, Chorus in *The Magic Flute*. Scene performances include Manon in Massenet's *Manon* and Susanna in Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*.

Miho Fisher is a staff accompanist at Oklahoma Christian University. She began her undergraduate study at University of North Texas as a piano performance major under Dr. Steven Harlos, and completed her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in Piano Performance at University of Central Oklahoma under Dr. Valery Kuleshov. Miho has served as a full time staff accompanist at Oklahoma Christian since 2014, accompanying choirs, voice and instrumental students in lessons, juries and recitals, and annual "opera scenes" productions. She is a sought-after accompanist in OKC metro area for professionals and students in recitals and local competitions for her sensitivity and dedication, and she strives to create memorable moments together with every musician she collaborates. She serves as a keyboardist for the Oklahoma Community Orchestra, and a company pianist for the Oklahoma City Ballet. She is a member "Eclipse," a woodwind and piano quartet that performed at 2016 National Flute Convention in San Diego, CA. Miho teaches piano as adjunct piano faculty at Southwestern Oklahoma Christian University as well as privately in her home studio in Edmond, Oklahoma.

Flutist **Kathryn Flum** "wins the heart of her audience" (*VisionTimes, China*) with appearances hailed as "breathtaking" (*PBS*), "performed with just the right light touch" (*Chicago Classical Review*), and "poignant" (*Chicago Tribune*). Praised for her beautiful tone and musicality, she performs with the nation's top musicians and ensembles at venues such as New York City's Spectrum Hall, Chicago's Orchestra Hall, Civic Opera House, Pritzker Pavillion at Millennium Park, Harris Theater, Cultural Center, Constellation, and Fourth Presbyterian Church. Kathryn is heard performing in recordings from Chicago Recording Company Studios, 98.7 WFMT-Chicago, Carl Fischer Music Publications, and GIA WindWorks. She was a finalist for

the Edes Foundation Prize for Emerging Artists, and is featured as soloist in *Jens Jensen: The Living Green*, the internationally lauded and highly awarded PBS documentary. Prior to beginning doctoral studies, Kathryn was a faculty member at DePaul University School of Music, where she was the Coordinator of Woodwinds and directed the Woodwind and Brass Chamber Music Program. Appointed by the Dean of the School of Music, Ms. Flum regularly served on curriculum planning committees. She is currently pursuing the Doctor of Musical Arts under Mary Karen Clardy.

Soprano **Kay George** is a DMA student studying with Carol Wilson. She holds a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance from Louisiana College, a Master of Music in vocal performance from the University of North Texas and has completed post graduate studies in voice at Louisiana State University. She is currently on the voice faculty of Texas A&M Commerce where she teaches studio voice. She has served on the faculty of Richland College in the Dallas County Community College District where she taught applied voice, diction and opera workshop. Ms. George served on the voice faculties of Dallas Baptist University, Louisiana State University and Southeastern Louisiana University. In the winter of 2013 she taught voice and opera through the Sound Thinking Australia summer course in Brisbane, Australia. Kay has sung leading operatic roles across the United States including most Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* with Pensacola Opera, Nedda in *I Pagliacci* with Asheville Lyric Opera and Manon with Baton Rouge Opera. She is a Metropolitan Opera National Council finalist, a winner of the Borchers Prize through the National Association of Teachers of Singing Artist Award and a national finalist in the National Federation of Music Club Young Artist competition. Ms. George is a frequent song recitalist and oratorio artist having recently sung the soprano solos of the Mozart Requiem in the area. Other oratorio performances include the Brahms Deutsche Requiem, Vaughan Williams Dona nobis pacem, and Haydn Nelson Mass.

Dr. Glidden, soprano, is an active performer and recitalist performing both classical and musical theater repertoire. She earned first place in the 15th International Canto Lirico Voice Competition and Festival held in Trujillo, Peru. As the top winner, Dr. Glidden performed with the Juvenil Silvestre Revueltas Symphonic Orchestra in Leon, Mexico and was invited by the Iberian and Latin American Music Society to present a solo recital at St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London. Dr. Glidden has performed a number of leading operatic roles. This past summer, she performed the role of Mrs. Murrant in *Varna*, Bulgaria. She is an alumni of Ann Baltz's Operaworks and Margo Garrett's Songfest in Los Angeles. Dr. Glidden is an Assistant Professor of Music, Voice and Opera at Texas A&M University-Commerce. She teaches applied voice and opera ensemble. In addition, she directs the mainstage productions. She earned her Doctorate of Musical Arts degree from the University of North Texas, her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Southern Methodist University and her Masters of Music in Vocal Performance from the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Dr. Glidden is also on the Voice Faculty of Varna International Opera Academy and serves on the Executive Board of the DFW district NATS as Vice President.

South Korean pianist **Shinae Han** received her bachelor's degree at Seoul Chugye University of The Arts and she was the recipient of the meditious Award full scholarship. She was chosen for 74th debut recital of Chosunillbo and Kimhae International Music Concert as a student who represents each college, and She also performed with Busan Symphony Orchestra. She received

a diploma from Austria Salzburg Mozarteum International Summer Music Academy in 2006. She is currently working on her master's degree in collaborative piano at the University of North Texas under Dr. Steven Harlos and Dr. Elvia Puccinelli.

Morgan Horning, soprano, holds a Bachelor of the Arts Degree in Music from Luther College, a Master of Music Degree and Artist Diploma from the University of Northern Iowa, and is currently pursuing her Doctorate of Musical Arts Degree from the University of North Texas under the tutelage of Dr. Stephen Austin. She was most recently seen as a soprano soloist with the UNT Nova Ensemble, performing the works of Harrison Birtwistle, Harvey Sollberger, Luciano Berio, and Gerhard Stäbler. An avid recitalist, Ms. Horning has made it her artistic mission to explore works of underrepresented composers, with special emphasis on contemporary music and Russian language literature.

Chenshayang Huang, is a collaborative and solo pianist from China where she graduated from Hangzhou Normal University. She started her piano playing when she was young and became a pianist for a children choir's in 2000. In 2008, she spent half month touring in Australia with the choir. At that time, she decided to complete further study in a foreign country to be a professional pianist. During her undergraduate degree, she played for opera productions and collaborated with instrumentalists, and was also a pianist for dance class. When Ms. Huang moved to the U.S., she began studying at Boston University in 2013 and transferred to Longy in the fall of 2014. At BU, she became a member of "Arensky Piano Trio", "Mendelssohn Piano Trio" and several other ensembles. At Longy, she was a collaborative piano major who received high praises and produced high quality performances, including Schumann's *Frauenliebe und-leben*, Argento's *From the Diary of Virginia Woolf*, Gounod's *Faust* with Boston Opera Collaborative (as rehearsal pianist), Dvorak's "Dumky" Trio, Brahms art songs and Violin Sonata, among others. Chenshayang also works with GroupMuse in the New England area and gave the three concerts in South Boston. In 2015 summer, she attended Garth Newel Music Center Summer Emerging Artist Fellow program and performed Mendelssohn Piano Trio in c minor, Dohnanyi Piano Quintet No. 1, and Dvorak Piano Trio in f minor. She received her MM degree in collaborative piano from Longy with Robert Merfeld in May, 2016. Currently, she is working on her doctorate at the University of North Texas under Dr. Steven Harlos and Dr. Elvia Puccinelli.

Taiwanese pianist **Szu-Ying Huang** has performed extensively as soloist and chamber musician in major cities throughout the United States, Canada, Austria, China, and Taiwan. With significant background in art song, opera, and choral music, Huang holds the Master of Music degree in piano performance from the Peabody Institute, where she studied with Marian Hahn and is pursuing the Doctor of Musical Arts in piano performance at University of North Texas where she holds assistantships in collaborative piano (2014-2016), choral accompanying (2012-2016), and opera accompanying (2018-2019), under the instruction of Gustavo Romero and Elvia Puccinelli. Huang joined the musical staff of AIMS in Graz (Austria) since 2015, and also served as the resident pianist in Chicago Summer Opera in 2016 for Britten's *Albert Herring*. From 2016 to 2018, Huang was the collaborative piano fellow at Bard College Conservatory of Music, working closely with Grammy Award winner soprano Dawn Upshaw and vocal coach Kayo Iwama., and served as the rehearsal pianist for Leonard Bernstein's *Candide* and Ana Sokolovic's *Svadba*.

South Korean pianist **Yejin Jang** received her bachelor's degree at Yonsei University in Seoul. She continued her study in the United States, earning her master's degree in piano performance at the Manhattan School of Music. While there, she studied under Dr. Solomon Mikowsky and Alexandre Moutouskine and was the recipient of the meritorious President's Award scholarship. She is currently working on her second master's degree in collaborative piano at the University of North Texas under Dr. Steven Harlos and Dr. Elvia Puccinelli.

Sara Kennedy, soprano, is a third-year master's student from Austin Texas studying voice performance with Professor Molly Fillmore. She earned her B.M. in Music Education from the University of North Texas in 2015. In performance with UNT Opera this season, Sara will perform the roles of the Fox in *The Cunning Little Vixen* and Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte*. She will also be a featured soloist in UNT's annual Opera Gala in October. In August, Sara traveled to the Czech Republic with members of UNT Opera where she performed Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* and prepared her role of the Fox in Czech at the Janáček Academy of Music with Professor Tomáš Krejčí. During the summer, she was a Young Artist at Chicago Summer Opera where she performed the role of Second Knitter in Seymour Barab's *A Game of Chance*. Also a frequent performer of musical theatre, Sara has performed roles such as Princess Fiona in *Shrek the Musical*, Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods*, Anne Egerman in *A Little Night Music*, and Ensemble/Eva Understudy in *Evita*.

Victoria Kerr is a soprano from Knoxville, Tennessee in her second year of graduate voice with Dr. Stephen Morscheck after completing undergraduate studies at Cleveland Institute of Music. Most recently, she performed at Red River Lyric Opera as Nella (*Gianni Schicchi*), at University of North Texas as Mrs. Hildebrand (*Street Scene*) and in a scenes production as Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*). Her operatic roles include Rose (*Street Scene*), Cherubino (*Le nozze di Figaro*), Servilia (*La clemenza di Tito*), partial role as Adina (*L'elisir d'amore*), Second Spirit (*Die Zauberflöte*), Spirit (*Dido and Aeneas*) and La libellule (*L'enfant et les sortilèges*). She attended the "Summer Vocal Institute" with master class artist, Marilyn Horne, at the American Institute of Rome, where she also performed a partial role as Susanna (*Le nozze di Figaro*). Ms. Kerr is a recipient of a UNT Voice Scholarship. Later this year, she will appear as Lauretta (*Gianni Schicchi*).

After his triumphant debut at Carnegie Hall, **Arsentiy Kharitonov** has been placed "in the top ranks of keyboard players today." (New York Observer)

A prizewinner of national and international competitions, pianist and composer Arsentiy Kharitonov has been heard in solo recitals and with orchestras in Russia, Europe, Asia, and the USA. "His style is unlike any of his contemporaries, and harkens back to earlier times...Trumping some of the more prominent musical gymnasts, there is genuine poetry here and a rare sincerity issuing, it seems, from the deeper reaches of the human heart." (New York Observer)

Kharitonov started playing piano at an unusually late age of sixteen, in the Rimsky-Korsakov College of Music of the famed St. Petersburg Conservatory in Russia, where his musical progress was immediate and astounding. Within three years, he was giving solo recitals, which featured his own compositions and improvisations in variety of musical styles in addition to the

standard piano repertoire. Kharitonov's first orchestral appearances include solo performances with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic and the Mariinsky Theatre Youth Philharmonic Orchestra. Arsentiy Kharitonov recorded multi-CD series of piano music by Leo Ornstein, as well as the chamber music by Robert Kahn, all of which have been released internationally by Toccata Classics (London, UK).

Colleen Kilpatrick earned her Bachelor of Arts in Music from Ave Maria University in 2016, where she graduated as valedictorian *ex aequo*, recipient of the departmental award in music, and, at eighteen, the youngest member of her graduating class. She served as staff accompanist and coach at her *alma mater* for the 2016-2017 academic year before entering the master's program in collaborative piano at the University of North Texas, where she studies with Elvia Puccinelli and Steven Harlos. Since her matriculation at UNT, Ms. Kilpatrick has performed in masterclasses with Roy Howat, Susan Youens, Liza Stepanova, and Margaret Singer, and is the current accompanist for two choral ensembles, University Singers and Women's Chorus.

Mi-Jin Kim was born in Incheon, Republic of Korea and started studying piano at six years of age. Her significant talent received recognition and awards from numerous competitions in such major musical venues as Korea, Bulgaria, and the United States. She received the Gold Medal at the Joong-Ahng Music Newspaper Competition (Korea), the Silver Medal at the Incheon City Piano Competition (Korea), the Bronze Medal at the International Piano Workshop Competition (Bulgaria), and a prizewinner of the Solo Division at the International Bicentennial Liszt Competition (Los Angeles). She has appeared as soloist with the Sejong University Symphony Orchestra and Good Classic Music Festival Orchestra in Korea, and with the Philharmonica Bulgarica in Bulgaria. More recently, Ms. Kim was invited to perform at the 2015 American Liszt Society Festival "Liszt and Damnation", held at the University of North Texas. Ms. Kim is also an active collaborative pianist. As a collaborator she performed in numerous concerts and festivals such as Opera Theatre and Music Festival of Lucca and Centro Studi Carlo della Giacomina Master Class for Clarinet and Piano in Italy. Also, her collaborative performances have been live-broadcasted by the WRR 101.1 "Classic Cafe" at the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas. She also has coached and performed as a collaborative artist at the Tarrant County College, Oklahoma State University, and University of North Texas. Ms. Kim holds a double master's degree in piano performance and collaborative piano from Michigan State University and the doctor of musical arts degree in piano performance from the University of North Texas. Her piano studies were under the tutelage of Erica Ohm, Deborah Moriarty, and Joseph Banowetz and her collaborative piano studies with Marie-France Lefebvre and Elvia Puccinelli.

Lauren Koszyk is staff pianist for the Midwest Institute of Opera and has been involved with the organization since its inception in 2011. In conjunction with MIO, Ms. Koszyk has performed complete productions of works including *Les contes d'Hoffmann*, *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, *The Bewitched Child*, *Suor Angelica*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, and *The Beautiful Bridegroom*. She has also assisted in the preparation of *Aida*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Cavalleria rusticana*, *Carmen*, and *Don Giovanni*. Lauren has served as pianist for the Illinois Festival Opera, preparing and performing *The Old Maid and the Thief* and *Gianni Schicchi*. In the genre of art song, she has performed in masterclasses for Susan Yoeuns, Margaret Singer, Roy Howat, Liza Stepanova, and has coached with composer Tom Cipullo. Ms. Koszyk has been invited to

present at the Music Teachers National Association Conference, Illinois State Music Teachers Association Conference, National Federation of Music Clubs Orpheus Club, among several other symposiums and conferences. Lauren received her B.M. in Piano Performance and B.A. in German Summa Cum Laude from Illinois State University where she was named a Student Laureate of the Lincoln Academy of Illinois, Robert G. Bone Scholar, and Who's Who Among Students in American University and Colleges. She is currently pursuing her M.M. in Collaborative Piano at the University of North Texas through the Eastman Piano and Organ Scholarship for American Students.

Hannah Leeper, soprano, is a second-year Master of Music: Vocal Performance student at the University of North Texas. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Music degree from Luther College in 2017. This past summer, she performed the title role in *Lucia di Lammermoor* with the La Musica Lirica Opera Program in Italy. While at UNT, she has performed the roles of Erste Dame (*Die Zauberflöte*) and Vitellia (*La clemenza di Tito*– scenes). Additionally, Hannah has done the following roles: Musetta (*La bohème*) and Nannetta (*Falstaff*) with La Musica Lirica, Casilda (*The Gondoliers*) and Valencienne (*The Merry Widow*– cover) at Luther College, and Éponine (*Les Misérables*) with New Minowa Players Theater in her hometown of Decorah, Iowa. Her upcoming role with UNT Opera is Lauretta in *Gianni Schicchi*. Hannah studies with William Joyner at UNT.

Hailed as a “powerhouse in classical saxophone” (University of Toronto), **Jeffrey Leung** is an active performer, improviser, and aspiring educator. In addition to his work with collaborative artists, Jeffrey serves as the baritone chair of the Kynetik Saxophone Quartet and the Vice President of Novus New Music, Inc. Recent premieres and commissioning projects include new works by Annika Socolofsky, Roydon Tse, Baldwin Giang, Matthew Browne, Joe Krycia, and Gregory Wanamaker. Jeffrey has received numerous honours and awards – most notably from the Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra and Montreal Symphony Orchestra – and has been invited to workshops at the Banff Centre, American Saxophone Academy, and Université Européenne de Saxophone. Holding degrees from the University of Michigan, Northwestern University, and University of Toronto, Jeffrey is pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts at Michigan State University where he is a Teaching Assistant and Director of the Saxophone Ensemble. Jeffrey's mentors include Professor Joseph Lulloff, Dr. Timothy McAllister, and Dr. Wallace Halladay.

Chenxi Li is holding a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance at University of Central Oklahoma. At same time, she is also minoring the collaborative piano and studying with Dr. Sallie Pollack. Chenxi starts collaborating in the chamber music groups and accompanies for other vocalists since 2015. She is enjoying when she is working with different musicians, she can always gain a lot of value experiences and music information while she is collaborating with other musicians. Chenxi aspires to continues devoting all her passion on the piano and impart her knowledge to the student and giving authentic and professional performance to the audience.

Born in Jilin, China, pianist **Hongling Liang**, received her bachelor's degree in Piano Performance with Hesong Wang as her primary teacher at Jinan University. She continued on to obtain her master's degree at the Longy School of Music of Bard College with Rieko Aizawa as her primary instructor. Ms. Liang also studied with world renowned pianists Peter Serkin, Kobrin

Alexander, and Robert Merfeld. She recently completed the artist diploma program under the tutelage of Tatiana Muzanova at Schwob School of Music of Columbus State University. As a mature pianist, she has successfully performed at world class venues such as Jordan Hall, Bill Heard Theatre, Legacy Hall, Granoff Music Center, Pickman Hall, Westport Town Hall, HingXai Concert Hall, Jinan University and Southern Normal University as a soloist, collaborative pianist, and chamber musician. Ms. Liang has won prizes in numerous competitions including the Yangtze Piano Competition, Hong Kong International Piano Competition, and the Macaw International Piano Competition. She has participated in masterclasses with instructors Vadym Kholodenko, Benjamin Hochman, and Donald Berman as a soloist. In addition, she has performed as a collaborator in masterclasses led by Matt Harmovitz, Dawn Upshaw, Levon Chilingarian, Harumi Rhodes, Jean Paul trio, Simon Bolivar String Quartet, and many others. Hongling is pursuing her Doctorate of Music degree in collaborative piano at University of North Texas in studio of Dr. Steve Harlos and Dr. Elvia Puccinelli.

Alex Longnecker is a tenor currently based in Dallas, Texas. Alex has performed operatic and concert repertoire at places such as the Tanglewood Music Center, the International Baroque Institute at Longy, and Pittsburgh Festival Opera. Recent opera roles include *The Analyst (A Quiet Place)* at the Tanglewood Music Center, as well as the Chaplain (*Dialogues des Carmélites*), Don Curzio (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), Nutrice (*L'incoronazione di Poppea*), Thaddeus Stevens (*The Mother of us All*), and Don Ottavio (*Don Giovanni*) with UNT Opera. Alex also performs regularly with Dallas' Orpheus Chamber Singers, Dallas Bach Society, and the Verdigris Ensemble. Alex is a native of Ankeny, Iowa.

Xiao Luo started her clarinet studies in 2006 at the Xinghai Conservatory of Music in Guangzhou. After graduation, she went to Germany to study with Prof. Manfred Hadaschik (Musikakademie der Stadt in Kassel). In 2012, she enrolled at the Royal Conservatory of Ghent (Belgium) to pursue a master's degree in clarinet with Prof. Eddy Vanoosthuyse and his two assistants, Dany Corstiens and Frank Coryn. During her time in Europe, she also studied chamber music at the Liège Conservatory (Belgium). In 2017, she was hired as a clarinet teacher at Zhaoqing University. She was also invited to perform a concert during the Wind Instrument Festival at the Xinghai Conservatory and gave public lessons to the conservatory students. In 2018, she was invited to perform at the I.C.A. ClarinetFest in Ostend, Belgium and played two recitals in France. She will be a participant in the second Thailand Clarinet Festival in Bangkok where she will play concerts and give masterclasses.

Cameron Stewart Massey is currently a junior at the University of Texas studying flute performance under the guidance of Professor Marianne Gedigian. Cameron was born in Varna, Bulgaria, and he came to the US at age two. Four years later, he moved to Croatia where he began flute lessons at age nine. In 2009, he won first place at the Croatian national flute solo competition and was reigning national champion in solo flute performance from 2009-2012. In 2012, he won first prize in Croatia's national chamber music competition. The same year, he won first place in an international chamber music competition and an international flute solo competition. After returning to the USA, in 2012, he was awarded honorable mention at his first state competition. In 2013, Cameron won first place in the Fort Worth Philharmonic concerto competition. In 2014 he won the Fort Worth Civic Orchestra Concerto Competition, and in 2015

was awarded The Bayard Friedman award for outstanding student in the performing arts. Last year, he was a finalist in the Oklahoma Flute Society Collegiate Competition. His educators include Jan Crisanti, (principal flautist of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra), Mary Karen Clardy (flute professor at UNT), and Ivana Strbac.

Sabatina Mauro, mezzo soprano, is a first year master's student from Long Island, New York, studying vocal performance with Dr. Stephen Austin. Most recently, Sabatina has performed the title role in *The Little Prince* at Adelphi University, where she received her bachelor's degrees in Psychology and Music. This upcoming season, Sabatina will be performing the roles of The Dog in fall performance of *The Cunning Little Vixen* with UNT Opera, and Dorabella in the spring performance of *Così fan tutte*.

Bree Nichols is a young operatic soprano known for her compelling stage presence and shimmering pianissimi. She recently debuted as Gilda in *Rigoletto* with Capitol City Opera and is also an avid interpreter of song repertoire, performing Strauss' *Brentano Lieder* and Milhaud's *Quatre Chansons de Ronsard* in the past season. Bree's career has taken her to the stages of Carnegie Hall, Symphony of the Mountains, Capitol City Opera, Opera Roanoke, Opera on the James, Appalachian Opera Theatre, Druid City Opera, and more. She has recently portrayed the title role in Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*, Adele in *Die Fledermaus*, Despina in *Così fan tutte*, Jennie in Kurt Weill's *Down in the Valley*, Nedda in *Pagliacci*, and Valencienne in *The Merry Widow*. She also sang Barbarina in *Le nozze di Figaro* under the baton of Maestro Hillary Griffiths and performed as Nella (Lauretta cover) in *Gianni Schicchi* with conductor Mark Cedel. Additional cover roles include Zerlina in *Don Giovanni*, Susanna in *Le nozze di Figaro*, and Madame Silberklang in Mozart's *Der Schauspieldirektor*. In September 2018, Bree traveled to the Czech Republic, performing Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* and preparing the role of the Fox in Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen*. She will perform the role at UNT in November before touring the state of Texas with the opera in Czech. Later this season, she will return to UNT Opera as Beatrice in Roussel's rarely-performed opera *Le testament de la tante Caroline*. Bree earned her M.M. from University of Georgia. She is a Teaching Fellow at UNT, where she studies with soprano Carol Wilson. Also a passionate educator, Bree is founder and general director of Stafford Opera Troupe in Stafford, Virginia, where she created the tuition-free Summer Opera Program offering opera education and performance opportunities to young singers.

Jacob Nydegger, a native of San Antonio, Texas, has garnered acclaim following his recent debut album of Hendrik Andriessen's piano music with the London-based record label, Toccata Classics. "A young Texan who has won many competitions... his smooth, elegant power brings memories of that great pianist [Van Cliburn]." (*Fanfare Magazine*). Nydegger is "a gifted performer with formidable technical skill... he excels especially in the quieter, drawn out, introverted moments" (*Theater Jones*) and has been a top prizewinner in many competitions including the 17th annual Petroff Piano Competition and the 2018 Kuleshov International Piano Competition. He currently studies with Joseph Banowetz at the University of North Texas and has also worked with Roy Howat, Jon Nakamatsu, and William Wolfram. In 2017 he won the Colorado College Summer Music Festival Concerto Competition, performing the Grieg Concerto with the Festival Orchestra. He has also won distinction in two recent online competitions, as a first-prize winner in the 'Art of Piano' section and second-prize winner in the exclusive 'Artist of

the Year' section of the international Great Composers Competition. Nydegger holds a Bachelor of Music from the University of North Texas and is currently staff pianist at Texas Woman's University.

Yalan Piao, an active recitalist, chamber musician and collaborative pianist. She has been invited to attend and perform in numerous music programs and festivals, such as Gilmore Keyboard Festival, Interlochen Summer Camp, Stulberg International String Competition and Walnut Hill Music Festival. As a chamber musician and collaborative pianist, Ms. Piao was invited as a member of Andante duo touring through China, hailed as "the most exciting and splendid concert" by Jiangnan City Daily. Recently, she led the performance with MSU string players at Nardin Park Methodist Church, featuring Dvorak and Beethoven. She is also dedicated to new music, has worked with musicians such as Carlos Andrés Botero, Lindsay Kesselman, Alex Temple and Adam Schoenberg. After graduating from Shanghai Conservatory of Music in China, Ms. Piao obtained her master's degree with pianist Minsoo Sohn at Michigan State University. She also served as Graduate Assistant and accompanist while completing her DMA program with Professor Deborah Moriarty.

Catherine Raible, soprano, is from Kingsport, Tennessee where she graduated magna cum laude from East Tennessee State University. She is returning for her second year towards her master's degree studying with Dr. Jeffery Snider. Catherine has performed the roles of Anna Murrant (*Street Scene*, cover), Mrs. Hildebrand (*Street Scene*) 2nd Lady (*The Magic Flute*), Announcer (*Gallantry*), Henny Penny (*Chicken Little: a fable for wise children*); studied the role of Donna Elvira (*Don Giovanni*); sung in scenes from *Norma* (Adalgisa), *Der Freischutz* (Ännchen), *La bohème* (Mimii), *Don Giovanni* (Donna Anna), and *The Fisher, the Fish and the Wife* (The Wife). Catherine has sang in masterclasses and concerts with Kelli O'Hara, Will Crutchfield, Margaret Singer, Roy Howat (*Peters Edition*), and Deborah Voigt. Catherine's upcoming season will include Forester's Wife (*Cunning Little Vixen*) and Nella (*Gianni Schicchi*) with UNT Opera. Catherine is UNT Opera's teaching assistant and is a recipient of the Sunny Van Eaton Memorial Scholarship and College of Music Scholarship. Catherine's announcements and upcoming events can be found on her website, www.catherineraible.com.

Culture Map calls soprano **Megan Stapleton** "an artist of clarity, power, and much expressivity... with a studied intensity." Native to Texas, Megan has performed extensively in various children's programs with Houston Grand Opera, including Opera To Go!, Storybook Opera, and First Songs. Other credits include performances with Ars Lyrica, Kingwood Pops, Galveston Symphony Orchestra, Mercury - The Orchestra Redefined, Ensemble Correnti, Houston's Bach Society, Houston's Gilbert and Sullivan Society, Lumedia Musicworks, Boston Early Music Festival, Boston Opera Collaborative and Boston Metro Opera. Megan is a founding member of Houston Baroque, with whom she released the album, "My Soul Sees and Hears," in 2016. A champion of new music, Megan has premiered works by current composers including Gregory Spears, Mary Carol Warwick, Thomas Oboe Lee, and B.P. Herrington. Her versatility extends to jazz, with regular performances as the featured vocalist with The Paul English Jazz Trio. She holds degrees with honors from New England Conservatory and Sam Houston State University. Megan is a teaching fellow at University of North Texas, where she is pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree under the vocal guidance of Dr. Stephen Austin. www.meganstapleton.com

Sara Steele, pianist, is a doctoral candidate in collaborative piano and teaching assistant at the University of North Texas. Currently, Sara is also on faculty at Texas Wesleyan University as a vocal coach and pianist for the opera program. Most recently, she served on the voice faculty of the Brancaleoni International Music Festival as an assistant music director to Metropolitan Opera Coach, Maestro Howard Watkins for productions of *L'elisir d'amore* and *Gianni Schicchi*. In 2017, Sara performed in Carnegie Hall as winner in the Chamber Music division of the Semper Pro Musica competition at Baylor University, where she received her Master of Music Degree. A Presser Scholar, she also served on the musical staff of the Music in the Marche in Mondavio, Italy. Sara is a student of Steven Harlos and Elvia Puccinelli and is a recipient of the Robert J. Rogers Piano Scholarship and the Toulouse Academic Achievement Scholarship.

Canadian pianist **Nola Strand** is praised for her sensitive musicianship and imaginative, colorful playing. She has been active as an accompanist and vocal coach in the DFW area for the past 6 years, focusing on art song and operatic repertoire, as well as works for clarinet and piano. She has attended numerous summer programs and has performed concerts across North America and in Austria. Nola is sought after as a competition pianist and her partners regularly win prizes in festivals and competitions.

Nola completed her Master's of Music in Collaborative Piano from UNT with Dr. Steven Harlos and Elvia Puccinelli, and holds a Bachelors Degree in Piano Performance from the University of Victoria where she received the prestigious TS McPherson entrance scholarship. In the fall of 2017 Nola was an Artist in Residence for the Pensacola Opera Company, where she performed Piazzolla's tango operetta and performed weekly outreach concerts.

Kate Stubbs holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Collaborative Piano from The University of Texas at Austin as well as a Master of Music degree in Collaborative Piano and a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance from Bowling Green State University. Her mentors include Laura Melton, Thomas Rosenkranz, and Anne Epperson. Dr. Stubbs has been on faculty at Southeastern Oklahoma State University as a Collaborative Pianist since 2015. She coaches all vocal and instrumental music majors, supports large ensembles and opera theater productions, and performs with faculty and guest artists. Prior appointments include staff pianist positions at Bowling Green State University, Toledo Opera, Austin's Spotlight on Opera, and the American Ballet Theater's summer program held at The University of Texas at Austin. Recent performances include guest appearances at Texas A&M University-Commerce, Texas State University, Northwestern State University, The University of Southern Mississippi, Ouachita Baptist University, Texas Tech University's Big 12 Trombone Conference, and several performances on SOSU's Musical Arts Series which were broadcast on KUCO Classical Radio.

Johanna Stull specializes in creating high-quality collaborative experiences with classical musicians. A singer herself, Johanna is marked by sensitivity and skill in vocal repertoire. She has worked as a pianist for for Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Texas Woman's University, Bayview Music Festival, Christian Youth Theater, and many universities and high schools. Johanna advocates for collaborative piano as an assistant at CollabFest, and as the founder of a new music technology company. She teaches piano privately and at New Song School of the Arts. Johanna trained at the University of North Texas (M.M. in Collaborative Piano and Music Entrepreneurship), and Missouri Baptist University (B.M. in Piano Performance).

Native of Penang, Malaysia, **Ashley Tan** started playing the piano at the age of 5. Under tutelage of Catherine Lee, she obtained her Grade 8 certificate from the Associated Board of Royal Academy of Music at 14, following by Performers' Certificate and Grade 8 violin from Trinity College Examination Board a year later.

In 2005, she was awarded full scholarship to study solo piano performance at National Taiwan University of Arts in Taipei, during which she had studied with renowned pianists Yueh-Ling Lee, Tamás Vásáry, Oxana Yablonskaya, Gustavo Romero and Joseph Banowetz. She graduated from NTUA in 2009 with first prize and was the recipient of Excellent Achievement Award and Outstanding International Student Award.

In December 2009, she was awarded Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Piano Department Bursary and has completed her Master of Music degree studies under tutelage of Simon Nicholls, Malcolm Wilson, and John Thwaites.

Ashley has, upon graduation from Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, established a promising career as a collaborative artist in the United Kingdom. She has performed in numerous festivals and concerts working with UK's leading music figures and associations including Helen Field, Justin Lavender, Dennis O'neil, Jane Samuels, Simone Rebello, Christopher Warren Green, Dante String Quartet, School of Theatre Excellence, Arts Educational Schools London, leading to an offer as resident opera repetiteur and vocal coach at Wales International Academy of Voice in May 2014.

Ashley is currently pursuing her Doctoral of Musical Arts studies with emphases in Collaborative Piano at University of North Texas, studying with Steven Harlos and Elvia Puccinelli. She is the recipient of The Lupe Murchison Foundation of Fellowship in Music Scholarship, Dean's Camerata - Martha Massena Collaborative Piano Scholarship and A.L. Putnam Piano Scholarship.

Hilary Grace Taylor, mezzo-soprano, is a native of Dallas and a second-year doctoral student in vocal performance under the tutelage of Professor Carol Wilson. She served as the Teaching Assistant for UNT Opera, and is currently a Teaching Fellow in the Division of Vocal Studies. With UNT Opera she performed Donna Elvira (Don Giovanni), Desirée Armfeldt (A Little Night Music), Madame de Croissy (Dialogues des Carmélites), Third Lady (Die Zauberflöte), Martha (Faust), Mrs. Jones (Street Scene) and Gertrude Stein (After Life by Tom Cipullo). Hilary directed UNT Opera's semi-staged production of Madame Butterfly as well as scenes from La traviata and Le nozze di Figaro. At the invitation of Eugene Migliaro Corporon, director of the UNT Wind Symphony, she performed and recorded James M. Stephenson's Symphony No. 2. She received her MM in vocal performance from UNT and the bachelor of music from the Butler School of Music where she premiered the role Habibba in Daron Hagen's A Woman in Morocco. With the Dallas Opera Outreach Program Hilary was responsible for the role of Bastienne in Mozart's Bastien und Bastienne. Upcoming engagements include director of Lumedia Musikworks' Halloween show Night of Decayed Musicians, and alto soloist in the Verdi Requiem in Edinburgh, Scotland and at the Durham Cathedral in Durham, England. Hilary is committed to furthering community arts programs, teaching and directing, and serves as cantor and soloist at Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church.

Meijing Tian (pianist) is currently attending the University of Central Oklahoma as a graduate student, majoring in collaborative piano. She started playing the piano when she was six years

old During the undergraduate period, she majored in piano performance and held a piano recital in 2017. She formed a piano trio ensemble with Junhong Zhou and a cellist in China. Her group joined multiple times of communication musical events in several Chinese cities such as Guizhou, Chongqing, Zhongshan etc. and awarded the first Guizhou Provincial Violin Open Championship Ensemble Group, golden prize. (2016) and Hong Kong International String Music Open Championship Trio group, the third prize.

Soprano **Alicia Wallace**, a native of Rochester, NY, has sung with the Fort Worth Opera, Metroplex Opera Company, Eastman Opera Theater, University of North Texas Opera Theater, Lewisville Civic Chorus, Pultneyville Light Opera Company (NY), Lyric Stage (Irving, TX) and WaterTower Theater in Dallas. She performs a wide variety of roles, including the Countess in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Alice Ford in *Falstaff*, First Lady in *The Magic Flute*, and many others. As a concert artist, she has performed in venues throughout the United States, China and Europe, including the Xi'an International Choral Festival, the Royal Scottish Academy in Glasgow, Scotland, and several venues in the Marche region of Italy. She holds a doctorate and master's degree in vocal performance from the University of North Texas and a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance from the Eastman School of Music. Currently, Dr. Wallace is on the voice faculty at Southeastern Oklahoma State University and she is the cofounder of the chamber group *Duo Commosso* with pianist Nola Strand.

Jiaxinn Alicia Wang is a young, talented pianist from China. She started to learn piano with Pei Shoumin and Huang Meide when she was only xx years old. In 2006, she won the Gold prize of China Artist Festival and perform a solo recital "A new piano star from Zhaoqing". In 2007, she went to Xinghai Conservatory of Music in Guangzhou and became a student of Prof. Wang Qin. She won the first prize of the Guangzhou Piano Competition in the same year. In 2008, she won the first prize of the "ShaDe Cup", a piano competition in Guangdong Province. After finishing Bachelor's Degree, she stayed in Xinghai Conservatory of Music and continued her Master's Degree under Dr. Zhu Mei. After graduation in 2014, she was hired as an accompanist pianist by Xinghai Conservatory of Music and a piano teacher by Zhaoqing University. In 2018 she won the price of the Best Accompanist of the Chinese Peafowl Award and gave a performance in France, Belgium and Thailand with her chamber music duo.

Katherine Watson, soprano, is a first year Masters of Music student at the University of North Texas, originally from Northern California. In 2014, Miss Watson graduated from Northern Arizona University where she was a recipient of the Henny Kroemer Warner Memorial Scholarship and awarded Outstanding Graduating Senior in Performance (2014). With NAU Opera, Katherine performed the roles of Fiordiligi (*Così fan tutte*), Ciesca (*Gianni Schicchi*), and Ottavia (*L'incoronazione di Poppea*), in addition to attending their adjunct summer program, Flagstaff in Fidenza in Fidenza, Italy (2013). Katherine is a voice student of Professor Molly Fillmore and recipient of the Lucille G. Murchison Music Scholarship. Upcoming roles with UNT Opera include Christine (*Le testament de la tante Caroline*) and Fiordiligi (*Così fan tutte*).

Esme Wong is a Malaysian classical pianist who grew up speaking three languages and lived in three countries. She marked her solo debut at Trinity College of London Awards and Concert at the age of 12 and was the only Malaysian awarded the Davis UWC Music Scholarship to study chamber music with Trio di Trieste, in Italy. Esme recently joined The Red River Lyric Opera as

vocal coach for the 2018 Summer Festival. She is currently in the process of recording an album of Augusta Holmes' song cycles for Centaur Records. Her appearances include performance of the Mendelssohn Piano Concerto with Fort Dodge Symphony Orchestra, world premiere of Robert Beaser's choral work, and vocal collaborative performances at Songfest where she worked with coaches and composers including Graham Johnson, Martin Katz, Alan Smith, Jake Heggie, and Libby Larsen. Esme holds a master's degree in Collaborative Piano from University of North Texas, where she studied with Dr. Elvia Puccinelli and Dr. Steven Harlos. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Music from Luther College where she studied with Dr. Du Huang and Dr. Jessica Paul. She has studied extensively with Yap Chiew Phin, Igor Cognolato and Cristina Santin throughout her musical career.

Jing Xu, Collaborative pianist, had her debut at six years old, currently is a DMA student studying in College of Music at UNT. Meanwhile, she is also a piano lecturer at Yangzhou University in China where she has been working from 2001. She has performed intensively as a pianist for lots of graduate singers, ensembles and Masterclasses, as well as she was Vice President of North Texas Collaborative Piano (NTCP) from 2016-2017. In addition, she is a mezzo-soprano and performed with APYC at International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM) Asian Pacific Night in Dallas on March 12, 2013. She just won the Outstanding Lieder Collaborative Pianist Award at Graz, Austria in 2017 Summer.

Praised by the Baltimore Sun for her "rich-toned solos," 2015 Tokyo International Viola Competition semi-finalist **Xinyi Xu** is passionately engaged as an orchestral, chamber, and solo violist. A regular guest violist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, she most recently performed under the batons of Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Andris Nelsons, Ken-David Masur, and Charles Dutoit. She was a Fellowship Artist at the Tanglewood Music Center, and had previously participated in New York String Orchestra Seminar under the direction of Jamie Laredo, performing at Carnegie Hall's Stern Auditorium. Ms. Xu served as principal violist for Bard Conservatory Orchestra's Greater China Tour (2012), which spanned seven cities, and appeared as a soloist with pianist Melvin Chen in Shanghai Grand Theater. Ms. Xu was a fellowship recipient at Aspen Music Festival and School in 2011, and served as principal violist in the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen Orchestra. In 2010, Ms. Xu was invited to Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival in Salza, Germany, and toured with the orchestra academy throughout Germany and Eastern Europe under the direction of Christoph Eschenbach, Ivan Fischer, Christopher Hogwood and David Geringas.

A prolific chamber musician, Ms. Xu recently toured with international violinist Sarah Chang, and has participated in Yellow Barn Music Festival, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, and Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival, among others. As a member of Cicada Chamber Players, she recorded with musicians from the New York region for the Bridge label. She has worked with renowned artist-teachers including Emmanuel Ax, Donald Weilerstein, Roger Tapping, Pamela Frank, Cho-Liang Lin, Ira Weller, Steve Tenenbom, and members from the Guarneri, Tokyo, Brentano, and Shanghai string quartets. She has performed chamber music with Leon Fleisher, Michael Kannen, Kathy Murdock, and appears regularly in recital with her husband, concert pianist Michael Bukhman. Ms. Xu had performed in Bard's "Music Alive!" series, featuring music by living composers and directed by Joan Tower, with whom she studied composition.

Equally passionate as a teacher, Ms. Xu was recently invited to present a masterclass in Soochow University in Taipei, and has been actively teaching outreach programs through the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. She has taught at the Peabody Institute's preparatory program and privately in Baltimore and Boston. She regularly coaches the chamber orchestra of the No.14 High School in her hometown of Hangzhou, China, and under her guidance the orchestra has won first prizes in the China National Competition for the past three consecutive years. Ms. Xu holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Viola Performance from Bard College Conservatory of Music, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Language and Literature from Bard College, and a Master of Music degree and Artist Diploma from Yale School of Music, where she was the teaching assistant of Prof. Ettore Causa. She has pursued further graduate studies under the tutelage of CJ Chang at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University, and currently resides in Fort Worth, TX with her husband and son.

Junhong Zhou (violinist) was born in Guiyang, China and started to learn the violin with his family at age 4. When he was 15, he went to Sichuan conservatory of music to receive the professional music education. After that, he was continuing to study at Shanghai conservatory of music which is the most top conservatory in China with a bachelor's degree in violin performance. He used to be a member of the first violin section at the Guiyang Symphony Orchestra in China from 2013-2017. In fall 2018, he is a current graduate student at the University of central Oklahoma and assigned to be the concertmaster of string orchestra.