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## 10 Finalists Announced for The Dallas Opera's Lone Star Vocal Competition on Friday, March 7



The 2025 Lone Star Vocal Competition finalists.

**DALLAS, February 11, 2025**—On Friday, March 7, at 7:30 PM, The Dallas Opera (TDO) presents its biennial [Lone Star Vocal Competition](#) at the Winspear Opera House.

The 10 finalists are soprano **Amelia Burshe**, bass-baritone **Sam Dhobhany**, mezzo-soprano **Stephanie Doche**, mezzo-soprano **Joanne Evans**, soprano **Alissa Goretsky**, mezzo-soprano **Ani Kushyan**, mezzo-soprano **Kayla Nanto**, baritone **Michael Pandolfo**, soprano **Ardeen Pierre**, and soprano **Laura Corina Sanders**.

Finalists in the 33<sup>rd</sup> Vocal Competition were selected from a record-breaking 119 applicants—the highest number of entries for TDO's Texas-based competition since the event was divided into state-wide and national contests in 2020.

Each finalist will sing two arias with piano accompaniment. Repertoire includes works by Donizetti, Gounod, Handel, Offenbach, Verdi, Gershwin, Rossini, Strauss, Wagner, and others. The finalists will be accompanied by Mikhail Berestnev and Christopher Devlin.

Winners are selected by a distinguished panel of judges, chaired by The Dallas Opera's Artistic Consultant, **David Lomelí**. The panel includes **Annie Burridge**, General Director & CEO of Austin Opera; **Jonathan Pell**, TDO's former Director of Artistic Administration;

**Kristian Roberts**, TDO Director of Education; and **Emmanuel Villaume**, the Mrs. Eugene McDermott Music Director of The Dallas Opera.

The first, second, and third-place prize winners, plus the Jonathan Pell People's Choice award winner, receive cash prizes. Winners will be awarded \$5,000 (first place), \$3,000 (second place), \$1,500 (third place), and \$1,000 ("People's Choice"). The first-place winner will also automatically advance to the final round of The Dallas Opera's National Vocal Competition in 2026.

The competition is open to applicants based in Texas, including students from other U.S. states or international countries attending Texas colleges, universities, and music conservatories. Also eligible are active members of any young artist program associated with a Texas opera company.

The Vocal Competition will be hosted by Sylvia D'Eramo, who stars as Mimi in The Dallas Opera's current production of *La bohème*. D'Eramo placed third in TDO's 2022 National Vocal Competition.

Visit [dallasopera.org](https://dallasopera.org) for more information.

#### **LISTING DETAILS:**

The Dallas Opera's Lone Star Vocal Competition

**Location:** Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St., Dallas, TX 75201

**Date & Time:** Friday, March 7, at 7:30 PM

**Tickets:** \$10, available on The Dallas Opera's [website](#) or by calling 214-443-1000

Find finalist headshots [here](#). (Password: **TdoPress1**)

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#### **About The Dallas Opera**

One of the leading opera companies in the country, [The Dallas Opera](#) has an extraordinary legacy of world-class productions and thrilling premieres featuring the greatest operatic artists of our time. Inaugurated in 1957 with a concert featuring the incomparable Maria Callas, TDO is known for the notable U.S. debuts of a host of legendary artists including Plácido Domingo, Dame Joan Sutherland, Jon Vickers, Franco Zeffirelli, and Sir David McVicar. The company has long been an industry leader and innovator through groundbreaking initiatives including the Hart Institute for Women Conductors, free and low-cost digital streaming, public simulcasts, acclaimed art song recitals, the national vocal competition, special concerts, and outstanding family and award-winning education programs. TDO's home is the Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House in the Dallas Arts District. As one of the largest performing arts employers in North Texas, TDO is proudly committed to diversity, both onstage and off, and is a major contributor to the economic vitality and international cultural reputation of this region.

For more details, visit [dallasopera.org](https://dallasopera.org)

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