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2019 WILLIAM MATHEUS SULLIVAN FOUNDATION SINGER AWARDS ANNOUNCED

The William Matheus Sullivan Musical Foundation awarded **five \$10,000 grants** to young artists who auditioned for the Foundation in New York on November 10 and 11, 2019. In addition to these cash awards, winners will participate in the five-year program of continued financial aid for coaching in new roles, which is one of the unique features of the Sullivan awards. Judges for the auditions were **Andrew Jorgensen, Susanne Mentzer, and Craig Rutenberg**, all members of the Foundation's board.

The Sullivan Winners

Winners of **\$10,000 awards** and continuing assistance for five years starting in 2020 are: soprano **Elizabeth Polese**, mezzo-soprano **Katherine DeYoung**, countertenor **Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen**, and baritones **Kidon Choi** and **Jarrett Porter**. These awards are named in memory of distinguished former Sullivan Foundation board members: Elizabeth Polese's award for soprano **Gail Robinson**, director of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program; Katherine DeYoung's award for mezzo-soprano **Betty Allen**, leader of the Harlem School for the Arts; Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen's award for tenor **David Lloyd**, executive director of the Sullivan Foundation; Jarrett Porter's award for baritone **Theodor Uppman**; and Kidon Choi's award for soprano **Rose Bampton**. These artists join the current roster of recent Sullivan award winners, all of whom are eligible to apply to the Foundation for additional support to prepare new opera roles or works with full orchestra.

Career Development Grants

The panel also awarded **\$2,500 Career Development Grants** to four singers: mezzo-soprano **Simona Genga**, tenor **Richard Trey Smagur**, baritone **Christopher Kenney**, and bass **William Meinert**.

About the Foundation

The Foundation was established in 1956 through the estate of William Matheus Sullivan, a prominent New York lawyer and opera lover who presented performances sung by Metropolitan Opera artists in his country home in Ridgefield, Connecticut. More than one thousand young singers have received support from the Sullivan Foundation.

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