



## Upcoming Events

### Eclectica String Quartet

Friday July 26, 7 PM

Exploring the boundaries of the string quartet repertoire. Music from Baroque to jazz to Nordic folk, and much in between.

### Jeh Kulu Dance & Drum Theater

Sunday July 28, 6 PM

High energy performances featuring traditional West African pieces with djembe, doun doun, krin instruments, and dancers. Outside with option to picnic—weather permitting. Bring a chair or blanket.

### A Cappella Lollapalooza

Saturday Aug 3, 7 PM

Three ensembles of different styles perform 4-part Barbershop harmony.

### The Dixie Six

Sunday Aug 11, 6 PM

The swinging sound of Louis Armstrong's All Stars of the 1950s and 1960s.. Outside and picnic.

### Haiduck & Heckendom The American Song Book, Plus

Saturday Aug 17, 7 PM

A Cabaret-style evening with a fine jazz quartet of clarinet, piano, double bass, and drums. And a surprise guest artist!

### Vermont Jazz Ensemble

Sunday Aug 18, 4 PM

A swingin' big band for 40 years. Outside and picnic.

### Sohyun Ahn, piano solo & 4-hands

Friday Aug 23, 7 PM

Chopin, Haydn, and Chaminade's *Romantiques* piano 4-hands with Eun Hee Park. Raves about Ahn's past concerts: "Absolutely superb", "a uniquely wonderful experience to be so close to the performers".

## About Island Arts

Our mission is to foster and provide creative artistic opportunities in Vermont's Grand Isle County. We bring the arts and cultural diversity to residents and visitors in our rural county and the surrounding areas. All events are free for ages 22 and under. Established in 1988, Island Arts is an all-volunteer non-profit. Please consider donating online at [islandarts.org](http://islandarts.org), or by check or bequest to P.O. Box 108, North Hero, VT 05474.



[www.islandarts.org](http://www.islandarts.org) | [info@islandarts.org](mailto:info@islandarts.org) | 802.372.8889 | 501(c)(3) non-profit EIN #03-0313918.



## A Project Serenade Concert

Island Arts  
July 25, 2024

### PROGRAM

Vedrai carino (*Don Giovanni*)  
Batti, batti (*Don Giovanni*)  
Sull'aria (*Le nozze di Figaro*)  
Caro mio ben (art song by Giordani)  
Belle nuit (*Tales of Hoffman*)  
Widmung (art song by Schumann)  
Del cabello más sutil (art song by Obradors)  
La Pastorella dell'Alpi (art song by Rossini)  
Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin' (*Oklahoma!*)  
My White Knight (*Music Man*)  
Something Wonderful (*The King and I*)  
Green Finch and Linnet Bird (*Sweeney Todd*)  
I Could Have Danced All Night (*My Fair Lady*)  
Bondi, cara Venezia (*Il Campiello*)

with Mary Jane Austin, piano

**The Youth Opera Company is a program of the Opera Company of Middlebury**, led by OCM Director of Education and Outreach Sarah Cullins and Music Director and pianist Mary Jane Austin. YOC provides unique training and performance opportunities to talented young singers while building meaningful community connections. Programs include after-school opera scenes workshops, audition-technique classes, artist-in-schools residencies and the Project Serenade concert series.

**Youth Opera Company of OCM • [www.ocmvermont.org/youth-opera](http://www.ocmvermont.org/youth-opera) • [youthoperavt@yahoo.com](mailto:youthoperavt@yahoo.com)**

To support today's performance and all that we do, make your tax-deductible donation to the Youth Opera Company of OCM at P.O. Box 803, Middlebury 05753 or donate via Venmo (ocmvermont) or through the [ocmvermont.org](http://ocmvermont.org) website. Your support is greatly appreciated!

## Singer Bios

**Neve Bruno**, soprano, will be heading to the Interlochen Arts Academy in the fall. A former Stowe High School student, Neve has sung with YOC since her freshman year, appearing in "Opera 101: A day in the life," "An American in Paris," "From Spain with Love," and "A Country Store Opera." She has also participated in Project Serenade concerts and many YOC special events. Neve has attended prestigious vocal summer programs at Interlochen, Tanglewood, and most recently, the Juilliard School and received an honorable mention in the 2024 Vermont All-State Scholarship Competition.

Soprano **Emma Cerutti** is a graduate of Northfield High School and currently a student at Norwich University. She joined YOC for last season's productions of "From Spain with Love" and "A Country Store Opera" and is thrilled to participate in her first summer of Project Serenade concerts. Emma is a frequent soloist with the Mad River Chorale and has also appeared in productions at Unadilla Theatre since 2015, most notably in the role of Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*. She joins us this summer having just sung the role of Joy in QuarryWorks Theater's production of *Cinderella*.

**Siena DeMink**, soprano, is a rising junior at Burlington High School, where she participated in YOC's inaugural Dido and Aeneas Project, studying the role of Dido. Siena joined YOC last season, appearing in "From Spain with Love" and "A Country Store Opera," and this is her first Project Serenade concert series. Siena has been performing musical theater since she was seven both in school productions and as an active member of the Very Merry Theater. Recent roles have included Jo (*Little Women*), Sandy Cheeks (*SpongeBob*), Sandra Bloom (*Big Fish*) and Cinderella's Mother (*Into the Woods*).

Soprano **Lili Diemer**, a rising senior at Rice Memorial High School, has performed leading roles in her high school productions, such as Cinderella in *Into the Woods* and Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*. With YOC she has been a featured soloist in "Orlofsky's Ball," "Opera 101: A day in the life," "An American in Paris," and "A Country Store Opera," numerous Project Serenade concerts and special events. She has attended Boston Conservatory at Berklee's choral/vocal intensive and songwriting workshops and was a 2024 scholarship winner in the Vermont All-State Scholarship Competition.

**Iane Jensen-Waggoner**, mezzo-soprano, completed most of her high school career at the Special Music High School in NYC and finished her senior year at Middlebury Union High School, joining YOC for the spring production of "An American in Paris" and the summer Project Serenade concert series. Currently a rising sophomore at Castleton University, where she is pursuing a BA in Music, Jane has also performed in the ensemble of the Opera Company in Middlebury in the productions of *Fidelio* and *La Fille du Régiment*.

Soprano **George Lane**, a graduate of U32 High School, is a rising junior at Wheaton College (MA) double-majoring in early education and music. They have been involved in YOC since its inception in 2019, participating in every program offered since then. Highlights include singing Spirit 1 in the professional production of *The Magic Flute* in a collaboration with Barn Opera and the role of Orlofsky in "Orlofsky's Ball." George is also a skilled administrator, recently acting as the Young Artist Program intern at the Opera Company of Middlebury and singing in the ensemble of *La Fille du Régiment*.

Bass **Lex Leikin**, a rising senior at Montpelier High School, has been performing since elementary school, most often in school and community musicals. He is a member of the Lost Nation Theater Show Choir and recently performed in *Grease* with the Chandler Center for the Arts. Lex joined YOC last year for both productions, "From Spain with Love" and "A Country Store Opera" and this is his first Project Serenade concert series.

**Celeste Pullis**, soprano, recently graduated from Essex High School and will attend Hampshire College in the fall. Celeste was the 2024 winner of the Island Arts Robert and Priscilla Rose Foley Talent award and joined YOC for this spring's production of "A Country Store Opera." At Essex, Celeste was a member and frequent soloist of the Concert and Chamber choirs. She has also been a member of an after-school a cappella ensemble and rock band and was the historian for her school's Tri-M (musical honors society).

Soprano **Wanda Sullivan**, a Harwood Union High School graduate, will be a junior at Boston University, pursuing a degree in vocal performance. With YOC, she was featured in the roles of Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance* and Adele in "Orlofsky's Ball." With the Opera Company of Middlebury, she has sung in the ensembles of *Fidelio* and *La Fille du Régiment* and was an Apprentice Young Artist and intern. At BU, she has sung the roles of Second Woman and Sailor in the Revolutionary Orchestra's concert version of *Dido and Aeneas*, has performed various opera scenes with the Opera Project, and was awarded the Claire Meeker Fellowship. Wanda will spend her fall semester at the Royal College of Music in London.



# Island Arts

Presents

Youth Opera Company  
OF OCM



Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 7:00 PM

Island Arts Center, North Hero, Vermont