

HIGH NOTES

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

2015/2016 SEASON

ACADEMY OF VOCAL ARTS



Resident Artists Jonas Hacker and Vanessa Vasquez in *Don Giovanni*. (Photo: Don Valentino)

ACADEMY OF VOCAL ARTS

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The mission of the Academy of Vocal Arts is to be the world's premier institution for training young artists as international opera soloists. Through rigorous instruction, coaching, and by presentations of Resident Artists from around the world in concerts, oratorios, public programs, and fully staged professional opera productions, the Academy trains artists with the high potential for career success while enriching lives in Philadelphia and beyond.

Founded in 1934, the Academy of Vocal Arts is the only tuition-free institution dedicated exclusively to the study of voice. When singers leave AVA, they are prepared to share their gifts with audiences of the world, fulfilling not only their own hopes and dreams, but those of AVA's wise and generous founder.

Gifted singers come from throughout the world to seek the exceptional guidance and training that the Academy of Vocal Arts offers. Admission to the tuition-free program is determined by competitive annual auditions. While hundreds apply, only 8-10 are annually accepted into the four-year program. AVA's student body is comprised of approximately 28 artists, each of whose individual training is equivalent to more than \$100,000 per year.

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www.avaopera.org

* = deceased

WELCOME

Letter from the President and Artistic Director



Dear friends,

It is my pleasure to present *High Notes*, the annual report of the Academy of Vocal Arts. The report covers our most recent fiscal year, from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. It represents a concise and accurate picture of AVA during the past year. Aside from the four professional operas and numerous concerts, recitals, lectures and informal gatherings, the Resident Artists were hard at work training and preparing, not only for the Opera Theatre season, but also for their future professional careers. The Resident Artists receive an hour of vocal training each week, in addition to many hours of vocal coaching, language lessons, stage combat lessons, and stage interpretation. Behind the success of each AVA artist stands the outstanding AVA faculty, who guide the Resident Artists through their advanced vocal training.

AVA's *Viva la Voce!* Gala was held this year at the Lincoln Hall of the Union League, where Resident Artists performed a variety of arias throughout the evening for a room full of music enthusiasts. Kimmel Center CEO Anne C. Ewers was honored with the inaugural AVA Distinguished Achievement in the Arts Award, and AVA Chairman Emeritus B.A. "Mackie" MacLean, Jr. was honored with the AVA Board of Directors Outstanding Service Award.

This has been another successful year of accomplishment at AVA. Resident Artist tenor Jonas Hacker was a finalist at this year's Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, and many other major awards were won by AVA Resident Artists this past year. We graduated four Resident Artists to promising careers in the field. Tenors Dominick Chenes and Mackenzie Whitney, soprano Marina Costa-Jackson, and mezzo-soprano Alexandra Schenck graduated with Artist Diplomas after completing four years at AVA. Tenor Galeano Salas and mezzo-soprano Allegra De Vita left to pursue professional opportunities. We wish them all well in their professional careers.

Tito Capobianco returned to direct a double bill of Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and *Il tabarro*, the final production in a season which also included Massenet's *Werther*, Montemezzi's *L'amore dei tre re*, and Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. This fall, we welcome nine new Resident Artists joining the AVA roster: two sopranos, one mezzo, four tenors and two baritones.

We hope that you had the opportunity to join us this past season to see our Resident Artists in action. We also hope that you will consider supporting us in the upcoming season, both by attending AVA performances, and supporting the tuition-free training of these outstanding young artists. Thank you for being such a valuable member of the AVA family. It is through your support that the Resident Artists and the Academy of Vocal Arts continue to enjoy great success!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "K. James McDowell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "K" and "M".

K. James McDowell
President and Artistic Director

THE YEAR IN REVIEW: THE SEASON



During the 2015-2016 Season, AVA presented over forty concerts and opera performances with approximately 10,000 attendees. The Opera Theatre Season featured a fall production of Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, staged by director Jeffrey Buchman and conducted by Maestro Macatsoris. This production was also performed at the Zoellner Arts Center at Lehigh University. This was the first time an AVA production was performed at the Zoellner Center, and it was very well-received. The winter production of Italo Montemezzi's rarely performed *L'amore dei tre re* (*The Love of Three Kings*) was presented at the Perelman Theater at the Kimmel Center and at the Haverford School's Centennial Hall. Massenet's *Werther*, which hasn't been seen at Haverford School's Centennial Hall since 1980, was directed by Dorothy Danner and conducted by Luke Housner. The final production of the season was a double bill of Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and *Il tabarro*, staged by Jeffrey Buchman and conducted by Maestro Macatsoris. Maestro Capobianco returns for the 2016-17 season as director for our season opener, Verdi's *Rigoletto*.

The AVA concert season featured the popular Giargiari Bel Canto competition, with winners soprano Vanessa Vasquez (first prize) and bass Anthony Schneider (second prize). Vanessa also won the WRTI Audience Favorite Award. Other concerts included the New Artist Recital, Farewell Recital, and *Jubilate!*, our annual Concert of Sacred Music and Oratorio Masterpieces. Additionally, AVA performed *Russian Romances*, where Resident Artists sang a selection of passionate Russian opera excerpts, accompanied by Vocal Coach Ghenady Meirson.

In order to give an inside look at the production and rehearsal process, AVA invited patrons to a series of free, pre-production lectures about each of our operas. These lectures were very popular, with over 500 people in attendance.

The 2015-2016 Opera Outreach program engaged students from twenty-five public, private, charter and home school groups across the greater Philadelphia region. A large number of long-time participants attended the performances, along with several, first-time participants. Over 1,200 students, teachers, and chaperones attended two special matinee performances of Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. Prior to each performance, comprehensive study guides were prepared to help students and teachers learn more about the history of the specific opera, as well as more general information on opera as an art form. Following each special matinee, the Resident Artists remained on stage to take questions from the eager audience members. Opera Outreach students also had the opportunity to see *L'amore dei tre re* at the Kimmel Center.

To learn more about the Academy of Vocal Arts' Opera Outreach program or to help Opera Outreach come to a school near you, contact Rebecca Carr at rcarr@avaopera.org

THE YEAR IN REVIEW: CLASS OF 2016

AVA bid a fond farewell to six Resident Artists this year. We will miss these talented singers, and look forward to following their promising careers around the world.



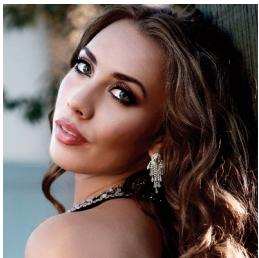
DOMINICK CHENES, TENOR

Memorable AVA roles:

Title Role, *Faust*; Rodolfo, *La bohème*; Hermann, *Pique Dame*; Gustavo, *Un ballo in maschera*

Recent: Cavaradossi, *Tosca* with Minnesota Opera

Upcoming: Don Jose, *Carmen* with Utah Opera; Rodolfo, *La bohème* with Welsh National Opera; BF Pinkerton, *Madama Butterfly*, Austin Opera



MARINA COSTA-JACKSON, SOPRANO

Memorable AVA roles:

Fiora, *L'amore dei tre re*; Marguerite, *Faust*; Mimi, *La bohème*

Recent: Amelia (cover), *Simon Boccanegra* at the Metropolitan Opera

Upcoming: Mimi, *La bohème* with Welsh National Opera and Oper Köln; Violetta, *La traviata* with Austin Lyric Opera



ALLEGRA DE VITA, MEZZO-SOPRANO

Memorable AVA roles:

Zita, *Gianni Schicchi*; Charlotte, *Werther*; Zerlina, *Don Giovanni*

Recent: *La gazza ladra* (*The Thieving Magpie*), Glimmerglass Festival

Upcoming: Cherubino, *The Marriage of Figaro*, title role in *The Dictator's Wife*, and Kate Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*, all with the Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program at Washington National Opera; Ruggiero in *Tancredi* with Opera Philadelphia

GALEANO SALAS, TENOR

Memorable AVA Roles:

Title Role, *Werther*; Avito, *L'amore dei tre re*; Rodolfo, *La bohème*

Recent: *Capriccio* and *The Girl of the Golden West* with Santa Fe Opera

Upcoming: Parpignol, *La bohème* and Lord Arturo Bucklaw in *Lucia di Lammermoor* with Bayerische Staatsoper (Munich)

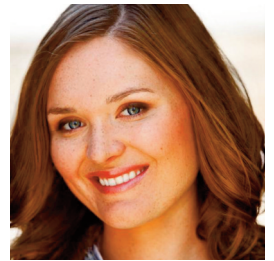


ALEXANDRA SCHENCK, MEZZO-SOPRANO

Memorable AVA Roles:

La Ciesca, *Gianni Schicchi*; Charlotte, *Werther*; Siebel, *Faust*; Zulma, *L'italiana in Algeri*; Rosette, *Manon*

Recent: *Dorabella*, *Così fan tutte* with the Merola Program at Santa Fe Opera



MACKENZIE WHITNEY, TENOR

Memorable AVA roles:

Title Role, *Werther*; Title Role, *Faust*; Rodolfo, *La bohème*; Chevalier des Grieux, *Manon*

Recent: Anthony in *Sweeney Todd* with Mill City Opera



SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2016 AT THE UNION LEAGUE

VIVA LA VOCE!



The Academy of Vocal Arts' 2016 *Viva la Voce!* Gala was a memorable evening of music as we celebrated 81 amazing years of opera training at AVA. Guests joined the Academy of Vocal Arts Faculty, Staff, and Resident Artists for this spectacular evening at the Union League. The evening started with a lovely cocktail hour, delicious dinner, along with a silent and live auction. Throughout the evening, AVA Resident Artists performed a variety of arias, accompanied by José Meléndez. The evening came to a crescendo with Champagne, desserts and dancing with music by the Jack Faulkner Orchestra. We offer our sincere thanks to everyone who supported this exciting event, under the leadership of Gala Chairs Leon L. and Fran Levy. AVA Board Member Kay Bossone once again provided the magnificent flowers and décor for the gala, and was assisted by her designer Scot Key.



Honored during the evening's festivities were Kimmel Center CEO Anne C. Ewers with the inaugural AVA Distinguished Achievement in the Arts Award, and AVA Chairman Emeritus Mackie MacLean with the AVA Board of Director's Outstanding Service Award.

The Gala Committee of the AVA Board of Directors would like to thank everyone who attended for making the event such a spectacular success! Over \$200,000 was raised for the AVA Scholarship Fund.

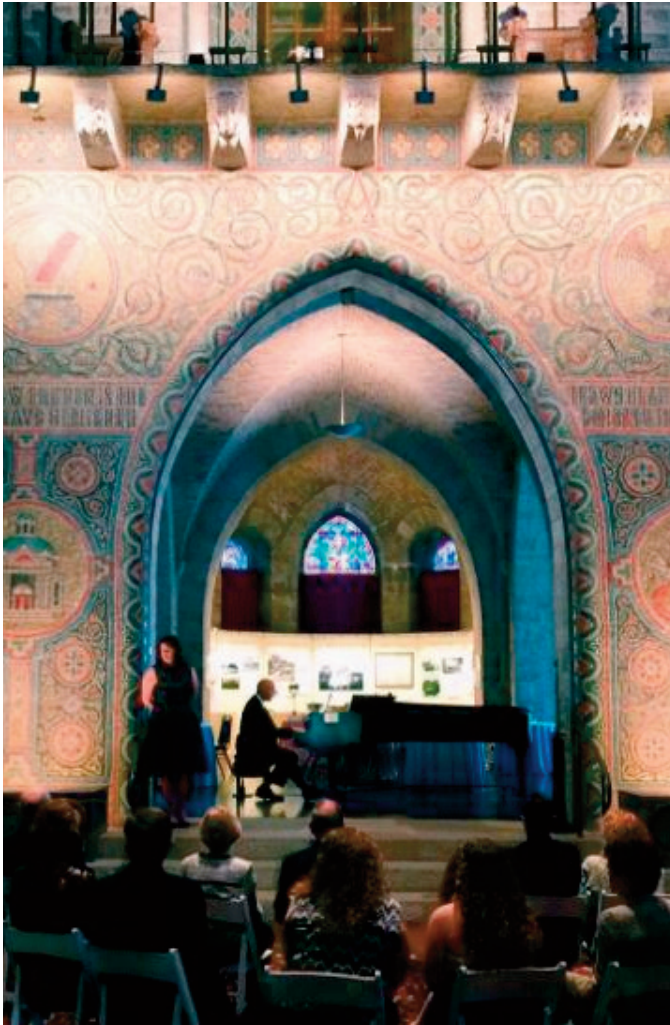
AVA would like to extend a special thank you to our corporate and foundation sponsors; Donnelly Marketing Services Associates, LLC; First Priority Bank; The Independence Foundation; KDI; Leon L. Levy and Associates; Liberty Business Strategies; Mike Paolone and Merrill Lynch; PECO; Pitcairn; The Rose Group; and WRTI 90.1FM.



**Stayed tuned for announcements
regarding AVA's 2017 Gala,
coming soon!**

Top to bottom: Kimmel Center CEO and President Anne C. Ewers being honored with the inaugural AVA Distinguished Achievement in the Arts Award (Photo: Sarah Lyon); AVA Chairman Emeritus Mackie MacLean is honored with the AVA Board of Director's Outstanding Service Award (Photo: Sarah Lyon); Resident Artists pose with AVA Board member Cindy Landreth and Charles Landreth (Photo: iLOVE Team)

ANGELS AND BENEFACTORS PARTY



AVA would like to extend a special thank you to Dick and Sally Brickman and AVA Chairman Rick Pitcairn for hosting the elegant party held at the stunning Glencairn Museum, honoring Angel and Benefactor level Gala supporters. Guests enjoyed performances by Resident Artists Dominick Chenes, Hannah Ludwig, Alexandra Nowakowski, and Anthony Schneider, who were accompanied by Luke Housner. Guests also received tours of the Glencairn Museum and admired pieces of beautiful and historic art. Thank you again to the Brickmans and Rick for hosting an incredible evening!



Top Left: AVA Resident Artist Hannah Ludwig performs, accompanied by Luke Housner

Top Right: Judy Broudy, Eli Packman, and Peggy Lyon

Left: AVA Board Chairman Rick Pitcairn, Theodore Brickman, AVA tenor Dominick Chenes, Sally Brickman, soprano Alexandra Nowakowski, mezzo Hannah Ludwig, and bass Anthony Schneider

AVA ALUMNI NEWS

BURAK BILGILI sang the role of Oroveso in Bellini's *Norma* with Florida Grand Opera, Walter in Verdi's *Luisa Miller* at Hamburg State Opera, Banquo in Verdi's *Macbeth*, and Frere Laurent in Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette* at Atlanta Opera.

STEPHEN COSTELLO will return to the Met this season to perform the role of Roméo in *Roméo et Juliette* and the Duke in *Rigoletto*. He will also sing Roméo in Seoul, South Korea with the Korea National Opera. He will perform in Dallas Opera's productions of *Moby Dick*, alongside fellow alumnus **Musa Ngqungwana**, and in *Eugene Onegin* as Lensky. He will also sing the role of Alfredo in *La traviata* at Bayerische Staatsoper this fall.

This season, **ELLIE DEHN** will sing the role of Musetta in *La bohème* at Teatro di San Carlo and with San Francisco Opera. This past summer, she sang the role of Micaëla in *Carmen* in San Francisco Opera, along with fellow alumnus **Zachary Nelson** singing the role of Escamillo.

JOYCE DIDONATO won the Grammy for Best Classical Vocal Album this year for her album *Joyce and Tony: Live at Wigmore Hall* with Antonio Pappano – this is her second Grammy win. During her busy upcoming season, she will sing the title role in *Semiramide* at Bayerische Staatsoper and Munchner Opernfestspiele, and the title role in *Ariadante* in Paris, and will perform in various concerts throughout the country.

JOYCE EL-KHOURY performed the title role in *Maria Stuarda* with Seattle Opera this winter. This season, she sang the role of Liu in *Turandot* with Opera Philadelphia and *Violetta* in *La traviata* at the Royal Opera in London. Fellow AVA alumna **Corinne Winters** will also sing the role of Violetta at the Royal Opera House in the summer of 2017.

MICHAEL FABIANO sang the title role of *Don Carlo* at San Francisco Opera this summer. He will perform the title role in *Faust* at Houston Grand Opera, and will return to the Met to sing the role of Rodolfo in *La bohème* (with fellow AVA alumna **Ailyn Pérez** singing the role of Mimì), and Alfredo in *La traviata* this season.

This fall, **OTHALIE GRAHAM** will sing the title role in *Turandot* with Edmonton Opera and Gran Teatro Nacional del Perú. In November of 2017, she will sing *Turandot* again in Málaga, Spain.

This upcoming season, **BRYAN HYMEL** will sing in a new production of *Guillaume Tell* at the Met. From there, his schedule will take him from performing the role of Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* at Teatro alla Scala in Milan, to singing the title role of *Don Carlos* at the Royal Opera House in London.

ANGELA MEADE will perform the title role in Bellini's *Norma* in Spain, and the title role in Rossini's *Ermione* in both Paris and Seville this November. She will also perform Mahler's Symphony No. 8 in Tokyo with the NHK Symphony Orchestra. She will return to the Met to perform the role of Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* and at the Met Opera's 50th Anniversary of Lincoln Center, along with fellow AVA alumni **James Morris**, **Joyce DiDonato**, and **Michael Fabiano**.

JAMES MORRIS will perform the role of Ramfis in *Aida* at the Met Opera this season, along with fellow AVA alumna **LATONIA MOORE** singing the title role.

ZACHARY NELSON will sing the role of Escamillo in *Carmen* with Den Norske Opera and Lord Enrico Ashton in *Lucia di Lammermoor* with Santa Fe Opera. An AVA tour group had the pleasure of seeing Zach and **Ellie Dehn** in San Francisco Opera's production of *Carmen*, where they also saw **Michael Fabiano** singing the title role in *Don Carlos*.

MUSA NGQUNGWANA will make his Dallas Opera debut in *Eugene Onegin* and *Moby Dick* this fall, and will also perform in *Don Giovanni* with Florentine Opera and *Tosca* with the Canadian Opera Company in Toronto.

AILYN PÉREZ was recently awarded the Beverly Sills Award, which is given to a young, promising singer at the Metropolitan Opera. This season, she will sing the role of Juliette in *Roméo et Juliette* at Santa Fe Opera, Mimì in *La bohème* at both the Met and Teatro alla Scala, and *I Capuleti e I Montecchi* in Spain. She also performed on *the Late Late Show with James Cordon*. This past spring, AVA patrons enjoyed her performance of Musetta in *La bohème*, alongside fellow AVA alumnus **Bryan Hymel** as Rodolfo, and had the opportunity to greet them both backstage after an exciting performance at the Met.

RICHARD TROXELL made his Broadway debut in *Do I Hear a Waltz?* He also recently released his latest album, *Classic Broadway*, which he will perform with the Ocean City Pops this fall.

JULIA DAWSON will sing in several productions with Opera Frankfurt this season, including Dorotea in *Stiffelio* and Countess Ceprano in *Rigoletto*. **SHELLEY JACKSON** will sing the role of Micaëla in *Carmen* at Teatro Massimo Palermo. **NICHOLAS MASTERS** will sing the role of Quince in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* throughout Italy. **CORINNE WINTERS** will sing the role of Violetta in *La traviata* with Seattle Opera, Royal Opera, and San Diego Opera this season.

ZACH BORICHEVSKY will return to the Met Opera to sing in *Manon Lescaut* as Edmondo, and will also sing the role of Alfredo in *La traviata* with Seattle Opera. **RYAN KUSTER** sang the role of Escamillo in *Carmen* in with Arizona Opera this past year. **TAYLOR STAYTON** will be singing the role of Don Ramiro in *La cenerentola* at both Opera de Lille and Den Norske Opera in Oslo. This past summer, he performed in *Barber of Seville* at Glyndebourne as Count Almaviva. **SCOTT CONNER** will be singing the role of Colline in *La bohème* with San Francisco Opera, the role of the Police Inspector in *Der Rosenkavalier* at the Royal Opera, and Nerbulone in *Eliogabalo* in Paris.



Ailyn Pérez on the Late Late Show with James Cordon

OUR AVA FAMILY

Please join us in welcoming our new AVA Board Members, Judy Broudy and Dr. Ruth G. Ryave!

NEW AVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:



JUDITH BROUDY is a former teacher and is an active traveler. She is involved with many Philadelphia arts organizations, including the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Kimmel Center, the Art Alliance and PAFA, and is a longtime supporter of all things AVA. Her travels have taken her around the world, including Africa, Europe, South America, and Asia.



DR. RUTH G. RYAVE has a successful career as a psychiatrist and has taught at Yale and the University of Pennsylvania. She was also an active Board member of Yale Hillel, New Haven Chorale, and Greenwood Music Camp. She is a member of the American Academy of Adolescent and Child Psychiatry, and the Wilderness Medicine Society.

PLEASE JOIN US IN REMEMBERING MEMBERS OF THE AVA FAMILY WHO PASSED AWAY THIS YEAR. WE WILL MISS THEM DEARLY.

DR. ROSALIE BURNS GOLDBERG, Emeritus Board Member, served on AVA's Board from November 2005 until September 2009. She provided extraordinary leadership for major AVA projects, especially through the Jacob Burns Foundation. Rosalie was also Honorary Chair at AVA's 2015 BrAVA! Concert. The Jacob Burns Foundation honored her memory by underwriting *Jubilate!* in 2016.

ADELE S. HEBB served with great distinction on the AVA Board for 17 years, from May 1997 to June 2014. Adele came to AVA as an avid volunteer in the early 90s, joined the AVA Board, and gained Emeritus status in 2014. She was proud of AVA's efforts to provide fellowships to Resident Artists to help make additional loans less necessary. She was determined in her pursuit for accreditation for AVA through the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), resulting in accreditation as a non-degree granting institution.

JULES "JULIO" MERRON served as the Chair of the Building Committee during AVA's Campus expansion into 1918 and 1916 Spruce. Jules' emeritus status recognizes his 17 years of service from October 1997 to June 2014 on AVA's Board of Directors. Jules drew upon his years of experience in business leadership positions to make significant contributions through a wide range of Board Committee assignments.

JEANNINE BOUCHARD COWLES was an AVA alumna (1950), an accomplished vocalist and business woman, a great supporter of AVA, and a most magnanimous contributor to AVA's *Raising Our Voices* campaign. She generously underwrote the Music Director Chair in honor of Maestro Macatsoris, and was also an Honorary Member of the AVA Board. During and after her time as an AVA Resident Artist, she performed in opera productions and also starred on Broadway. Jeannine was a towering presence in the Portland, Oregon music world, where she supported many organizations, such as Portland Opera, the music program at Portland State University, the Portland Orchestra and the Astoria Summer Music Festival. Jeannine will be remembered through her generous endowing of the Jeannine B. Cowles Music Director's Chair.

SUPPORTING AVA

AVA continues to thrive thanks to the valuable support of its many donors and patrons. If you love opera, a gift to the Academy is a wonderful way to invest in this vital art form. You can take pride in knowing that you are doing your part to ensure the success of the art form by supporting the Resident Artists who are the voice of opera's future.

If you would like make a donation to AVA, there are a number of ways that you can make an impact by supporting the AVA Resident Artists and the future of opera.

ANNUAL GIVING THROUGH THE FRIENDS OF AVA

The Friends of AVA are a dedicated group of supporters who, by investing in AVA's mission through annual gifts, nurture and launch the world's most promising vocal artists. Friends of AVA members have the rare opportunity of getting know the Resident Artists and artistic team personally through intimate and exclusive parties, concerts, and opera trips.

FELLOWSHIPS

AVA is the only tuition-free school in the world devoted exclusively to operatic training. All AVA Resident Artists receive the equivalent of more than \$100,000 in vocal training for each of the four years of the program. While the program has always been tuition-free, AVA now also offers fellowships to assist Resident Artists with the cost of living in Philadelphia during their training at AVA. Resident Artist fellowships can be endowed or funded on an annual basis, beginning at \$5,000 per fellowship annually.

THE HELEN CORNING WARDEN SOCIETY PLANNED GIVING

The Helen Corning Warden Society recognizes the patrons who have made a bequest or other deferred planned gift arrangement for AVA in their estate planning. Gifts can be made in a variety of ways and allow donors to make meaningful gifts that they might not otherwise be able to commit to currently. In addition to bequests, AVA accepts charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts, charitable gift annuities, life insurance, and retirement plan designations. The AVA Development Department will work with you to identify the best planned giving option for your needs.

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS

Many visibility opportunities are available to corporations through AVA opera and concert sponsorships, and through sponsorship of the annual gala, Viva la Voce! The AVA Development Department can tailor your sponsorship package to meet the unique philanthropic and marketing objectives of your business.

MATCHING GIFTS

Your employer may match your gift to AVA, either entirely or in some portion. In some instances, this may double or even triple the benefit of your gift to the Academy of Vocal Arts and its Resident Artists! Please check with your employer's benefits office to determine their matching gift requirements.

THE UNITED WAY

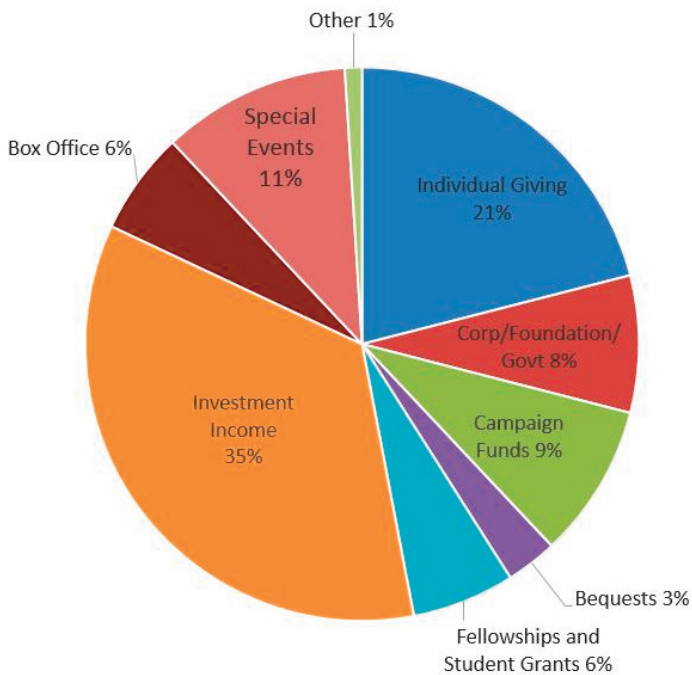
AVA's Opera Outreach program is eligible to receive individual contributions made through the United Way Specific Care Program. All you need to do is complete the top portion of your United Way form, and then find the line for SPECIFIC CARE and enter AVA's code #3164, the amount of your gift, and the eligible agency name: Academy of Vocal Arts Opera Outreach.



Former Resident Artist Galeano and Monica Salas with AVA Gala chairs Fran and Leon Levy (Photo: Sarah Lyon)

FINANCIALS 2015/2016

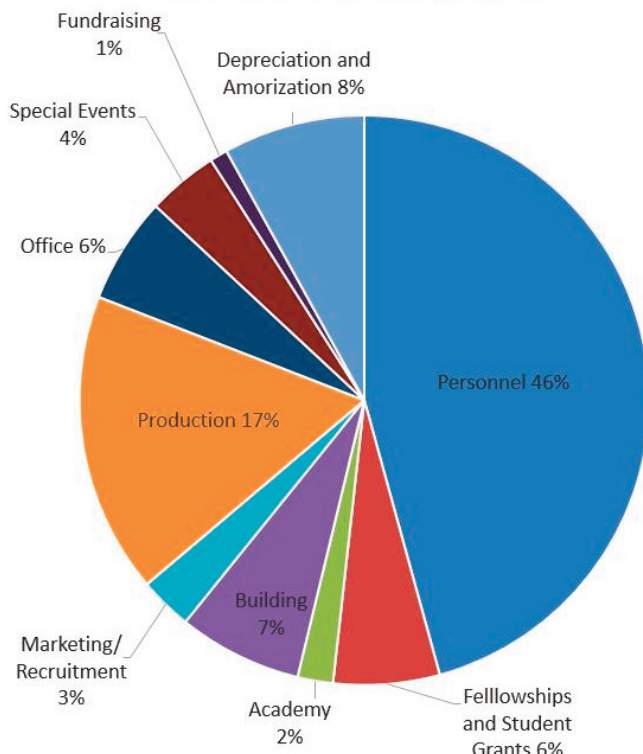
Operating Income



OPERATING INCOME \$4,003,434

Operating income consists of revenue from a variety of sources. Like many schools, the largest single revenue source for AVA is the investment income from its endowment, as provided by a spending rule that is approved each year by the AVA Board of Directors. Other sources of revenue are individual contributions, box office ticket sales, fellowships, and special events, including the annual Gala, among other sources. The biggest sources of the AVA revenue all stem from one commonality: they are all greatly influenced by the generous support of donors like you! AVA was also the recipient of several large bequests from generous donors over the fiscal year that may receive a special designation to the capital campaign.

Unrestricted Operating Expenses



UNRESTRICTED OPERATING EXPENSES \$4,039,627

The two largest expenditures that AVA has, personnel and opera theatre/production expenses, are directly related to the training program. Personnel expenses include salaries for top faculty and teachers, as well as administrative staff. The opera theatre production expense includes costs for three full-scale professional staged opera productions, in addition to any costs associated with other recitals, concerts, and piano productions.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

We would like to extend our thanks to all of our donors and contributors. No matter the size of the donation, you are doing your part to ensure the future of opera by donating to the Academy of Vocal Arts and supporting talented Resident Artists.

We would like to extend a special thank you to our generous 2015-2016 season sponsors:

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO:

Our generous 2015-16 Season Sponsors:

Walter and Alice Strine, Esqs,
sponsors of the Giargiari Bel Canto
Competition and Russian Romances

Jacob Burns Foundation and the Goldberg
Family Foundation, sponsors of *Jubilate!*,
in memory of Dr. Rosalie Burns Goldberg

Victoria Eckert Zoellner,
sponsor of *Don Giovanni*

First Priority Bank,
Intermission Reception sponsor

Kay Bossone, sponsor for
Gianni Schicchi and *Il tabarro*

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(Left) Resident Artists Karen Barazza and Alasdair Kent in *Gianni Schicchi* (Photo: Paul Sirochman);
(Right) Resident Artists in *Don Giovanni*. (Photo: Don Valentino)