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Amahl and the Night Visitors



DANCE THEATRE
OF HUNTSVILLE
CREATING PERFORMING ARTISTS SINCE 2003

AAMU Johnson Little Theatre
December 18-19 • 7p
December 20 • 4p



Director's Note

Dear Esteemed Audience,

Welcome to our production of "Amahl and the Night Visitors," a jewel of the operatic repertoire by Gian Carlo Menotti. In this brief yet profound opera, we embark on a journey of wonder and compassion, set against the timeless backdrop of Bethlehem.

As the director, my vision for this performance has been to embrace the simplicity and purity of Menotti's creation. Through a minimalist set and evocative costumes, we aim to transport you to a humble cottage where a miraculous encounter unfolds. The story revolves around Amahl, a young boy with a generous spirit, who encounters three kings on a divine quest.

The magic of this opera lies in its ability to touch the core of our humanity. Through the universal themes of kindness and sacrifice, "Amahl and the Night Visitors" becomes a poignant reflection on the transformative power of love, especially during the holiday season.

Our talented cast and crew have poured their hearts into this production, seeking to bring to life the delicate balance between humor, tenderness, and spirituality that Menotti masterfully composed. As the lights dim and the first notes resonate, I invite you to immerse yourself in the enchanting world we've created. May the spirit of Amahl's journey linger in your hearts, reminding us all of the magic that can unfold when compassion and love guide our way.

With Season's Tidings,

Sierra Hammond, Director "Amahl and the Night Visitors"

Synopsis

Amahl, a boy known for his tall tales and the occasional lie, gets around on a crutch due to his disability. As he sits outside playing his shepherd's pipe, his mother calls for him to come inside. Amahl is slow to react to his mother's commands. Finally, after several attempts to get him inside, he walks into the house. Amahl tells his mom a grand story of a giant star rising high in the sky above their house. Of course, she doesn't believe him and tells him to stop bothering her.

Once the sun has set, Amahl's mother worries about her and her son's future. Before falling asleep, she prays to God that Amahl doesn't have to turn to a life of begging. Suddenly, there's a knock at the door. Amahl's mother shouts for Amahl to answer it and Amahl happily gets out of bed. He opens then the door, and to his surprise, finds three luxuriously appointed kings. Amahl's mother shuffles to the door. Having just traveled a long distance to deliver gifts to a child of great wonders, the Magi ask for permission to stay at their home for the remainder of the night. Amahl's mother warmly ushers the three kings into her home. When she goes to get firewood, Amahl, ever inquisitive, asks the kings about their daily lives and duties. They happily oblige, and after having answered each of his questions, they ask questions of their own. He replies that he used to be a shepherd, but after a series of hardships, his mother had to sell all their sheep. He tells them that it won't be long before they turn to begging to earn a less than ideal living.

King Kaspar, with a similar personality to Amahl, opens his treasure box to show Amahl the magic stones, brightly colored beads, and candies he has brought to the Christ child. He even offers Amahl several pieces of licorice. Amahl's mother comes back to find Amahl buzzing about the kings. She holler's at him to not be a nuisance and sends him out to bring back their neighbors with hopes to entertain the kings.

Synopsis cont'd

Later that night, after the neighbors have left and the festivities have ended, the three kings take to their room and go to sleep. Amahl's mother sneaks down to the kings' unattended treasure boxes to take a few gold coins for her and her son. The kings' page wakes up to find Amahl's mother pocketing the gold and he cries out for help to catch the thief. The page jumps on Amahl's mother's back hoping to stop her. Amahl is woken up by the commotion and rushes out of his room to see his mother being attacked by the page. Immediately Amahl starts fighting the page. King Melchior is able to ease the situation, and understanding Amahl and his mother's predicament, allows them to keep the gold. He says the Christ child will not need all that gold to build his kingdom. Amahl's mother is overcome with joy when she hears of such a king and implores the Magi to take back the gold. She even offers to give a gift of her own, but sadly, she has nothing to give. Amahl, too, wishes to give a gift to the Christ child.

He offers the Magi his most valuable possession - his crutch. As soon as the crutch is handed over, Amahl's leg is healed miraculously. With his mother's permission, Amahl travels with the Magi to see the Christ child in person to offer him his crutch in thanks to healing his leg.

Program

Welcome
Opera Huntsville Team

O Holy Night
Stella Broussard, soprano
Kara Hurt, piano

“Rejoice Greatly” from *Messiah*
by G. F. Handel
Stella Broussard, soprano
Thomas Ballew, piano

Behold the Star
Kyndal Johnson
Jordyn Massey
Ryleigh Miller
Ashleigh Thompson
Alayjah Young

Amahl and the Night Visitors

Cast

Amahl | Albert “Ace” Dudley III
Mother | Iris Fordjour-Hankins
King Kaspar | Shane Kennedy
King Melchior | Willian da Silva
King Balthazar | Terrance Brown
Page | Joshua Ross

– Shepherds –
Stella Broussard • Brendan Herr
Jason McClure • Pat Register
Sarah Ruff • Kedrick Scribner

– Dancing Shepherds –
Kyndall Johnson
Jordan Massey
Ryleigh Miller

Creative Team

Stage Director | Sierra Hammond
Music Director | Dani’ca Richardson
Tech Director | Darwin Washington
Choreographer | Monique Ryan
Piano | Thomas Ballew • Kara Hurt
Vocal Coach | Dr. Iris Fordjour-Hankins

Cast



Albert "Ace" Dudley III | Amahl

Albert "Ace" Dudley III is a 12-year-old talent, the youngest child and only son of Albert II and Jessica Dudley. Ace, alongside his two older sisters, formed "The Dudbots," a dynamic trio that brought hope and inspiration during the pandemic through over 40 virtual worship performances shared worldwide.

Ace is currently a 7th grader at Oakwood Adventist Academy and recently received a Full Presidential Scholarship to Alabama A&M University following an electrifying impromptu performance at the 2024 Homecoming Gospel Explosion. Ace's journey has been marked by both challenges and triumphs. At just six years old, Ace faced a life-threatening attack during a church family camping trip, where a pit bull tore off his right eyelid. Despite the severity, God's hand was clearly over him, guiding him through emergency surgery.

Again, in October 2023, Ace overcame another significant challenge after falling into a 12-foot skate pit, breaking his wrist and fracturing his skull. Through these trials, Ace's resilience and the powerful calling on his life have shone brightly, showing that his purpose is truly unstoppable.

Ace loves sports, especially soccer, and his passion for the Lord shines through in everything he does. Known for his kindness and respect towards others, Ace is admired by children and adults alike. He is thrilled to play Amahl in "Amahl and the Night Visitors," bringing his love of music, storytelling, and faith to life on stage.



Iris Fordjour-Hankins | Mother

Dr. Iris Fordjour-Hankins is a classically trained soprano, scholar, and music educator whose work centers on vocal excellence, pedagogy, and the promotion of underrepresented composers. She earned the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Voice from the University of Kentucky in 2021 and was the second-place winner of the 2013 Alltech Vocal Scholarship Competition.

Dr. Fordjour-Hankins currently serves as Assistant Professor of Voice at Oakwood University, Adjunct Professor at Alabama A&M University, and Instructor at Valley Conservatory in Huntsville, Alabama. Her teaching philosophy is grounded in 15 years of experience as a vocal music educator in the Detroit Public Schools, which she considers foundational to her success as a collegiate pedagogue.

A committed scholar, Dr. Fordjour-Hankins believes in the transformative power of research and serves as Board Secretary for the International Florence Price Festival. She is dedicated to the advancement of new, newly discovered, and under-performed music by Black composers, advocating for their inclusion in the mainstream classical canon. Her research focuses on African American composer Evelyn Simpson-Curenton. Supported by Oakwood University research funding (2023), she continues to develop her dissertation, *Shining a Spotlight on Female African American Composer Evelyn Simpson-Curenton* (2021), exploring the composer's art songs, spirituals, and hymns. This research has been presented nationally through lecture-recitals at academic institutions and arts organizations.

As a performer, Dr. Fordjour-Hankins has appeared as a soloist, recitalist, and choral director, performing works by Strauss, Verdi, Puccini, Handel, Mozart, Wagner, and Bellini. She has performed internationally as a cultural ambassador for the University of Kentucky and Alltech. Dr. Fordjour-Hankins is married to Ernest Hankins III, and they have two children, Iman Isabella and Ernest IV (EJ), whom she considers her greatest accomplishment.



Shane Kennedy | King Kaspar

Shane Kennedy holds a Master of Music degree (2008) in vocal performance and church music from Belmont University in Nashville TN. Mr. Kennedy's operatic roles include Tamino in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* (2006), Camille de Rosillon in Lehar's *The Merry Widow* (2007) with Belmont Opera Theater, Sheriff Bill in *Georgia Bottoms* (2015) with Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, Major General in *Pirates of Penzance* (2015) with Theatre Huntsville, Rodolfo in *La Boheme* (2016), The Lamplighter in *The Little Prince* (2017), Gherardo in *Gianni Schicchi* (2018) with Ars Nova Huntsville, Alfred in *Die Fledermaus* (2023) and King Kaspar in *Amahl and the Night Visitors* (2023-25) with Opera Huntsville. In 2022, Mr Kennedy served as music director for Opera Huntsville's presentation of Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'amore*. His musical theater roles include Frankie Cavalier in *Pageant* (2004, 2015), Officer Lockstock in *Urinetown* (2009) with Renaissance Theater, Max Detweiler in *The Sound of Music* (2010) and Sir Robin in *Spamalot* (2023) with Theatre Huntsville, Gomez in *Addams Family* (2014) with Independent Musical Productions. Mr. Kennedy has also performed numerous oratorio and classical solos from Handel (*Messiah, Chandos Anthems*), Bach (*Magnificat, Cantatas*), Mozart (*Requiem, Solemn Mass, Mass in C*), Beethoven (*Symphony 9*) Dubois (*Seven Last Words of Christ*), and Schumann (*Dichterliebe*). Mr. Kennedy serves as Worship and Fine Arts Associate at Trinity UMC in Huntsville, since 2002, directing handbells, the Trinity Handbell Quartet, youth choir and youth praise band. He is the artistic director of the Heritage Ringers of Huntsville, and the current president of the board at Opera Huntsville. Mr. Kennedy was a member of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus 1997-2002.



Willian da Silva | King Melchior

The Brazilian bass-baritone Willian da Silva is currently pursuing a degree in Music Performance at Samford University, where he studies under the guidance of Dr. Chris Withrow. He began his musical training at the Anthenor Navarro State School of Music in Brazil with Sara Martins and later continued at the Federal University of Paraíba with Dr. Vianey Santos. Before transferring to Samford, he studied at Mississippi State University, where he was a student of Peter Infanger.

Willian has appeared as a soloist in celebrated masterpieces, including Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* and Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy*. He performed the role of Sarastro in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* with Mississippi State Opera. In 2022, Willian was honored to receive a full scholarship from Internationale Chorakademie Lübeck and Mozarteum Brasileiro to attend the Canto Mozarteum Academy, an intensive summer program where he studied with Dutch baritone Marcel Boone, Professor of Singing at the Hochschule für Musik Basel.

In 2025, Willian earned First Place in the Starkville/MSU Symphony Solo Artist Competition. He also won First Place and the Mississippi District Governor's Award at the NATS Mississippi Chapter Conference, followed by First Place at the NATS Southern Region Auditions, and ultimately First Place at the NATS National Student Auditions, held at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA — a major milestone in his emerging career.

With a passion for expressive performance and artistic growth, Willian is committed to a professional singing career and to sharing the transformative power of music with audiences around the world!



Terrance Brown | King Balthazar

American Baritone Terrance Brown currently serves as Dean, Potter College of Arts and Letters at Western Kentucky University. He is a native of West Blocton, Alabama. Dr. Brown was awarded a Bachelor of Music degree from Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, and Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from Louisiana State University. Dr. Brown has quickly made a name for himself as a versatile singer and conductor. An active teacher and stage performer, Dr. Brown has traveled extensively throughout the United States and Europe as a concert artist, recitalist, and operatic artist. He is known for his rich, lyrical baritone voice that can perform a variety of musical styles.



Joshua Ross | Page

Joshua Ross is proud to be returning as the Page in Opera Huntsville's production of Amahl and the Night Visitors. He previously played Peek/Baby Bear in the early 2023 production of Goldie B. Locks and the Three Singing Bears and Dudley in Little Red's Most Unusual Day in early 2024. He currently works as a tooling structural engineer at an aerospace company in town. While in university for engineering, he was a part of multiple choirs, produced and performed two solo art song recitals, and was on the stage for three operas, with his debut role being Dr. Blind in Die Fledermaus. He was previously in the vocal studios of Mindy Ammons, Maya Osuga, and Robert Brandt. He married his amazing wife Julie earlier this year, and they have a cat and a dog together.



Stella Broussard | Shepherd

Soprano Stella Broussard, based in the Southeastern United States, is a versatile performer and dedicated educator committed to sharing the power of music and storytelling with diverse audiences. She recently made her professional debut with Druid City Opera, covering the role of Berta in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*. Her favorite stage credits include Gertrude in *Hansel and Gretel*, La Fée in Viardot's *Cendrillon*, Adina in Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore*, and Belinda in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*.

In Fall 2025, Stella appeared with Opera Huntsville in their Opera Bytes concert series and will perform in the company's upcoming production of *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. A recent finalist in Mobile Opera's Madame Rose Palmai-Tenser Scholarship Competition, she holds a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Alabama, where she studied with Dr. Paul Houghtaling.

In addition to her performance career, Stella serves as a teaching artist with Fantasy Playhouse Children's Theater and Academy in Huntsville, Alabama, where she has taught since 2017. She recently held the position of Music Director for *SpongeBob the Musical Jr.* and continues her work as a lead teaching artist, inspiring and mentoring young performers.

Stella's artistry and teaching reflect her deep belief in opera's ability to inspire, educate, and connect communities both on and off the stage.



Brendan Herr | Shepherd

Brendan Herr, baritone and Chicagoland native, is making his first appearance with Opera Huntsville. His recent engagements include working with companies such as The Center For The Arts, Memorial Opera House, Franklin Light Opera, and the Nashville Symphony. He also sings as a vocal artist in the choral ensemble Voix d'Été, which recently performed at Indiana's Music Education Association (IMEA) Professional Development Conference in Fort Wayne. Outside of classical voice, Brendan also performed at the CMA's Christmas special airing on ABC and Hulu/Disney+. In the world of musical theater, his recent notable roles include Action in West Side Story and Frankie Epps in Parade. Brendan studied Vocal Performance and Psychology at Belmont University. There, he appeared as Conte Robinson in Il Matrimonio Segreto.



Jason McClure | Shepherd

Jason McClure is a vocalist and artist who focuses on building bridges between people through song, melding classical and jazz elements with new ideas from the modern era to connect with people of every age and generation.

He has been studying voice for 15 years, was Huntsville's All-City Outstanding Choral Student in 2012, holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Montevallo, has studied abroad in Oxford with Music Across the Pond, and now teaches voice and piano lessons in addition to performing for his community. He also writes music once in a blue moon, and is currently getting ready to begin a master's program to accompany his bachelor's in Vocal Performance.



Pat Register | Shepherd

Pat Register, originally from Florence, Alabama, holds a Master's in Music Vocal Performance from Arkansas State University and a Bachelor's in Art in Music from the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH).

While at UAH, she performed solos in pieces like Mozart's *Coronation Mass* and *Regina Coeli*. With the Arkansas State Opera Theatre, she performed roles including "Ludmilla" in *Bartered Bride*, "Ciesca" in *Gianni Schicchi*, "Abess" in *Suor Angelica*, and "Rosalinde" in *Die Fledermaus*. She is a two-time NATS competition winner (Mississippi, 2012; Arkansas, 2008).

Her roles with Ars Nova include "Zita" in *Gianni Schicchi*, "Lola" in *Calvalleria Rusticana*, and "The Witch" in *Hansel and Gretel*. Mrs. Register has taught voice at Alabama A&M University and privately.

She is an active performer with Opera Huntsville, where she has appeared as the "Narrator" and "Trouble Man" in *Jack in the Beanstalk* and served as the apprentice for "Dr. Dulcamara" in *L'elisir d'amore*. She is currently studying with Dr. Iris Fordjour-Hankins. She is married to Justin Register with two children, Anna and Matthew, and expresses gratitude to God, her family, and her voice teachers: Mrs. Linda Poe Young, Dr. Ginger Beazley, Dr. Terrance Brown, and Dr. Iris Fordjour-Hankins.



Kedrick Scribner | Shepherd

Kedrick Scribner (Tenor) is a native of Baltimore, Maryland, and a Senior at Alabama A&M University (AAMU) pursuing a degree in Entrepreneurship. A standout student-leader, Kedrick is an inaugural member of AAMU President Dr. Daniel K. Wims's premier touring performance group, "The Bulldog Beat." His recent credits also include voice acting and starring as the lead character in the storybook play *Anansi the Spider*—a collaborative production between AAMU and Fantasy Playhouse Children's Theater & Academy.

Deeply committed to global community equity, Kedrick serves as the Director of Programs for The Kedrick Scribner Foundation. In this role, he leads strategic initiatives and fosters partnerships to support underserved populations both locally and internationally, specifically serving communities in Lagos, Nigeria. His work focuses on identifying systemic needs and securing the resources necessary to bridge gaps in education and community welfare.

On the stage, Kedrick is delighted to return to Opera Huntsville for his second production of *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, rejoining the company this season as a member of the Shepherd's Chorus (Sextet). Kedrick is a firm believer in the transformative power of performance and its ability to build community. He extends his sincere thanks to his family, his mentors at Alabama A&M, and the Huntsville arts community for their continued support.

Creative Team



Sierra Hammond | Stage Director

Sierra Hammond is a soprano from Dallas, Texas. She earned her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from Oakwood University in 2014 and her Master of Music from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. While in Knoxville, she performed with the University of Tennessee Opera Theatre and Knoxville Opera, appearing in productions including *La Bohème*, *The Crucible*, *Don Giovanni*, *The Consul*, *Mefistofele*, and *Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria*.

Sierra has been actively involved with Opera Huntsville since 2018, currently serving as Production Manager and previously as Board President. She made her stage directing debut in 2019 with Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief*. As a performer with Opera Huntsville, she has appeared in productions such as *The True Story of Cinderella*, *Gilbert and Sullivan in Rocket City*, and *Bremen Town Musicians*.

In addition to her work in Huntsville, Sierra continues to build an active directing career. She recently served as assistant director for the world premiere of Leslie Burrs's *I Can't Breathe* with Marble City Opera and was subsequently invited to co-direct its West Coast premiere with Pacific Opera Project in Los Angeles.

Sierra is currently on faculty at Alabama A&M University in the Vocal Studies Area and resides in Huntsville, Alabama.



Dani/ca Richardson | Music Director

Originally from Central Illinois, Dani'ca Richardson holds a Master of Music degree from Northern Illinois University with an emphasis in Wind Conducting.

From 2018- 2021, Dani'ca worked with Charlottesville Opera as their Assistant Maestra for their productions of *Le Nozze di Figaro* by W.A. Mozart, *Into the Woods* by Stephen Sondheim, *Carman* by Georges Bizet, *Camelot* by Lerner and Loewe, and *La Bohème* by Giacomo Puccini.

Recently, Dani'ca was the Music Director for Athens State Universities productions of *Evil Dead the Musical* and *Green Day's American Idiot*. Dani'ca has also been a Guest Conductor for the NIU Philharmonic Orchestra with Gene Pokorny as the Tuba soloist, the Illinois Music Education Association Large Ensemble Festival in DeKalb, IL, and with the NIU Wind Ensemble at the Great Plains Tuba, Euphonium Conference, as well as at the Indiana Music Education Conference. Dani'ca has also been a Participating Conductor at the Kent State University Conducting Symposium as well as the NIU Conducting Symposium. While at NIU, Dani'ca also served as conductor with the Fermi Community Orchestra Flute Choir in Batavia, IL, and Co-Conductor for the NIU Wind Symphony, as well as Assistant Maestra for the NIU Opera Theatre productions of *Amelia Goes to the Ball* and *The Medium* by Gian Carlo Menotti.

Currently, Dani'ca is living in Decatur, AL with her husband, and is a member of and the Assistant Conductor for the Madison Community Band. Dani'ca is a proud member of WBDI, NAFME, and Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity.



Darwin Washington | Tech Director

DARWIN O. WASHINGTON is a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel with 20 years of service. He received a BA degree from Hampton Institute (university) in Hampton, VA. During his years as a member of the Hampton Players, Darwin developed a love for live theatre and the skills of a theatre technician – lighting, sound and set construction. Through-out his years of military service, Darwin has been active in community theatre and live music in the American Theatre in Wiesbaden, West Germany; Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort Richardson, Alaska; Fort Monmouth, New Jersey; and Hampton, Virginia. He has been lighting designer, sound technician, or technical director for such productions as; “Godspell”, “Two Gentleman of Verona”, “J.C. Superstar”, “Fiddler on the Roof”, “Barefoot in the Park”, “Hobbit”, “Wizard of OZ”, “Rain Maker”, “Man of LaMancha”, and “The Parable of the Biscuit and the Gravies”.

Darwin is volunteering as Technical Director for the Johnson Theatre, Alabama A&M University. He has provided technical support for university productions of; “The Wiz”, “The Tempest”, “Twelfth Night”, and “Much Ado About Nothing”. He also did the set design for the Fantasy Playhouse production “Freedom Riders”. He did the lighting for the Theatre Huntsville production “Mountaintop”.

Darwin also serves as the Director of the Media Ministry, Saint John AME Church, Huntsville, Alabama. He supervises a team of volunteers to provide audio, video, lighting, and streaming services.



Monique Ryan | Choreographer

Monique Ryan is the Artistic Director of DanceAll Productions, Inc. and Dance Theatre of Huntsville. She moved to Huntsville from Atlanta, Georgia, where she choreographed and performed with the nationally known dance company Atlanta Ballet, Total Dance / Dancical Productions, and The Patdro Harris Co. Her extensive training comes from a long list of master instructors from all around the world. Her choreography and style have been enjoyed by several audiences throughout the nation as well as North Alabama. She has been invited to share her love for the art of dance with several public school programs and arts organizations. The goal of Dance Theatre of Huntsville is to touch a heart, open a mind, and lift the spirits of audiences nationwide. Monique was named one of eight State of Alabama artists honored for the 2024 Arts Impact Awards. These artists were honored individuals who have made unique and meaningful contributions to arts in Alabama.



Thomas Ballew | Piano I

An Alabama native, Thomas Ballew graduated cum laude from Samford University in 2014 and received a B.M. in Piano Performance. Since then, he has worked as an accompanist and repetiteur in Birmingham, Chicago, Philadelphia and Atlanta for the likes of renowned mezzo-soprano Isabel Leonard and baritone Marcus DeLoach, among others. He served on faculty at Oglethorpe University in Atlanta from 2021 until 2025, at which point he moved to the Huntsville area.

In addition to being a musician, Thomas is also a filmmaker. In 2019, he released a collection of short films through Vimeo On Demand entitled My Trilogy which features his wife, producer/actress Laura Ballew. Thomas is in post-production for a short film entitled "Quiet Nights," a coming-of-age story about a young composer who finds inspiration at a summer music camp. He and Laura are also developing a feature-length film called Thus Saith the Lord, a biblical epic set in modern-day Las Vegas. They live in Madison, AL and have three children — Lucas, Janey and Ingrid.



Kara Hurt | Piano II

Growing up, Kara studied piano under Laura Rasnick for ten years before continuing her love for the instrument in college. At the University of Alabama in Huntsville, she had the honor of studying piano under Dr. Melody Ng and Dr. Steven DiBlasi, earning a B.A. in Music with an emphasis in Piano Pedagogy.

During her time at UAH she had the honor of performing on stage many times, including in a masterclass with renowned performing artist Katherine Chi, in the UAH Music Competition, with string and wind ensembles, and for audiences in Beijing via the first trans-pacific performance on UAH's Yamaha DCFX piano.

Kara calls Huntsville home and teaches piano full-time at Colors Fine Arts and The Huntsville Strings Shop. When she is not busy picking out new Beethoven repertoire for students, she is playing the piano for weddings, open houses, musicals, singer/songwriter nights, churches and special events. Outside of work, Kara loves to sing harmony to Spotify while driving and crush it on the pickleball court. It is her thrill and honor to fill the role of piano II for Amahl and the Night visitors with Opera Huntsville this season!



HUNTSVILLE MASTER CHORALE



2025-2026 Season Hispanidad

Celebrating music of the Americas and Spain with guest performances by the Columbia High School Mariachi Band and featuring dancers from FlamencoHuntsville.
October 19, 2025 3:00 p.m. Columbia High School Theater in Research Park

George Frideric Handel **Messiah**

In collaboration with the Huntsville Community Chorus performing the 1742 oratorio *Messiah*.
December 1, 2025 7:30 p.m. Dream Theater

Choral Composition Contest

Our 9th annual choral composition contest encourages the creation of original choral compositions.
Due November 30, 2025

Singing in the Brain

Workshop and Master Class with Dr. Heidi Moss Erickson
February 28, 2026, at the Moon Center
10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Workshop 1:00 p.m.—2:00 p.m. Master Class

Huntsville Chamber Music Guild presents **Nathan Laube, organist**

Huntsville Master Chorale will perform with Nathan Laube under the baton of Dr. Adam Turner.
April 12, 2026 3:00 p.m. Trinity United Methodist Church

Choral Festival 2026

Huntsville Choral Festival draws vocalists from the Southeast region to join in a mass choir with internationally-acclaimed clinician Z. Randall Stroope.
Festival May 29-30, 2026 Trinity United Methodist Church

Captivating

Inspiring

Passionate



Visit HSVMasterChorale.org for more details and to arrange your audition to sing with us!

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Special Thanks

Alabama A&M University
Dance Theatre of Huntsville
Fantasy Playhouse

Opera Huntsville Team

Sierra Hammond | Artistic Director
Kenisha Hill Phillips | Executive Director
Shannon Rose McCauliffe | Grants Specialist



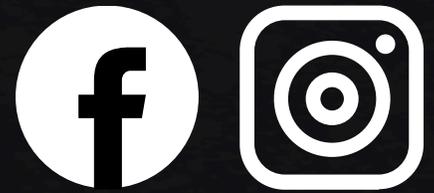
OPERA HUNTSVILLE



2025-2026
SEASON



CONNECT



Amahl and the
Night Visitors
December 18-20

Opera Bytes
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Radio Hour
April 16-18

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