

# Kentucky Bach Choir

## Audrey Rooney Vocal Competition

Previous prize winners include:

- **Erica Intilangelo**, soprano, who in 2016 completed her Master's Degree in Vocal Performance at the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati. She now lives in Connecticut and commutes to New York for auditions. Her recent roles include La Fée in Massenet's *Cendrillon*, Ilia in Mozart's *Idomeneo*, and Carolina in Cimarosa's *Il matrimonio segreto* (Cincinnati Chamber Opera). In 2017 she attended the Crested Butte Music Festival and sang the roles of Alexis in Offenbach's *L'île de Tulipatan* and Nella in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*. She will be an Apprentice Artist at Sarasota Opera in Florida from January through the end of March 2018.
- **Eric Jurenas**, counter-tenor, also a graduate of CCM, has just completed a season in Europe with performances at the Komische Oper Berlin, Wiener Staatsoper, Royal Opera House - Covent Garden, and Theater an der Wien. This season he will appear in New York City on Broadway as the 'Voice of Farinelli' in *Farinelli and the King* alongside Sir Mark Rylance, after which he will return to Europe for additional opera productions, a solo recital at the Palace of Versailles, and a world-premiere concert with Daniel Barenboim. Mr. Jurenas had previously participated in NATS competitions as a baritone, but made his public debut as a counter-tenor at the Audrey Rooney Vocal Competition.
- **Angela Carr**, soprano, received her Doctor of Arts degree in Voice Performance from Ball State University in 2015. Now a resident of Nashville, she teaches voice at both Belmont University and Lipscomb University. She also regularly performs with Music City Baroque and in the annual BACHAnalia concerts in Nashville. Ms. Carr is a member of NATS and volunteered during the Mid-South NATS Regional auditions at Belmont in 2017.

Since the 1960s Audrey Rooney has been active in the arts. An alto in the early seasons of the Lexington Singers, she continued her avocation in Pennsylvania and Delaware, where she studied voice, sang mezzo roles with Gilbert and Sullivan troupes, and performed with the Delaware Singers, a 16-voice professional choir. Returning to Lexington, she was an ensemble member and occasional soloist with the University of Kentucky Collegium Musicum. In 1987 she joined a summer workshop in Siena, Italy, performing Vivaldi's *Gloria* in the cathedral and arias in Tuscan hill towns. For the Maryland State Arts Council, Ms. Rooney served on yearly panels reviewing grants to non-profit chorales and opera companies; chaired the Marketing committee for Chesapeake Chamber Music and edited its newsletter, *Interlude*. She and husband James were among the initial donors to the

Chesapeake Chamber Music Competition, now a global draw. On a smaller scale, she co-chaired Kent County Chamber Music, bringing artists from Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Wilmington to play in an idyllic country church and helped audition high school musicians for scholarships awarded by the Queen Anne's County Arts Council. Presently she studies voice with Phyllis Jenness and belongs to "Be a Better Singer," a program founded by Ms. Jenness.

Founded in 2007 as the Lexington Bach Choir, the Kentucky Bach Choir exists for the purposes of: performing the music of Johann Sebastian Bach and other master composers of like stature; enlightening, entertaining and educating audiences about the life and work of Johann Sebastian Bach and similar master composers; presenting musical works through the single and combined talents of chorus and orchestra; and providing professional performing opportunities with high artistic standards for exceptional singers and instrumentalists.

Learn more at: <http://kentuckybachchoir.org>

-Marlon Hurst, artistic director