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## THE SANTA FE OPERA ANNOUNCES 78 MEMBERS OF THE 2019 SEASON APPRENTICE PROGRAM FOR THEATER TECHNICIANS

**SANTA FE, NM** — The Santa Fe Opera is delighted to announce the members of its 2019 Season **Apprentice Program for Theater Technicians**. This season's program is comprised of technicians, designers and craftspeople from across New Mexico, the wider United States, South America, England and China. The 78 individuals were selected from a pool of more than 900 applicants through a competitive screening and interview process by the Opera's Production Department Heads. Santa Fe Opera Production and Recruiting Coordinator **Tracy Armagost** facilitates the program, which includes recruitment, hiring and programming for each season.

Established in 1965, the Apprentice Program for Theater Technicians has since provided intermediate and advanced instruction and practical experience to young technicians in all aspects of stage operations. Among the first of its kind in America, now more than 3,500 aspiring technicians have participated in the internationally recognized program. Former Technical Apprentices have gone on to careers as professional technicians and designers for both stage and film work; others work in production at opera, theater and ballet companies worldwide. Recently of note is former Technical Apprentice **Ruth E. Carter**, who made record books earlier this year as the first African American to win the **Academy Award for Best Costume Design** for her work on ***Black Panther***. This season, former Technical Apprentice **Shawna Lucey** returns to direct ***The Pearl Fishers*** and former Technical Apprentice **JAX Messenger** will make his Santa Fe Opera debut as the Lighting Designer for ***Così fan tutte***.

Each season, Technical Apprentices perform a variety of backstage functions within one of seven separate running crews: Audio/Visual, Costumes, Electrics, Production/Music Services, Properties, Scenery, and Wigs and Makeup. These crews carry out the majority of work on daily changeovers between the season's five operas. Technical Apprentices also fill positions crucial to the live running of productions. In addition, this year's apprentices will produce two fully-staged and costumed **Apprentice Scenes** on August 11 and 18, 2019, allowing them to showcase their work to the public. Each participant will also have the opportunity to work with the Opera's production staff of experienced designers, master technicians and craftspeople from theaters, opera companies and universities across the globe. In some cases, production staff are themselves former Technical Apprentices who credit the program as instrumental to their professional advancement.

**COSTUMES**

Serena Bunn, Cypress, Texas  
 Chun Kang Chen, Jualien, Taiwan\*  
 Ana Belen Cobos, League City, Texas\*  
 Naomi Beetlestone Detre, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
 Olivia Dilworth, Silver Spring, Maryland  
 Carolyn Doerr, Eagle River, Wisconsin  
 Maggie Drake, Rochester, New York  
 Mikeaela Fish, Terra Haute, Indiana  
 Blake James, Denton, Texas  
 Alexa Marron, Chandler, Arizona  
 Jacob Miller, Versailles, Kentucky  
 Sarah Moloney, Fort Wayne, Indiana  
 Olivia Pauline Murrow, Boulder, Colorado\*  
 Darby Newsome, Northborough, Massachusetts  
 John Polles, Albuquerque, New Mexico  
 Maria Laura Sandoval, Lima, Peru  
 Hannah Schatzle, Santa Fe, New Mexico  
 Danielle Silfies, Breinigsville, Pennsylvania  
 Elizabeth Spilsbury, Silver Spring, Maryland\*  
 Becca Updyke, Denver, Colorado  
 Elizabeth Verslues, Holts Summit, Missouri\*  
 Annie Yonge, Fairhope, Alabama\*

**ELECTRICS**

Will Elphingstone, Dallas, Texas  
 Christopher Ferranti, Edison, New Jersey  
 Hannah L. Mackey, Buffalo, New York  
 Megan Mahoney, Vista, California  
 Loren Marks, Brookfield, Wisconsin  
 Kelly Sandoval, Santa Fe, New Mexico  
 Jonah Schnell, St. Louis, Missouri\*  
 Landry Strickland, Wylie, Texas

**ELECTRONIC LIBRETTO SYSTEM**

Ian Gilliam, Silver City, New Mexico

**PRODUCTION/MUSIC SERVICES**

Briana Garcia, Clarksville, Tennessee  
 Jillian Stacer, Northville, Michigan  
 Collin Sterne, Boone, North Carolina

**PRODUCTION/MUSIC SERVICES (CONTINUED)**

Tara Tolar-Payne, Thornton, Colorado

**PROPERTIES**

Tessa Broyles, Olathe, Kansas\*  
 Kelly Edwards, Boise, Idaho\*  
 Katie Gallegos, Albuquerque, New Mexico  
 Madeline Goddard, Montpelier, Vermont  
 Adam Hooper, Gainesville, Georgia\*  
 Itzel Martinez, El Paso, Texas\*  
 Bailie Molsberry, Santa Rosa, California  
 Caitlynn Sandoval, Tyler Texas  
 DJ Shabansky, Denver, Colorado  
 Paul Smith, Asheboro, North Carolina  
 Shasta Stewart, Callahan, California  
 Evan Streshinsky, Richmond, California  
 Jacob Sullivan, Snohomish, Washington\*

**SCENERY**

Melia Boudreau, Collinsville, Connecticut  
 Robert Dooley, Indianapolis, Indiana  
 S. Layne Ely, Centennial, Colorado  
 Zachary Finch, Round Rock, Texas  
 Cole Frizzo, Glen Carbon, Illinois  
 Andy Glischinski, Shoreview, Minnesota  
 Savannah Gunton, Tucker, Georgia  
 Tyler Lang, Wichita, Kansas  
 Tamara Morris-Thompson, Derbyshire, England  
 Alivia G. Olson, Rapid City, South Dakota  
 Amanda Pusateri, Nile, Illinois  
 Ash Puskarich, Dallas, Texas  
 Úna Rafferty, Tenafly, New Jersey  
 B. Rafidi, Phoenix, Arizona  
 Payton Smith, New Orleans, Louisiana  
 Kevin Upham, Holland, Ohio  
 Brandon Wasem, Phoenix, Arizona  
 Dylan Weston, Johnson City, Tennessee

\*Second-year Apprentice Technician

**SCENIC ART**

Jacob Caire, El Paso, Texas\*  
Delia Revard, Bradenton, Florida\*  
Petra Stoppel, Petoskey, Michigan

**SOUND**

Araceli Ramirez, El Dorado, Arkansas\*  
Melanie Montgomery, Farmington Hills, Michigan  
Cameron Rhea, Carmel, Indiana

**STAGE CARPENTRY**

Avery Hunt, Rockville, Maryland\*  
Natalie Kandra, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**WIGS AND MAKEUP**

Emma Grace Gustafson, St. Paul, Minnesota\*  
Chloe Rae, Amherst, Ohio  
Lily Komarow, Vienna, Virginia  
Jessi Ann Rogers, Huntsville, Alabama

\*Second-year Apprentice Technician

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*The mission of the Santa Fe Opera is to advance the operatic art form by presenting ensemble performances of the highest quality in a unique setting with a varied repertory of new, rarely performed, and standard works; to ensure the excellence of opera's future through apprentice programs for singers, technicians, and arts administrators; and to foster an understanding and appreciation of opera among a diverse public.*

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