



April 2, 2011 • John Burroughs High School • Burbank, CA

ADJUDICATORS

ADVANCED-MIXED

RICHARD BIEVER is a 27-year veteran of the musical theater, with an MFA in Directing for the Musical Theatre Stage from Penn State University and a Bachelor's in voice and choral conducting from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. With actress wife Heidi, Mr. Bieber co-founded "Singing Onstage Studios" a musical theater training school and production company in State College, PA, and New York, NY, producing 20 shows a year with students, ages 5-18. Recent professional readings for "Singing Onstage" include a revival of the Hamlisch/Ashman musical "Smile" and the new musical "Harmony, Kansas" by Bill Nelson and Anna Jacobs. As an actor and music director, Bieber has toured with national and international productions of "West Side Story," "Little Shop of Horrors" and "Oil City Symphony." He is a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers and the Dramatists Guild. His proudest productions are his marriage to Heidi and his three children: Marshall (17), Madeline (14) and Olivia (6).

President of Los Angeles-based SDG Productions, producer, director and choreographer **SCOTT D.**

GROSSMAN has 49 live prime-time television specials, 12 feature films and 85 live theater productions to his credit, including three Super Bowl Halftime Shows, 15 years of Miss Universe and Miss USA, *Raising Helen*, *Miss Congeniality* and *Princess Diaries* I & II. Grossman has been Department Director, Choreography for both NBC/Universal and CBS Television and producer/project manager for The Trump Organization and Paramount Pictures/Television Productions. Corporate clients of SDG Productions include Coca-Cola, Holland-America, Madison Square Garden Productions and Universal Studios Japan. He is a past nominee for - and past director of - The American Choreography Awards.

Bass Baritone **DANIEL OKULITCH** first came to national attention on Broadway as Schaunard in Baz Luhrmann's production of *La Bohème*. He has since begun an international career with opera companies and orchestras throughout Europe and North America. His signature roles include the title roles in *Don Giovanni* (New York City Opera) and *Le Nozze di Figaro* (Los Angeles Opera), Joseph DeRocher in *Dead Man Walking*, Willy Wonka in *The Golden Ticket* and Olin Blicht in *Susannah*. In 2008 Okulitch created the role of Seth Brundle in the new opera *The Fly*, composed by Howard Shore, libretto by David Henry Hwang, directed by David Cronenberg, and conducted by Plácido Domingo. His debut solo album, "The New American Art Song" was just released by GPR Records, highlighting the work of composers Ricky Ian Gordon (*My Life with Albertine*, *The Grapes of Wrath*), Jake Heggie (*Dead Man Walking*, *Moby Dick*), Lowell Liebermann (*The Picture of Dorian Grey*) and Glen Roven (*Goodnight Moon*)

(MORE)

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For 28 years, **MARY RAGO** was director of the Vocal Music Association at John Burroughs High School, Burbank, California. With an outstanding staff of choreographers and musicians, Mrs. Rago's choirs were regularly acclaimed for their excellence in both concert and show choir mediums, capturing championships and many top honors at both FAME and Showstoppers show choir competitions, as well as the southern California show choir circuit. She has also taught choral music at John Muir Junior High School and Providence High School in Burbank, Visitation School in Los Angeles and in K-8 schools in Chicago. A native of Burbank, Mrs. Rago received her BA from Mundelein College, Chicago, Illinois; the MME from University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana; and the MA from Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, California. She has been recognized with Teacher of the Year Awards from the Los Angeles County Music Educators and the Burbank Unified School District, Woman of the Year from the Burbank chapter of Zonta International, and as a finalist for the prestigious Los Angeles Music Center Bravo Award. Mrs. Rago now enjoys time with her husband, Carl, RV-ing across the states, while continuing to contribute to the national and local choral scene as clinician and adjudicator.

GLEN ROVEN began his Broadway career as a rehearsal pianist for *Pippin* while still in high school, and at nineteen was the musical director of Broadway's *Sugar Babies*. He made his Carnegie Hall debut conducting his Violin Concerto based on *The Runaway Bunny*, with Glenn Close and the American Symphony Orchestra, recorded later with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra for Sony/BMG. He has conducted The Israel Philharmonic, the National Symphony, the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, The Munich Philharmonic, The Radio Luxembourg Orchestra, and many others. A four-time Emmy winner, Roven has produced for Julie Andrews, Placido Domingo, Renee Fleming, Aretha Franklin, Whitney Houston, Michael Jackson, Quincy Jones, and Patti LaBelle, to name a few. Other career highlights include conducting four Presidential Inaugurations, and the final television appearances for both Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis, Jr. A partner in GPR Records, Mr. Roven just celebrated the release of opera star Daniel Okulitch's debut solo CD, "The New American Art Song," with a Carnegie Hall recital on March 28, 2011.

SOLO COMPETITION

Having studied voice at Oberlin and Julliard, **REID BRUTON** has appeared as soloist with the Los Angeles Opera in *Salome*, *Billy Budd*, *Carmen*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *La Boheme* (with Placido Domingo conducting), *La Traviatta*, *Rigoletto* and *Gianni Schicci*; and in concert for Phillip Glass and the L.A. Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, the L.A. Master Chorale at Disney Concert Hall (Mozart Requiem, Hayden Mass), Ventura Master Chorale, Palm Springs Symphony Orchestra, the San Diego Opera Outreach Program, Aspen Music Festival and was a winner in the LA Opera Buff's vocal competition as well as the Pasadena Opera Guild's competition. His voice can also be heard on over 30 major motion pictures including "Star Trek", "Superman", "The Matrix", "King Kong", "Wolverine", and "Avatar." Mr. Bruton maintains a limited vocal studio where students range from American Idol Finalists to Tony Award winning Broadway singers to Operatic professionals.

ERIN DUNCAN is a 1988 graduate of John Burroughs High School, and vocal coach for the JBHS Vocal Music Association since 1992. A 4-show winner and semi-finalist on Ed McMahon's "Star Search," Erin is a popular back-up vocalist for top record producers and a demo vocalist for Celine Dion and Mariah Carey. Just this week she debuted her new show at Universal City Walk's Howl at the Moon.

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ADJUDICATORS cont'd

INTERMEDIATE, MEN'S, ADVANCED WOMEN

Director of Choral Activities at Los Angeles Valley Collage, Assistant Professor **GLENN CARLOS** brings with him more than 30 years of experience conducting, performing, teaching, composing, arranging and recording. His teaching and conducting posts have included the University of Southern California, California State University, Long Beach, Pasadena City College, the Hollywood Master Chorale, and the Metropolitan Master Chorale, which he founded in 2009. He is also a consultant for the Grammy Awards Educational Foundation. Mr. Carlos has been a featured soloist with and has prepared choirs for Quincy Jones, David Foster, Dianne Warren, Michael Feinstein, Dave Brubeck, Barry Manilow and Shelly Berg. His published choral compositions and arrangements are available through UNC Press and Yelton Rhodes Music. He is a member of the American Choral Directors Association.

For the past 25 years **CHRISTINE DeMORE** has been a professional singer and actress with movie, television, theatre and commercial credits to her name. A graduate of Carnegie Mellon University with degrees in Vocal Performance and Music Education, she served as vocal coach and musical director in the Theater School at the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, CA for eight years and has been a private vocal coach to artists appearing on such record labels as Arista, Sony, Geffin and Warner Brothers. Currently, she is the Vocal Music Director at David Starr Jordan Middle School with five award winning choirs and over 300 students involved in the program. She has been honored with Teacher of the Year honors by Los Angeles County, Burbank Unified School District, and the Burbank Masonic Chapter, as well as recipient of the Burbank Honorary Service Award. Mrs. DeMore also holds a position as adjunct faculty at University of Southern California for the Master of Arts in Teaching program in the Thornton School of Music. She is a member of the Screen Actors Guild, AFTRA, ACDA, MENC and the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Christine and husband David have two children and three grandchildren.

BEN SCHRANK is a freelance choreographer, director, show designer, adjudicator and clinician based out of Davenport, IA. National and regional competitors, his groups have consistently received Grand Champion and Best Choreography honors. This year Ben is working with 12 show choirs and over 850 students. In addition to his extensive work in stage, costume and lighting design he has also directed and choreographed over a dozen musical theater productions, receiving a 2010 Tommy Award from the Overture Center for the Arts for Outstanding Direction of Janesville, WI Craig's production of "Thoroughly Modern Millie." This winter he has been nominated for the Arts Educator Award from the Janesville Area Creativity Awards. Ben brings performance experience as a former member of the Wisconsin Singers at the University of Wisconsin, and performer at Six Flags Great America in Gurnee, IL.
