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ORPHEUS|PDX ANNOUNCES PARTICIPANTS FOR ITS 2025 PATHWAYS PROGRAM



This innovative training program assists young professionals in establishing their careers while guaranteeing a thriving future for the operatic art form.

(Portland, Oregon)—OrpheusPDX General and Artistic Director Christopher Mattaliano has announced the participants in the company's 2025 Pathways Program, a mentorship initiative launched during the company's founding season. This year, seven emerging artists have been selected to take part. Eli Amundson, Megan Hiserote, Abigail Lee, Andy Shin, and Hailey Youn will perform in the orchestra for *Scipio's Dream (Il Sogno di Scipione)*. Maya Arkills and Samantha Kemp will be the Assistant Lighting Designers for *Jacqueline* and *Scipio's Dream*, respectively.

The Pathways Program is a mentor-based training experience that pairs students or early-career professionals with an established artist engaged for OrpheusPDX's 2025 productions. Throughout the season, mentees work closely with their mentors and gain hands-on, paid experience in their respective areas of focus.

“The Pathways Program is one of OrpheusPDX’s most important offerings,” said Mattaliano. “Mentorships are essential in the arts, and the professionals I was fortunate to work alongside as a young artist had an enormous impact in my career. It is a gift to be able to give back to the next generation of arts professionals by offering this program—and their presence adds a richness to our season roster that inspires everyone in our company.”

One such opportunity has come full circle: Conductor Deanna Tham, Associate Conductor of the Oregon Symphony, participated in the Pathways Program in 2023. She returned in 2024 to conduct *The Rose Elf* and this season she will lead OrpheusPDX’s production of *Scipio’s Dream (Il Sogno di Scipione)*.

“My entire career would not exist without mentors who recognized a spark and gave me a chance,” said Tham. “Programs like Pathways offer young artists a glimpse into the realities of the industry. They provide essential familiarity and confidence, allowing artists to truly focus on their craft when it matters most.”

Returning for a second year is 17-year-old cellist Andy Shin. “The mentorship I received at OrpheusPDX was incredibly inspiring,” said Shin of his previous season. “Working alongside professional musicians helped me grow not just technically, but artistically. I’m excited to return and continue learning as part of such a supportive, high-level musical community.”

THE 2025 PATHWAY PARTICIPANTS



Eli Amundson is a rising senior at Cleveland High School. He currently plays bass in the Portland Youth Philharmonic and the Portland Youth Jazz Orchestra. He will be mentored by Principal Bass David Parmeter.



Maya Arkills is a student theater artist at Portland State University, currently focusing on lighting design and technical production. She will be the Assistant Lighting Designer for *Jacqueline*, mentored by Lighting Designer Solomon Weisbard.



Megan Hiserote has been playing violin for 16 years. She plans on pursuing violin performance and architecture at Portland State University. She will be mentored by Principal Second Violin Shin Young Kwon.





Samantha Kemp is a multi-hyphenate artist for live performance. She's worked at Broadway Rose Theatre, Gather Repertory Theatre, Third Rail Rep, and Portland Playhouse. Sam will be the Assistant Lighting Designer for *Scipio's Dream*, mentored by Allen Hahn.



Abigail Lee is a sophomore at Westview High School, and is currently a member of the Portland Youth Philharmonic Orchestra and Camerata Chamber Orchestra. She will be mentored on violin by Concertmaster Lucia Atkinson.



Andy Shin is a sophomore at Beaverton Academy of Science and Engineering. He serves as Co-Principal Cellist at the Portland Youth Philharmonic and is a recent Concerto Competition Winner. He will be mentored by Principal Cellist Dylan Rieck



Hailey Youn is a junior at Sunset High in Portland. She currently serves as Assistant Principal of both the Portland Youth Philharmonic Orchestra and Camerata PYP. Passionate about community outreach, Hailey co-founded Music4Harmony, a nonprofit that brings the power of music to underserved communities. Hailey will be mentored by Principal Violist Pamela Burovac.



ORPHEUS|PDX'S 2025 SEASON



Scipio's Dream (Il Sogno di Scipione)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Sat, Aug 2, at 7:30 pm & Sun, Aug 3, at 3:00 pm

Mozart's *Scipio's Dream* is inspired by Cicero's tale of a Roman general who dreams he has awakened in the heavens. He is greeted by the goddesses Fortuna (Fortune) and Costanza (Constancy), who urge him to follow their path. One promises luck, wealth, and pleasure, and the other champions truth, determination, and virtue. As Mozart's sublime arias fill the celestial realm, Scipio is visited by the spirit of his grandfather and a chorus of noble heroes. Together, they help him find the strength to shape his destiny.



Jacqueline

Luna Pearl Woolf and Royce Vavrek

Sat, Aug 23, at 7:30 pm & Sun, Aug 24, at 3:00 pm

Jacqueline is a new opera about legendary cellist Jacqueline du Pré. A musical maverick, du Pré captivated audiences with her passionate playing and radiant charisma. By the age of 20, she was performing with the world's finest orchestras. When she married conductor and pianist Daniel Barenboim, the dazzling couple became the Jackie and JFK of the classical world. Yet in 1971, du Pré began to lose feeling in her fingers. This opera portrays her journey with multiple sclerosis, illuminated by an emotional score that draws audiences into the soul of an artist whose music and spirit continue to resonate.

TICKET INFORMATION

All performances are at the Lincoln Performance Hall on Portland State University's campus (1620 SW Park Ave, Portland, OR). Tickets are on sale now and start at \$50. Season subscribers save 20%. Students can purchase up to two tickets for \$15 each. \$5 Arts for All rush tickets are available at the venue on the day of the show. Tickets can be purchased at OrpheusPDX.org or by contacting the box office at (503) 308-4828 or boxoffice@orpheuspdx.org.

ORPHEUS|PDX

Inspired by the legend of Orpheus and Eurydice, where Orpheus' singing is so

beautiful that even the savage beasts of Hades are moved to tears, Portland's new opera company, OrpheusPDX, aspires to do the same—to touch the very soul of the community through the power of great music and singing. The powerful experience of live opera is enhanced by OrpheusPDX's venue, the intimate, 472-seat Lincoln Performance Hall Theater, where audiences can enjoy an enriching and personal experience with some of the best acoustics in the city. OrpheusPDX is committed to both honoring tradition and exploring new directions by presenting one opera from a well-loved Bel Canto composer and one from the body of great modern works that move and excite today's audiences—thus providing them with the best of both operatic worlds each season.

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