



# ARIZONA YOUNG ARTISTS' COMPETITION

FEBRUARY 25, 2023

ACTING | DANCE | VOICE

[HERBERGERTHEATER.ORG](http://HERBERGERTHEATER.ORG)

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**HERBERGER**  
THEATER CENTER



# AYAC

## ARIZONA YOUNG ARTISTS' COMPETITION

Welcome to the 23rd annual Arizona Young Artists' Competition presented by the Herberger Theater Center! I continue to be amazed and inspired by the talent in our community, and I know you will be to as you watch the performances of these young singers, actors, and dancers this evening.

We are so grateful for the commitment of our generous sponsors who acknowledge through their support, how important it is to celebrate young artists as not only the future of live performance, but also the future of our community. I sincerely appreciate the financial support of Billie Jo Herberger, APS, Debra & Jim Larson, Stephanie Quincy and Mike Parrish as well as the additional support of the National Society of Arts & Letters - Arizona Chapter, Rick Meinecke, Spoonz Café and Absolute Artistry. I again want to thank the Board of Directors of the Herberger Theater Center for continuing to support of this program and all of our Community Engagement programs.

I also want to acknowledge the incredible work of so many people who made this program happen again this year, starting with the Director of Community Engagement, Cescily Wiener and Amber Robins, Community Engagement Associate. I'm also very grateful to Judy Rollings, one of the founders of this competition, and Mark Fearey, as they are so instrumental to guiding this year's competition.

The Arizona Young Artist's Competition has always been focused on encouraging and celebrating talented young people. You are a crucial part of that so thank you for being here tonight to cheer them on! So let's get started!

Mark Mettes  
President & CEO  
Herberger Theater Center

# AYAC

## ARIZONA YOUNG ARTISTS' COMPETITION

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF JUDGES

**Mark Mettes**

President & CEO, Herberger Theater Center

### CLASSICAL VOICE FINALISTS

Accompanist - Mark Fearey

**Cammie Roberts**

**Benjamin Franklin High School**

*Where'er You Walk* by George Frederic Handel  
*Se tu m'ami, se sospiri* by Giovanni Battista Pergolesi

**Mina Vining**

**Arizona School for the Arts**

*Reflets* by Lili Boulanger  
*Love's Philosophy* by Roger Quilter

**Taylor Peel**

**Highland High School**

*American Lullaby* by Gladys Rich  
*Del Cabello Mas Sutil* by Fernando Obradors

**Tiffany McKalko**

**BASIS Ahwatukee**

*O del mio dolce ardor* by Christoph Willibald Gluck  
*Connais tu le pays* by Ambroise Thomas

**CLICK TO READ MORE ABOUT OUR FINALISTS**

# ACTING FINALISTS

**Airella Centeno**

**Centeno Home School**

Anne, *The Diary of Anne Frank* by Tom Jones  
Luisa, *The Fantastics* by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett

**Erin Schumacher**

**Desert Mountain High School**

Roma, *Night Luster* by Laura Harrington  
Margaret, *Good People* by: David Lindsay-Abaire

**Anna Koth**

**Grand Canyon University**

Rachel, *Reckless* by Craig Lucas  
Harper, *Angels in America: Part One, Millennium Approaches*  
by Tony Kushner

**Raymond Cusick**

**Arizona State University**

Richard II by William Shakespeare  
*Where Has Tommy Flowers Gone?* by Terrence McNally

# MUSICAL THEATRE VOICE FINALISTS

Accompanist - Mark Fearey

**Tiffany McKalko**

**BASIS Ahwatukee**

*I'm Not At All In Love* by Richard Adler  
*Astonishing* by Mindi Dickstein

**Dante Johnson**

**Learning Foundation and  
Performing Arts**

*Don't Let Me Go* by Jeanine Tesori  
*My Time of Day* by Frank Loesser

**Nora Palermo**

**Phoenix Country Day School**

*There Won't Be Trumpets* by Stephen Sondheim  
*Do It Alone* by Jason Robert Brown

**Ryan Parker**

**Notre Dame Prep**

*Who Am I* by Leonard Bernstein  
*Blue Hair* by Joe Iconis

**CLICK TO READ MORE ABOUT OUR FINALISTS**

# DANCE FINALISTS

**Ashlyn Kastelic**

**Cactus Shadows High School**

*Goodbye*

Choreographer- Mattie Fleischer

**Taylor Ingersol**

**Campo Verde High School**

*Siren*

Choreographer-Nick Lanzisera

**Maddison Sommers**

**Cactus Shadows High School**

*My Oh My*

Choreographer: Maddi Sommers

**Arya Bovich**

**Basha High School**

*Waiting*

Choreographer: Francisco Gella

**CLICK TO READ MORE ABOUT OUR FINALISTS**

## VOTE FOR THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS DURING INTERMISSION!

**Winners from each category will be awarded a \$100 cash prize!**

Voting begins at the start of intermission. Submit your paper ballots to the ballot boxes across from the bar or hand them directly to an usher.

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# **INTERMISSION & RECEPTION**

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## **AWARDS PRESENTATION**

Mark Mettes, President & CEO  
Cescily Wiener, Director of Community Engagement  
Judy Rollings, AYAC Coordinator

**People's Choice  
Classical Voice Award**

**People's Choice Acting Award**

**People's Choice  
Musical Theatre Award**

**People's Choice Dance Award**

**The Marvin Cohen Classical Voice Award**

**The Herberger Theater Center Acting Award**

**The Herberger Theater Center  
Musical Theatre Voice Award**

**The Frances Smith Cohen Dance Award**

# ADJUDICATORS

## CLASSICAL VOICE

PRELIMINARY COMPETITION:

Jennifer Sheldon  
Andi Pitman Will  
Jeffrey Strand

FINAL COMPETITION:

Katarzyna Honsberger

## ACTING

PRELIMINARY COMPETITION:

Sydney Davis  
Tom Noga  
Pamela Fields

FINAL COMPETITION:

Karen Burns

## MUSICAL THEATRE VOICE

PRELIMINARY COMPETITION:

Kelli James  
David Britton  
Shana Rebilas Bousard

FINAL COMPETITION:

Mary Jane McCloskey

## DANCE

PRELIMINARY COMPETITION:

Katherine Hughes  
Madison MacDonald  
Lisa Gray Young

FINAL COMPETITION:

Lisa Starry

[\*\*CLICK TO READ MORE  
ABOUT OUR JUDGES\*\*](#)



# EMCEE

Mark Mettes, CVE, is the President & CEO of the Herberger Theater Center where he has been employed for over 32 years, beginning his career backstage as a Technical Supervisor. Mark was Vice President for over 10 years before moving into the President & CEO role in 2016. Mark has achieved the designation of Certified Venue Executive since 2014.

Mark served as the Chair of the International Association of Venue Managers after serving four years in Board leadership roles and three years on the Board representing the Performing Arts Sector. Mark is happily married and is the proud father of four children and five grandchildren. He is active in the local community including serving five terms as the President of the Board of Directors for Reid Traditional School's Valley Academy Charter School.

# PRODUCTION CREW

## **DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION SERVICES AND FACILITIES**

TAMI UPDEGRAFF

## **SENIOR PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR/ LIGHTING DESIGNER**

GRETA HAUG

## **PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR**

TIFFANY OWENS

## **STAGE MANAGER**

CAT DRAGON

## **LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR**

KALIE HAGEN

## **SOUND BOARD OPERATOR**

KEN FORT

## **MASTER RAIL OPERATOR**

DAN COCCA

## **AUDIO TECHNICIAN**

LEILA TAYLOR

## **STAGE HANDS**

ANN FULTON

SEBASTIAN KUNNAPPILLY

## **VIDEOGRAPHER**

AUBRIANNA STOUGH

## **PHOTOGRAPHER**

RICK MEINECKE

The Herberger Theater Center is Arizona's center stage, engaging the community through diverse arts experiences that ignite emotion, stimulate conversation and inspire connections to the arts.

[HerbergerTheater.org](http://HerbergerTheater.org)



# AYAC

## ARIZONA YOUNG ARTISTS' COMPETITION

### COORDINATORS

Cescily Wiener  
Amber Robins  
Judy Rollings  
Mark Fearey



**READ MORE ABOUT  
OUR COORDINATORS**

# IN LOVING MEMORY...



## JUDD HERBERGER

Judd's passion for the performing arts and love for the theater was put on display each and every day. He was determined to fulfill the vision his parents, Bob and Kax Herberger, had for the arts community in Arizona. Each time he met with theater leaders to discuss current successes, emotion would overcome him knowing that the Herberger Theater, in its present state, would have made his parents proud.

Judd's favorite seats were in the loge, just above the orchestra, so that he had both a great view of the audience and the show he was attending. In an interview for a video shown during Billie Jo and Judd's Hall of Fame induction, Judd mentioned how seeing children's faces light up at the magic of theater would bring a tear to his eye.

Judd helped construct the Herberger Theater in a literal and figurative way. He loved to share the story of how his crew was working throughout the night on the finishing touches of the grand staircase, hours before the opening of the Herberger Theater. Without Billie Jo and Judd Herberger and the Herberger family's commitment to creating and maintaining the first major theatres and arts organizations in Arizona, the arts community would not be what it has become today. Thank you, Judd.



## FRANCES SMITH COHEN

Fran was one of the founders of the Arizona Young Artists' Competition. Her love and passion for dance made our arts community a better place and inspired so many young performers to follow their dreams. **This evening we remember Fran and honor her legacy with the Frances Smith Cohen Dance award.**

# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



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HERBERGER**



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