

AURIEL CAMERATA

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AURIEL CAMERATA ANNOUNCES THE FIRST ANNUAL AURIEL SCHOLAR MASTER CLASS

SCHENECTADY, NY - Auriel Camerata, the Capital Region's only professional vocal chamber ensemble, is delighted to present the first annual Auriel Scholar Master Class on **Monday, April 13 2015 from 7-9pm** at the Hubbard Interfaith Sanctuary on the campus of the College of Saint Rose. Partnering with the the music faculty of the College, Auriel Camerata will present three talented young students, just starting their careers as professional musicians. Those students are Jilian Reilly '15, mezzo soprano; Joseph Badore '16, tenor; and our Auriel Scholar, Caleb Eick '15, baritone.

This year, the Master Class teacher will be acclaimed performing and recording artist Maureen O'Flynn, who garners enthusiastic praise from critics, peers and audiences on both sides of the Atlantic. Of a recent opening night performance of *Roméo et Juliette* at the Metropolitan Opera, The New York Times said the soprano "...won a deserved ovation from the audience," and Variety exclaims, "...not only a superb technician, with the full coloratura arsenal at her disposal, but a sensitive interpreter." As one of Musical America's coveted "Artists to Watch," Ms. O'Flynn is regarded as one of the finest interpreters of Gilda in *Rigoletto*. She has performed the role with the Metropolitan Opera under the baton of Plácido Domingo, Arena di Verona, Covent Garden, La Fenice, Genoa, Italy, Teatro Massimo in Palermo, San Carlo, Naples, Houston Grand Opera, San Diego Opera, Opera Company of Philadelphia, New Israeli Opera, the Israel Philharmonic, and debuted with Dallas Opera, winning the company's Callas Award as "Outstanding New Artist of the Year."

Admission is free and open to the public, and there will be a question and answer session with Ms. O'Flynn following the Master Class.

This Master Class is offered to the public as part of Auriel Camerata's educational outreach program, and is the focal point of the Auriel Scholar Program, a mentorship program aimed at college-aged music students which provides practical experience and knowledge of the inner workings of a professional arts organization. Imagine being a college music student and having the opportunity to sing in a fast-paced professional choir, acquiring advanced choral and vocal skills, learning challenging repertoire and adding practical performance experience to one's resume – all the while learning the business skills it takes to become a music professional. The Auriel Scholar program is a valuable apprenticeship that helps students get a head-start on their professional musical careers.

About Auriel Camerata: *"We are professional musicians and music educators. We believe that music is a language that transcends geographical borders and, as such, is a universal expression of the human soul. We believe in the power of music to unite, to soothe, to stir the spirit, and to express the inexpressible. We're passionate about choral music, we believe in the adage 'the whole is greater than the sum of its parts', and we are absolutely convinced that music has the power to transform lives. We want to share our passion and commitment with you."* - from aurielcamerata.org

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