

W H
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2018-2019 Sutton Foster Ovation Awards
Adjudicators

W H A R T O N C E N T E R
I N S T I T U T E F O R
A R T S & C R E A T I V I T Y
S U P P O R T E D B Y M S U F E D E R A L C R E D I T U N I O N

Michigan State University
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing, MI 48824

Elizabeth Berry



Elizabeth Berry is a Grand Rapids based voice teacher and singer. She can be seen performing throughout the United States in opera, oratorio, musical theater, and operetta. Most notably, she recently performed at Carnegie Hall with New York Lyric Opera Theater. A busy voice teacher, Elizabeth is sought after throughout West Michigan where she works with middle, high school, and adult students. An active member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, Elizabeth was one of 12 recipients of the Joan Frey Boytim Award for Independent Teachers in 2016. In addition, several of Elizabeth's students have placed at the Michigan and Great Lakes NATS Student Auditions. In addition to vocal instruction, Elizabeth offers collegiate counseling for students who are considering pursuing a degree in music. Elizabeth is a proud member of the Speakeasy Cooperative, an online co-working group for independent voice teachers throughout the country.

Barbara Burdick

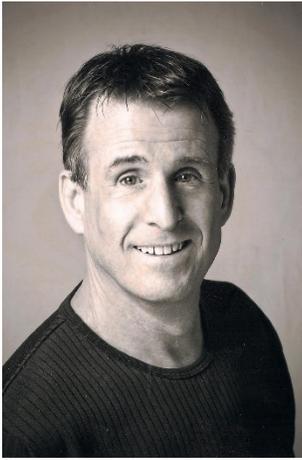


Dr. Barbara Burdick holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music in Vocal Performance and Opera Direction. She has presented her research on the belt voice at national and international conferences. She has served as Musical Director for numerous musicals, workshops, and opera, most recently the *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* at Alma College. She studied Contemporary Commercial vocal techniques with Jeanette LoVetri and is certified in Somatic Voicework Level III. She has taught at several universities and is presently Adjunct Professor of Voice at Alma College and has a private studio. Her students have won several awards in NATS competitions, including many music theatre divisions.

Vickie Diebold

Vickie Diebold has been the lead dance faculty at Lansing Community College for the past twelve years, teaching jazz, ballet, tap and overseeing the dance studio internship. She is a Disney Musicals in Schools Teaching Artist and the owner and artistic director of The Dance Studio in Charlotte, now in its 20th year of operation. Vickie and her husband Michael have raised 5 wonderful children who have all been involved in the world of musical theater.





Jeff English

Jeff English has been music director and pianist for over 150 musicals from high school and College Theater to Community Theater and professional theater. One of his personal highlights was the Boarshead production of *Boomers* in 1998. For that production, he wrote the music, was music director, and acted and sang in the production. Jeff is a retired teacher of choral music and piano in the East Lansing Public Schools. He was a public school teacher for 30 years and before that taught music at Lansing Community College for 5 years. He is also the music director at the Ruhala Center For the Performing Arts as well as pianist and music director at Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing. Jeff is married to a wonderful singer and theater teacher, Jennifer, and is the proud dad to 6 children.

Jessica Fielder

Jessica Fielder established The Fielder Studio, teaching Voice, Piano, Songwriting and Acting in Farmington Hills in 1993. She will launch the opening of Musical RX, The Fielder Fix, (A Last Minute musical coaching service), in 2019. The alumni from her studio perform on Broadway, Opera, Pop & Rock stages across the world. Many of her students have opened their own music studios, teach k-12 music as well as work in the music industry as songwriters, sound techs, stage managers and music business managers. Jessica is an MSVMA adjudicator and an adjudicator and secretary of The Michigan chapter of NATS. She received The NATS Joan Boytim Award for Independent Teachers in 2016. Jessica is a charter member of The Speakeasy Cooperative for Independent Voice Teachers.



Miranda Sue Hartmann

Miranda Sue Hartmann is the owner of the Mirasu Actors Studio and 1024 Illustrations as well as a teaching artist for Disney Musicals in Schools. She volunteers for local community theatres as an actor, director, makeup artist, props gatherer and concessions peddler. Miranda's proudest accomplishment is raising two amazing children.



Josh Holliday

Josh Holliday is a graduate of Michigan State University with a background within arts, culture and the performing arts. Prior to his current role in community and economic development, Josh served the Lansing region as the Program Manager for the Arts Council of Greater Lansing, and previously working within the performing arts at Wharton Center for Performing Arts and the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tenn. Josh is also the Co-Chair of NextGen@Wharton and Board Member for the Owosso Community Players.

Lauren LaStrada

Lauren LaStrada (alias L.L. Smith) is a native to Detroit, Michigan. Lauren began as a part time on-air radio personality for Radio One Detroit, graduated to voiceovers, acquired an agent and began doing on-camera commercials. She left radio to pursue a full time acting career and studied in West Hollywood California at The Lee Strasberg Theater Institute. She began doing professional theater while there and also released an independent pop/rock album "Rock Steady" and started performing in different outdoor festivals. Lauren published a book called "Simple Wisdom" by L.L. Smith, to document the spiritual and earthly battles one can endure when following purpose and chasing their dreams. She is the recipient of 3 Best Actress Awards, 6 Nominations and a Spirit of Detroit Award for her personal and professional contributions to the community. She has since worked continuously as a professional actor for Stage, Film and Television, as a member of The Screen Actors Guild and Actors Equity Association. Recent bookings include Comedy Central, Wild Faith (Feature Film), Chicago PD, Lady Day At Emerson Bar and Grille and a G.U.M. Commercial. Currently Lauren is starring as "Stella" in Detroit The Musical, an original work scheduled to play at The Charles H Wright Museum of African-American History.



Katherine Nelson

Katherine Nelson is a professional stage manager and costume designer in the Southeastern Michigan area. She is the Production Stage Manager at Detroit Public Theatre, where stage management highlights include Detroit '67 (a coproduction with Baltimore Center Stage), No Child... and Pike St. with Nilaja Sun, and the world premiere of Birthday Candles by Noah Haidle. She regularly stage manages at the Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, where she also works on the Sutton Foster Ovation Awards, the national Broadway League competition The Jimmy Awards, and Take it From the Top. As a costume designer, she works frequently with the Wharton Center, Detroit Public Theatre, Flint Youth Theatre/Flint Repertory Theatre, the Purple Rose Theatre Company, and Tipping Point Theatre Company. Katherine is a proud member of the Actors' Equity Association. www.knelsondesigns.com



Carol Perry

Carol Perry founded Studio Sostegno, a private independent voice studio, in 2012. She has been teaching voice since 2009 and specializes in college audition preparation for her high school students. She holds degrees in voice from Colorado State University and the Frost School of Music. She was a member of the 2017 NATS Intern Program class in Toronto, and currently studies with Freda Herseth at the University of Michigan. A proud NATS member, Carol's students have placed first in their categories both at Chapter Auditions and at the National level. Studio Sostegno alumni have gone on to major in voice performance and musical theatre at McGill Conservatory, the New England Conservatory, NYU Tisch, Central Michigan, and the University of Michigan. Follow her studio (@studiosostegno) on Twitter and Instagram.



Karyn Perry

Karyn Perry is owner and director of Karyn's Dance Place in Holt. Karyn's Performing Company dances at many events including The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, The Pistons, The Orange and Sugar Bowls and the 100th Anniversary of The Indy 500. Many of Karyn's students are enjoying professional careers on Broadway, in Movies and Television. Karyn has been awarded numerous Pulsars, Thespies and Barney's for her choreography at local community theaters. Karyn is also currently a Board member for Peppermint Creek Theater Company.



Megan Wright

Megan Wright has been performing, directing and teaching in the Metro Detroit area for 15 years. She obtained a BFA in acting from Wayne State and a masters in applied drama and theatre for the young from Eastern Michigan University. She is currently working on her MA in teaching artistry from Wayne.