2021 has been quite a year. Blindsided by the Covid-19 crisis, we recovered by mastering the intricacies of Zoom. We sponsored nine Zoom events, including presentations by Alex Ross, Dolora Zajick and Luana DeVol, Ben Heppner, and Saul Lilienstein. For the 20th annual Wagner in der Wildnis program, we Zoomed Lohengrin on two consecutive Saturdays. Jeffrey Swann and the Wagner Society Chamber Players presented a live concert over Zoom. Our broadcasts were attended by Wagnerites in 16 states and 9 different countries. They attended one or more of our broadcasts over 1,600 times.

We brought eight young American Wagner Project singers to the socially distanced home of Luana DeVol for two weeks of coaching and master classes.

Our membership continues to grow to near record numbers. We are one of the largest and most successful Wagner Societies in the world. About a third of our members join at a Premium Level, showing support for our priorities.

For 2022 we return to live programming, even as we have learned to simulcast over Zoom. We are pleased to announce two live concerts: our concert tradition featuring Jeffrey Swann, again accompanied by the Wagner Society Chamber Players, and a second concert of Brahms and Bruckner by the Chamber Players, with commentary by Jeffrey Swann. We have scheduled programs by Professor Heath Lees, Maestro Lilienstein, and our own Bill Pastor. Our popular Wagner in der Wildnis resumes live presentations at a renovated and expanded Cacapon State Park in Berkeley Springs WV with Jeffrey Swann and Prof. Simon Williams. 2022 promises to be another banner year.

We cannot provide our programming and support the next generation of Wagner singers without the extraordinary support of our Premium Members. Membership dues barely cover basic expenses. It is our Premium Members who enable us to book important presenters, offer concerts, and provide major support to the young singers in the American Wagner Project and Institute for Young Dramatic Voices. When you renew, or join, please consider becoming a Premium Member at $250 or more to help with the Society’s essential work.

Saturday September 11, The Bristor Dinner. Each year the Arts Club of Washington DC opens its cultural calendar with a dinner in honor of William Bristor, a long time member and opera afficionado. The event offers a reception, a recital by singers from our American Wagner Project, and a formal dinner prepared by the Club’s master French chef. Reception at 6:30, recital at 7:30, followed by dinner. Black tie, $75. Pre-registration required. Limited Seating.

Thursday September 23, Heath Lees, After Alex Ross, Zoom Webinar. Dr. Lees, Professor Emeritus of Music at the University of Auckland, NZ, considers the thesis of Ross’ book Wagnerism, which was that Wagner saturated the art, literature, music and theater of the late 19th and 20th Century. Lees marks the huge contribution Ross makes to Wagner studies and the far reaching consequences for European cultural history. Dr. Lee knows Wagner. He developed a four CD set, Wagner’s Ring: A Tale Told in Music. 7:30, Zoom, please pre-register at www.wagner-dc.org.

Tuesday October 5, Soprano Jennifer Wilson, recipient of the Society’s Wagner Award, sings selections from Wagner and others. The concert is free of charge for WSWDC members and friends. 7:30, Arts Club of Washington DC. Please pre-register at www.wagner-dc.org.

Monday October 18, The Great Heldentenors. The authoritative author and lecturer Geoffrey Riggs considers the Heldentenor, a term that characterizes the great Wagner tenors. What is a heldentenor, how do they differ from “ordinary” tenors, and why are they prominent in Wagner. Mr. Riggs is author of The Assoluta Voice in Opera, 1797 – 1847. Live from the Arts Club of Washington, 7:30. Also on Zoom.

Sunday November 21, Two Great Late Romantic Composers: Brahms and Bruckner. The Wagner Society Chamber Players, assembled by the violist Jennifer Mondie, will play Brahms’ Clarinet Quintet, one of his autumnal and most beautiful pieces. Bruckner’s String Quintet for Two Violas is strongly Wagnerian. Both pieces close with the prominent use of leitmotifs, a point to be made by Jeffrey Swann, who will provide context and commentary. Arts Club of Washington DC, 2017 I(EYE) St NW. Register at www.wagner-dc.org.

January/February, 2022, Pianist Jeffrey Swann and the Wagner Society Chamber Players will present a dynamic evening of chamber music. Together they will play Mozart’s Piano Concerto in A Major. Then Maestro Swann will play one of his original piano transcriptions.
Deborah Diamond, the Society's treasurer while Lynne Lambert manages the membership software and the membership, including renewals. Veteran Board Member Betty Byrne works publicity and mailings with board member Debbie Diamond, who is also writing a history of the Emerging Singers Program now known as the American Wagner Project. Along with Will Stewart, Deb manages the Society’s e-blasts. Mark Golden has assumed leadership of the Valhalla Legacy Society. Frederic Harwood writes and edits the newsletter. Lynne Lambert and Sabrina Cassagnol plan and manage Wildnis. Lynne serves as the Society’s treasurer while Sabrina manages the membership software and the websites. John Edward Niles coordinates the relationship with the American Wagner Project and IYDV. Guillermo Schultz oversees the Bayreuth relationship. Will Stewart, ex-officio, is the office manager and the technical wiz behind the webinars. The Board would like to thank Jim Giragosian, retiring after ten years as our always good-natured tech and e-blast guru.

Bayreuth Update
By Guillermo Schultz

Every year, for the past 20 years, the Wagner Society of Washington DC has received 15 to 20 sets of tickets to the Bayreuth Festival. We look forward to 2022, when Bayreuth will stage a new Ring.

Some of our members nevertheless purchase individual memberships to the Friends of Bayreuth in the hope of securing a Friends ticket. You may join the Friends at https://www.richard-wagner.org.

Others have purchased tickets through the Bayreuth Festspielhaus ticket office. Online tickets typically go on sale late spring. Contact https://bayreuth-festspiele/en/tickets-service.

The truly daring take a flyer. Occasionally some unused tickets may be posted in hotel lobbies. The Festspielhaus ticket office sometimes has tickets that have been turned in, and on the sidewalk outside the Festspielhaus ticket office people are often selling or buying unused tickets. In 2021 the Festival presented four fully staged operas and a concert version of Parsifal. A new Ring is anticipated in 2022.

Bayreuth continues to attract top talent. In 2021 conductors included Bayreuth’s first female conductor, the Ukrainian Oksana Lyniv, (Der Fliegende Holländer), Philippe Jordan (Die Meistersinger), Axel Kobe (Tannhäuser), and Pietari Indenben (Die Walküre). Parsifal was conducted by Christian Thielman.

Prominent singers included John Lundgren (Hollander), Klaus Florian Vogt and Michael Volle (Meistersinger), Gunther Groissbock and Stephen Gould (Tannhäuser), and Mr. Vogt, Mr. Groissbock, Lise Davidson and Irene Theorin (Die Walküre).

Preparations for Our 25th Anniversary
By Deborah Diamond

We will proudly mark our 25th year in 2023 with special initiatives and events.

One such initiative is a review of the achievements of the American Wagner Project (AWP), our signature program to develop the next generation of singers who will excel in Wagner roles. AWP has supported the training of more than 90 singers who have performed Wagner’s music in opera houses throughout Europe, North and South America, Hong Kong and Japan. We will highlight their achievements in person, online, and in print.

It is the Premium Memberships, the contributions of our members above and beyond the basic membership fee, which makes possible our ability to identify and nurture new Wagnerian talent, now through the American Wagner Project.

Wildnis 2022, June 4-6

The Society resumes our three-day retreat that has sold out every one of its 20 years. Wildnis honors Wagner’s preference for the bucolic setting of Bayreuth absent the distractions of big cities. Presenters will again be concert pianist Jeffrey Swann and Professor emeritus Simon Williams, UC Santa Barbara. The topic is Die Meistersinger and Tannhäuser: Shared Characteristics. Early registration is recommended.

Coordinators Lynne Lambert and Sabrina Cassagnol report that Cacapon Resort State Park has undergone a $25 million renovation, adding 70 new guest rooms, updating old guest rooms, installing a new restaurant, plus adding a lounge, spa, indoor heated pool and whirlpool, fitness center and multiple outdoor spaces.

The Wagner Society’s Working Board 2021

Chairman Jim Holman, in his 23rd year, leads the board and boards lectures and events, including the Zoom broadcasts. Bonnie Becker works membership, including renewals. Veteran Board Member Betty Byrne works publicity and mailings with board member Debbie Diamond, who is also writing a history of the Emerging Singers Program now known as the American Wagner Project. Along with Will Stewart, Deb manages the Society’s e-blasts. Mark Golden has assumed leadership of the Valhalla Legacy Society. Frederic Harwood writes and edits the newsletter. Lynne Lambert and Sabrina Cassagnol plan and manage Wildnis. Lynne serves as the Society’s treasurer while Sabrina manages the membership software and the websites. John Edward Niles coordinates the relationship with the American Wagner Project and IYDV. Guillermo Schultz oversees the Bayreuth relationship. Will Stewart, ex-officio, is the office manager and the technical wiz behind the webinars. The Board would like to thank Jim Giragosian, retiring after ten years as our always good-natured tech and e-blast guru.
The American Wagner Project of 2021
By John Edward Niles

Founded in 2006 by Metropolitan Opera star Dolora Zajick, the Institute for Young Dramatic Voices (IYDV) has continued to expand its reach and influence. The purpose of IYDV is to address the shortage of voices suited to opera’s dramatic repertoire, specifically the works of composers such as Richard Wagner, Richard Strauss, Alban Berg and Giuseppe Verdi. In 2013, the Institute partnered with the Wagner Society of Washington DC to established the American Wagner Project (AWP) as an adjunct of IYDV. It is led by the renowned Wagnerian soprano Luana DeVol, assisted by the Society’s John Edward Niles. The express purpose of the American Wagner Project is to identify and nurture singers with the potential to sing the Wagner canon.

Recently the IYDV/AWP has established two new programs, the Emerging Artist Program and the Young Professional Division. While the AWP is limited to ten participants, and grooms them for a specific performance such as the Miami Summer Opera’s Das Rheingold, these two programs allow past and future participants to straddle Verdi and Wagner, broaden their repertoire, and maintain training with the AWP/IYDV, even as they develop their own independent careers.

For the Institute’s 2021 season, some 125 applicants completed a detailed application and submitted a video of their performance. These were reviewed by Ms. Zajick and Ms. DeVol; additional screeners included Darrell Babidge, head of voice at Julliard, Yelena Kurdina, a Russian musical judge in New York City, Beatrice Benzi, a coach at La Scala, John Parr from the Deutsche Oper, Scott Parry who is an acting coach, and John Edward Niles from the Wagner Society of Washington DC. The repertoire coach was Michael Rossi, Musical Director of the Miami Summer Opera. Finalists auditioned live on Zoom. For IYDV, Ms. Zajick and Mr. Babidge made the final selections; for the AWP, the final choices were made by Ms. DeVol in consultation with Mr. Niles and Mr. Parr.

For the AWP, eight singers comprised the largest class to date. From July 17 to August 6 they worked at Ms. Devol’s spacious covid-distanced home in Las Vegas. There they received intense training: acting classes with Mr. Parry; Master Classes with Mr. Buchalter; and staging and vocal classes with Ms. Devol, including German diction. Many of those selected were preparing roles for the Miami Summer Opera’s July 2022 production of Das Rheingold and for the August 6, 2021 recital Future Voices of Opera (FVO) in Henderson NV.

AWP Participants 2020-2021

Stephanie dePrez, soprano, is cast as Miami’s Freia. With Ms. Devol, Stephanie also prepared the role of Sieglinde and selected arias from Tannhäuser and Lohengrin. For FVO, she sang Dich teure Halle from Tannhäuser and Ortrud, wo bist du from Lohengrin.

Maureen Brabec is a soprano who Ms. Devol says “has the weight and intelligence to be a true Wagnerian jugenliche soprano.” She worked on the role of Sieglinde and arias from Tannhäuser and Lohengrin. For FVO she sang Du Bist der Lenz from Die Walküre.

Jenna Schroer, soprano, a second year participant, has, Ms. Devol writes “a certain vulnerability which makes her Elsa very touching. Yet she has a brilliant top which will serve her in dramatic moments.” For FVO she sang the Wedding March Chorus from Lohengrin.

Courtney Ankerfelt, a mezzo, returns to the AWP for the third year and has secured her place with the program. She recently sang as a Rheinmaiden and a Walkyrie in Vegas City Opera’s abridged Ring. At AWP she is working on the role of Venus.

Rebecca Sacks, a mezzo, is preparing the role of Fricka for Miami’s Das Rheingold; Fricka is also essential for Die Walküre. Rebecca is also preparing the role of Venus. Ms. Devol says she is “very brilliant” and “has handled every challenge.”

Jon Janacek, tenor, will be remembered for his performance as Siegmund for WSWDC’s 2019 concert at the Swedish Embassy. He has performed several roles for the Miami Music Festival and will sing Loge in the Festival’s 2022 Das Rheingold.

Blake Talbott, tenor, spent the past two years with both the AWP and the IYDV. In 2019 for the Institute’s final concert he sang a convincing Max from Der Freischütz. He is working on the role of Siegmund and Pollicone’s aria from Norma.

Eugene (Trey) Richards, baritone, is working on Wagner roles with Ms. Devol and Verdi roles with Ms. Zajick and La Scala’s Beatrice Benzi. He will sing selections from Wotan for the Northern California Wagner Society’s December 2021 concert. He is planning a European audition tour in the fall of 2021.

Elizabeth Baldwin made a successful debut as Senta and Sieglinde with the Miami Music Festival, and sang the role of Tosca with Houston Grand Opera. She is a member of IYDV’s Young Professional’s Program.

William McCullough will be singing Froh for the 2022 Miami Das Rheingold. He is a member of the IYDV Emerging Artist Program. For FVO he sang Die Walküre’s Wintersturme and Du bist der Lenz with Maureen Brabec.

Hunter Enoch will sing Donner with the upcoming Miami Das Rheingold. Ms. Zajick writes “Hunter has revealed a flair for Verdi, and I believe it is here he will have his greatest success.” He was featured at WSWDC’s 2019 AWP concert at the Swedish Embassy.
Celebrating Aurelius Fernandez’ 90th Birthday

On June 12, family and friends gathered to celebrate the 90th birthday of founding member Aury Fernandez.

In May of 1998 Aury was one of a handful of Wagnerites, including Dr. Barbara Karn and R. G. Head, who responded to a note posted by Janice Rosen onto Opera-L, a national list-serve devoted to classical music.

By 1999 they had met often enough to incorporate as the Wagner Society of Washington DC, a 501(C)3. Aury led a committee to name a Board of Directors; the first Board included Aury, Barb, R.G. Head, Janice Rosen, and Alan Sabota. In June 1999, the Board expanded to include Jim Holman, who had recently given a talk on leitmotifs for the fledgling Society. Jim was asked to become the Chairman; Aury served as President for nearly 20 years.

Aury was present at the birth of the Society’s relationship with Bayreuth. In February, 1999 Wolfgang Wagner, Wagner’s grandson, and his wife Gudrun attended the Washington National Opera’s performance of Tristan und Isolde. Jim Holman invited the Wagners to lunch with Aury, R.G. Head, Barbara Kam, and Janice Rosen. When the conversation turned to Bayreuth, Barb asked Gudrun for tickets and her response was, “Of course.” By December 2000, 15 sets of tickets arrived by mail, inaugurating a relationship with Bayreuth that continues to this day.

For fifteen years Aury established and edited the Society’s newsletter. For six years he wrote The Wagner Singer, a newsletter focused on our Emerging Singers Program. When Barbara Karn suggested the Wildnis weekend retreat, Aury’s support was essential.

Aury’s home town is Niagara Falls, NY. After graduating from Bowling Green State University he was drafted and served three years with the U.S. Army Counterintelligence Command in Berlin. Then he entered Columbia University where he earned a Masters degree in International Affairs. He served another two years in Berlin as an Army civilian, and then joined the United States Information Agency (USIA) and received a Foreign Service appointment. His postings included Santiago Chile, Washington DC, Bucharest, Vienna, London and Paris. He served as Public Affairs aide to the American Ambassadors in Chile and London. Between stints in Chile and Washington DC he earned a second Masters degree, this one from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University.

Among his assignments he served in Vienna as NATO press spokesman for the Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions Conventional Weapons negotiations with the Warwaw Pact. He also directed Public Affairs for the US Mission to the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris. Aury and his wife Janet Gabrielson Fernandez have two sons, Mark and Alan, and three granddaughters.

The Valhalla Society

By Mark Golden

The Valhalla Society is the Wagner Society’s leadership level to support the singers in the Society’s American Wagner Project.

The Society has established the Valhalla Society. This is a legacy opportunity for members who, as part of their estate planning, would like to extend their commitment to the Wagner Society’s core mission of advancing the knowledge and appreciation of Richard Wagner’s genius, and ensuring the development of the next generation of Wagnerian singers.

There is no minimum financial commitment, and we take you at your word that you have included the Society in your bequest. You can remember the Society in your Will or in a Revocable Trust. You can also name the Society as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or an IRA. Bequests may specify a dollar amount, or as a percentage of the residual value of your estate after specific bequests and expenses. The bequest is not payable until death, so it does not affect your assets or cash flow during your lifetime, and it is revocable. It may help minimize estate taxes or avoid tax burden on heirs. If you already have a Will or a Trust, a simple codicil is an easy and inexpensive vehicle.

Your greatest benefit is knowing that your support of our programs and mission will continue into the future. We will include your name in all printed materials and on our website, as per your preferences. Your gift will allow future generations to experience the music of Wagner in our nation’s capital.

If you would like more information, or would like to be listed among our Valhalla Society Champions, please contact us at Legacy@wagner-dc.org.

Charter members include Jean W. Arnold, Betty Byrne, Sabrina Cassagnol, Marc DePaul, Aurelius and Janet Fernandez, Mark and Annette Golden, Frederic Harwood and Nedda di Montezemolo, Jim and Diana Holman, Margaret C. Jones, Lynne Lambert, Helen McConnell, Marc Nicholson, and John Pohanka.

Upcoming Opportunities to Attend a Wagner Production

The Virginia Opera, Das Rheingold, September 12, 4:30 and 8:00 in Virginia Beach, and September 19 at 4:30 and 8:00 in Richmond.


London English National Opera. Die Valkyrie, November 19 to December 10. This event is sung in English.


The Miami Summer Opera, August, 2022, Das Rheingold. The Wagner Society of Washington DC and our American Wagner Project have formed a collaboration with the Miami Summer Opera to present a Wagner opera with a cast drawn from the American Wagner Project.

Renew Your Membership Now!!
The 2021 Membership Year runs January 1 - December 31.

Renew now and when you do, please consider joining at the Premium membership level to support the singers in the Society’s American Wagner Project.
2020-2021 Retrospective
by Bonnie Becker

Having successfully made the abrupt transition to Zoom in April of 2020, the Society continued to present substantive lectures, interviews and live concerts into 2021.

We offered our Zoom webinars free of charge and open to the public. We were delighted that 551 unique attendees logged on, for total attendance of 1,601. Wagnerites from 16 states and 9 foreign countries joined us across time zones, oceans, and international boundaries. Most of the programs during these pandemic times are available on YouTube or through the link on our website, www.wagner-dc.org.

Alex Ross, author of Wagnerism: Art and Politics in the Shadow of Music. This exhaustive study traces Wagner’s influence on the art, literature, and music of the 20th Century. The talk was hosted by Anne Midgette, former music critic for the Washington Post. September 12 on Zoom. For video of this talk go to the YouTube channel of the Politics and Prose bookstore, Washington DC.

Chairman Jim Holman discussed Wagner’s Unbelievable Life and Indispensable Music in One Evening. This talk provided an introduction to those new to Wagner, while offering veterans a point of departure for further study. Jim surveyed Wagner’s biography and provided excerpts from each of the ten essential operas. Zoom broadcast. September 24. Available at www.wagner-dc.org.

Dolores Zajick, famed Verdi soprano and founder and director of the Institute for Young Dramatic Voices, and Luana DeVol, the renowned Wagnerian mezzo and now director of the American Wagner Project, teamed up to discuss their work with young singers and especially the future of the Institute and the American Wagner Project. On the WSWDC website, October 15.

Conductor John Edward Niles asked What Beckmesser Said; What Eva Said. Two of the most compelling yet under-appreciated elements of the Meistersinger libretto reside in Beckmesser’s “Prize Song” in Act 3 and Eva’s “asides” in Act 2 as she and Walter von Stolzing are trapped in the bushes hiding from Sachs, Beckmesser, Pogner and the Night Watchman. Contemporary translations of the Prize Song generally corrupt the brilliant nuance of Wagner’s humor, while Eva’s comments from the bushes reveal her “trouble” with men. Maestro Niles unraveled these hidden delights. Zoom broadcast, November 12, www.wagner-dc.org website.

Ben Heppner was perhaps the world’s leading heldentenor from 1988 to 2014 when he retired. Interviewed by Canadian musicologist Iain Scott, Mr. Heppner focused on his approach to the roles of Lohengrin, Walter von Stolzing, and Tristan, using film clips to illustrate his craft. December 10.

Jeffrey Swann, renowned concert pianist, and the Wagner Society Chamber Players, assembled by violist Jennifer Mondie, presented a live performance broadcast from the Arts Club of Washington DC over Zoom. Jeffrey played his piano transcription of Wagner’s Siegfried Idyll; the ensemble played Foure’s Piano Quartet No. 1 in C Minor; and Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 4 in G Major. February 11, 2021.

Jeffrey Buller, Professor of Classics at Florida Atlantic University, took his audience on a Quest: Journey and Pilgrimage in Wagner. Dr. Buller is author of the book Classically Romantic: Classical Form and Meaning in Wagner’s Ring. WSWDC Zoom Webinar, March 11, 2021.

With the provocative title Wagner and God, Saul Lilienstein probed the deep connection between Wagner’s recognition of the spirit of God and the sensual world such as that presented in Tannhäuser. Wagner Society Zoom Webinar, April 15, 2021.


Sponsor a Performance or a Singer
By Deborah Diamond

The Society is offering opportunities to members and friends who would like to sponsor a performance, a program, or a singer from the American Wagner Project. These sponsorships are to be above the regular membership dues.

Opportunities include the upcoming Brahms/Bruckner concert, the upcoming Mozart/Schubert/Wagner chamber music concert, performance stipends for singers at the 2022 Miami Summer Opera’s Das Rheingold, the stipends for the presenters at Wildnis, or grants for young singers attending the AWP. Grants may range from $50 to $5,000 or more. Contributors will be acknowledged in Society documents, including the webpage and newsletter.

Those interested in sponsorship should contact Will Stewart through the Society’s web page.
Our Premium Members and New Members

The Wagner Society of Washington DC is committed to developing emerging Wagnerian talent. We could not fulfill that mission without the help of our Premium Members, our most generous donors.

We thank the members who champion our mission.

Premium Members

Meistersinger’s Guild ($5,000 – $9,999)

- William H. and Kathryn Faith Greene
- Courtney W. Howland
- Margaret C. Jones
- John Colt Landreth
- D G Mitchell
- Allan J Reiter
- Jacqueline Rosen
- Dick and Cathy Soderquist
- Steven and Arlene Steinbach

Pilgrims’ Chorus ($2,500 – $4,999)

- Jack Roth
- Mark & Annette Golden
- Jim and Diana Holman
- Thomas Powell
- Guillermo & Cecilia Schultz

Golden Ring ($1,000 – $2,499)

- Sophia Angelini
- Jean Arnold
- Marc DePaul
- Deborah K. and Craig Diamond
- Donald Dittberner and Roswitha Augusta
- Kenneth R Feinberg
- Aurelius & Janet Fernandez
- Kathleen and Richard Fuller
- Lynne Lambert
- Helen McConnell
- Roberta McKay
- Ingrid Meyer
- Stanley R. Milstein
- Robert Misbin
- Paul C. Palmer
- Harriet A. Rogers
- Robert Schreiber
- Edward Seidel
- Thomas & Diane Stanley
- Mark Villamar and Esther Milsted

Patron ($250 – $499)

- Ann Harris Albin
- John Arbab
- Joanne Barnhart
- Jane C. Berger
- Sabrina Cassagnol
- Donald and Tatjana Clagett
- Victoria Cordova
- Joseph Cowden
- Donna Marion Dana
- Carol Ann Dyer
- Helen A. Edwards
- Elizabeth R French
- David Gallalee
- Jose Garcia
- Marilyn Wong Gleysteen
- Leilane Grimaldi Meher
- William L. Harwood
- Hermann Helgert
- Gerry Heller
- Cragg Hines
- James Adams Holman
- Ann Hoopes
- Kenneth Johnston
- Dr. Barbara Karn
- Stephen and Mary Sue Kitchen
- Betty Kranzdorf
- Jan & Elizabeth Lodal
- William A. Lokke
- Christine W. Lynn
- William Malone
- Marilyn Mautz
- Greg and Leila McConeghy
- Marc Nicholson
- Louis Pangaro
- Audrey Pendergast
- Wolfgang Pordzik
- Jonathan Reel
- Robin Sagoskin
- E. Michael Southwick
- Pedro Taborga
- Ida Tjeknavorian
- David G. Van Ormer
- David Vespa
- Kenneth & Dorothy Woodcock
- Francesco Zambello
- Frank J. Zaremba

Welcome, New Members

- Nicole Addison
- Christopher Albertyn
- Russell Baum
- Jon Bibbins
- German Bravo-Casas
- Alan H. Burstin
- Stephen Case
- George Cecchetti
- Christopher Ciampoli
- David Cline
- Joseph Cowden
- Reginald Daniels
- Kirk Davis
- Donna Dean
- Mark Dobbs
- Gloria Farrell
- Peter Felleman
- Jose Garcia
- Benno Gerson
- Linda Geurkink
- Joanne Hart
- William Harwood
- Susan Kaplan
- Robert Kokta
- Nina Krauthamer
- Joa Lam
- Thomas Leahey
- John Lewis
- Noreen Lyday
- Margo Lynn
- William Malone
- Tift Mann
- Sally Manning
- Eliot & Blaine Marshall
- John Middlesworth
- Jeanne Newman
- Judith Oppenheim
- Emma Popek
- Wyley Powell
- Rama Rajagopal
- Ronald Raphael
- Michael Ruppert
- Richard Sarles
- Carol Sawka
- Steven Shafer
- Sorin Shani
- Martin Smullen
- Patricia Strohm
- Eva Takacs
- Inge Thorsteinson
- Richard Tiedermann
- Steve Tokar
- Katharine & Mickey Trichel
- Kathy Truex
- Kimiyu Watanabe
- Harry & Dianna Winsor
- Shelby Dennis Winstead and Edwin Foster

We would like to thank the John J. Pohanka Family Foundation and the Wagner Society of Palm Beach, FL for their generous contributions.

With sadness we note the passing of long time members and volunteers Joan Jackson, Bea Bobotek, and Barbara Gauntt.

We also note the passing of Christa Ludwig at age 93. The New York Times writes she was “a masterly mezzo-soprano of velvety hues. …Her voice had range and power, a security through all the registers and a broad array of colors.” She sang “numerous Wagner roles.”
Recipient: \textit{2022 Membership: Join or Renew Today}

The Wagner Society of Washington DC

The WSWDC membership year runs from January 1 through December 31. Join/renew now.

Online at \url{www.wagner-dc.org}, or by mail to: Box 11842, WDC 20008.

- \textbf{□ Renewal (for 2022) □ New Member}

| Name | ____________________________ |
| Dual Member’s Name at same address (if applicable) | ____________________________ |
| Address | ____________________________ |
| City, State, ZIP | ____________________________ |
| Phone/Cell/Office | ____________________________ |
| Email | ____________________________ |

Please print very clearly!

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES** (Check one category only)

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For an employer matching grant, please contact \textit{Will.Stewart@wagner-dc.org}

**MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

- An invitation to all lectures, a subscription to the WSWDC newsletter, and priority notice of all activities.
- Invitation to the Bayreuth Festival in Germany and to \textit{Wagner in der Wildnis}
- Invitation to American Wagner Project Events

**Wotan’s Circle, Meistersingers’ Guild, Pilgrims’ Chorus, Golden Ring, Sponsor, and Patron members also receive:**

- Invitations to Premium membership special events
- Priority for WSWDC Bayreuth tickets
- Priority for lodge accommodations at the \textit{Wildnis} weekend
- Recognition in programs and the newsletter for support of AWP and emerging singers

**FORM OF PAYMENT:** (do not send cash)

- \textbf{□ Check Enclosed} □ Visa □ MasterCard

Name on Card ____________________________

Card Number ____________________________ CVV code on card ____________________________

Expiration Date ____________________________ Amount to be charged $ ____________________________

Signature ____________________________

\textit{Thank you - your membership nurtures the next generation of Wagner singers!}

WSWDC * P.O. Box 11842 * Washington DC 20008 * 703-370-1923 * \url{www.wagner-dc.org}
Thursday September 23, 7:30pm, Zoom Webinar, **Heath Lees, After Alex Ross.**

Thursday October 18/25, 7:30, Live from the Arts Club of Washington DC and over Zoom Webinar, **Geoffrey Riggs, The Great Heldentenors.**

Late October/Early November, time and date TBA, **The Wagner Society Chamber Players** present **Two Great Romantic Composers: Brahms and Bruckner.** Commentary by **Jeffrey Swann.** The Arts Club of Washington DC.

January/February 2022, time, date and location TBA. Pianist **Jeffrey Swann** and **The Wagner Society Chamber Players** present **Mozart’s Piano Concerto, Schubert’s String Quartet in D Minor,** and Maestro Swann will play one of his piano transcriptions from the **Ring.**