

*10th anniversary*   *10th anniversary*   *10th anniversary*   *10th anniversary*   *10th anniversary*

OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS  
DIVISION OF MUSIC



Tenth Anniversary Recital  
Mary Shambarger  
Competition for Singers

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 26, 2008  
W. Francis McBeth Recital Hall  
Mabee Fine Arts Center

*10th anniversary*   *10th anniversary*   *10th anniversary*   *10th anniversary*   *10th anniversary*

**Fosse**

Life is Just a Bowl of Cherries

Len Brown

**Les Misérables**

Bring Him Home

Claude Michel Schönberg

Kirt Thomas, Tenor  
Mary Worthen, Piano

**Ragtime**

Wheels of a Dream

Stephen Flaherty

**Jekyll and Hyde**

Alive

Frank Wildhorn

Christopher B. Straw, Tenor  
Mary Worthen, Piano

**Apparition**

**Die Fledermaus**

Mein Herr Marquis

Claude Debussy  
Johann Strauss

Jenna Williams Tucker, Soprano  
Cindy Fuller, Piano

**Xerxes**

Ombra mai fu

George Frideric Handel

**Faust**

Avant de quitter ces lieux

Charles Gounod

Christopher Riddle, Baritone  
Anne Beloncik, Piano

**Carousel**

If I Loved You

Richard Rodgers

**Kiss Me Kate**

Where is the Life that Late I Led?

Cole Porter

Cliff House, Baritone  
Mary Worthen, Piano

**Un moto di gioia**

**The Kissing Bandit**

Love is where you find it

W. A. Mozart  
Earl K. Brent

Jessica Gartman, Soprano  
Anne Beloncik, Piano

**The Crucifixion**

**Après un rêve**

**Closer than Ever**

If I Sing

Samuel Barber  
Gabriel Fauré  
David Shire

Joshua Payne, Baritone  
Cindy Fuller, Piano

**Ragtime**

Your Daddy's Son

Stephen Flaherty

Heather Baker Napier, Soprano  
Mary Worthen, Piano

**The Pajama Game**

I'll Never be Jealous Again

Richard Adler

Heather Baker Napier, Soprano  
Stephen Anthony Ray, Baritone  
Mary Worthen, Piano

**Hérodiade**

Vision fugitive

Jules Massenet

Stephen Anthony Ray, Baritone  
Cindy Fuller, Piano

**Kirt Thomas** is a native of Hot Springs, Arkansas, and graduated from OBU in May of 2007 with a BA in Musical Theatre. While a student at Ouachita, some of his favorite roles were Lt. Joseph Cable in *South Pacific* and Cain in *Children of Eden*. Since graduating he has been living in Branson, Missouri and performing in the *Shoji Tabuchi Show*.

**Christopher B. Straw** is a junior music theatre major from Little Rock, Arkansas. He has been seen on the OBU stage in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *the Magic Flute*, and *Children of Eden*. His professional credits include *Stephen Foster the Musical*, *Smokey Joe's Café*, and *Hollywood and Broadway on Main St.* with the Arkansas Repertoire Theatre. Other credits include *Ragtime*, *Miss Saigon* and *Little Shop of Horrors*.

**Christopher Riddle** is a native of Ashdown, Arkansas, and graduated from OBU in May of 2003 with a BM in Vocal Performance. Chris, his wife Yulia serve as dorm parents in Flippen-Perrin dormitory on the OBU campus. They are the proud parents of a beautiful daughter named Alexis. He is a Financial Consultant with Pinnacle Benefits and Financial Group, and he is the sales and marketing director the *The Grand Oaks*, a new continuum of care community in Hot Springs, AR. He also serves First Baptist Church of Hope, Arkansas as interim Music Minister.

**Jenna Williams Tucker** holds voice degrees from OBU (B.M. 2002) and Louisiana State University (M.M.2004). She is currently a candidate for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree at LSU, with plans to graduate in December. She has performed numerous principal roles with OBU Opera, LSU Opera, and Opera in the Ozarks. She was a 2006 National Semi-Finalist in the NATS Artist Awards, 2007 Semi-Finalist in Shreveport Opera's Singer of the Year competition, and is the current recipient of the AFMC Marie Smallwood Thomas Award for Doctoral Studies. In addition to being an active performer, Jenna serves on the voice faculty at Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia where she teaches Voice and Music Appreciation.

**Cliff House** hails from Houston, Texas and graduated from OBU in the fall of 2006 with a BA in Musical Theatre. Since then, he has professional credits with *Stephen Foster the Musical* and the AD Players of Houston. He is currently auditioning and living in Houston, as well as working part time as a web designer. Sight and Sound Productions has recently hired Cliff to play the role of Shem in *Noah The Musical* at their new Branson, MO location.

**Jessica Gartman** is a 2006 graduate of OBU majoring in music and accounting. While at OBU her roles included *Fiordiligi* in *Così fan tutte* and *Hansel* in *Hansel and Gretel*. She has also performed as *Cinderella*, *Philia* in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, and *Martha Jefferson* in *1776*. She is currently an accountant for the Arkansas Baptist Foundation in Little Rock, AR and an active member of Geyer Springs Baptist Church. She is recently engaged to Alan Bubbus.

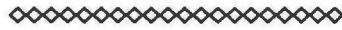
**Joshua Payne** is a 1999 graduate of OBU with a BM in vocal performance. Josh hails from Booneville, Arkansas, but currently resides in Nashville, Tennessee, where he is a vibrant part of the music scene. He also holds the Master of Music in performance from the University of Memphis, where he performed leads in *Sweeney Todd* and *Don Giovanni*. Since his days at OBU, he's been all over the world singing songs he wrote about his youth. His third album due in the late spring of 08, contains within the sounds of both formal and informal training. He has written some 200 pieces ranging from classical cycles to folk ballads, from jazz to symphonies and opera; he feels nothing is out of bounds musically.

**Heather Renee Napier** is a 2005 graduate of OBU with a BM in Musical Theatre. While at OBU, Heather was a member of the Ouachita Sounds, a Tiger Tunes Host and Hostess director as well as director of the 2004 Campus Ministries show in Tunes. She also participated in the 2004 Miss OBU pageant where she received the Miss Congeniality award, and in 2005 she appeared in the OBU production of *Anything Goes*. Heather was also part of an OBU initiative to begin a new theatre program at the University of Beijing in Beijing, China. While in China, she portrayed the role of *Lily* in *Ah Wilderness* by Eugene O'Neil. Heather and her husband Alden currently reside in Fayetteville, AR where they work with underprivileged youth through Camp War Eagle.

**Stephen Anthony Ray** is a native of Sherwood, Arkansas. He will graduate from OBU this May with a BA degree in music and minor in Christian Studies. While at OBU, Stephen has been a member of Ouachita Singers, a Tiger Tunes host, performed the leads in *Così fan tutte* and *The Magic Flute*, and been a multiple first place winner in both state and regional NATS competitions. Stephen's singing career is in full bloom as he has literally just returned from New York where he competed in the grand finals of the Metropolitan Opera auditions. During the summer of 2007, Stephen studied with Marilyn Horne, Fred Carama and Warren Jones to name a few, while he was at the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California. In addition, Stephen was recently selected by Maestro David Itkin of the Arkansas Symphony to sing the bass solos in the Beethoven 9<sup>th</sup> symphony in March of 2009.

## Former Winners

# Mary Shambarger Competition for Singers



### *1999 Aria Competition*

First Place	Kristin Maddox
Second Place	Ashley Mitchell
Third Place	Joshua Payne
Honorable Mention	Kelsey Dime

### *2003 Art Song Competition*

First Place	Jessica Gartman
Second Place	Christopher Riddle
Third Place	Renée Henry
Fourth Place	Candice Looney
Honorable Mention	Gary Keene Jr.

### *2000 Art Song Competition*

First Place	Jenna Williams Tucker
Second Place	Jeremy Bishop Franklin
Third Place	David Stanley
Honorable Mention	Beth Stubblefield

### *2004 Music Theatre Competition*

First Place	Jonathan White
Second Place	Jessica Gartman
Third Place	Heather Baker Napier
Fourth Place	Michelle Chapman
Honorable Mention	Cliff House

### *2001 Music Theatre Competition*

First Place	Jeremy Bishop Franklin
Second Place	Joshua Shaw
Third Place	Bryan Bailey
Honorable Mention	Kara Floyd Shaw

### *2005 Aria Competition*

First Place	Michelle Chapman
Second Place	Jenna Morgan
Third Place	Christie Richardson
Fourth Place	Elizabeth Hall
Honorable Mention	Drew Greenway

### *2002 Aria Competition*

First Place	Jenna Williams Tucker
Second Place	Kara Floyd Shaw
Third Place	Christopher Riddle
Honorable Mention	Adam Langley

### *2006 Art Song Competition*

First Place	Jenna Morgan
Second Place Tie	Stephen Ray
Third Place Tie	Valerie Woodburn
Fourth Place	Elizabeth Hall
Honorable Mention	Stephanie DeVoss

### *2007 Music Theatre Competition*

First Place	Stephen Ray
Second Place	Kirt Thomas
Third Place	Christopher B. Straw
Fourth Place	Jenna Morgan
Honorable Mention	Valerie Woodburn