

# 2010 Walker's Rising Stars Judges

## DANCE JUDGES

**Maureen Gibson** - Dance Educator in the area since 1986, Maureen began a journey toward excellence and education. In April of 2002, Maureen received the "National Foundation for the Advancement in the Arts" Award, recognizing her encouragement and support of students for exceptional artistic achievement. Selected from over 6,000 applicants, her students placed in the top 9% of the Nation! As a winner, Maureen was also nominated for the NFAA's Coca-Cola Corporation's "Distinguished Teacher in the Arts" Award. In 2003, Maureen became the **Repetiteur for the Children's roles of the *George Balanchine's "The Nutcracker,"*** a highly regarded position. Maureen has the distinguished honor of sitting on the Judge's Panel for the "Walker's Rising Star Scholarship" Competition since 2003.

**Sayward Grindley** - Sayward Grindley is the Education Director of the Sarasota Ballet, in Sarasota, Florida. She manages and oversees the Sarasota Ballet School; Sarasota Ballet Summer Programs, including Summer Intensives and Summer Camps; Sarasota Ballet Trainee Program, which feeds into the Company; Dance- The Next Generation, a scholarship/drop-out prevention program for at-risk students; and The Sarasota Ballet's Outreach Program, providing Master Classes, Field Trips and Collaboration with local schools. Ms. Grindley trained primarily with Galina Panova, of 26 International Ballet Companies; Joseph Carow, formerly with American Ballet Theatre; and Cindy Mancini, formerly with New Jersey Ballet. Ms. Grindley graduated Magna Cum Laude with a dual-Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance Performance and Dance Education, with K-12 Certification, from East Carolina University's School of Theatre and Dance. She has been teaching ballet, modern, jazz and creative movement for over ten years. Before becoming the Education Director at Sarasota Ballet, she was the Director of Dance at Booker Middle School's Visual and Performing Arts Program, and was on the Dance Faculty at Manatee School for the Arts. Ms. Grindley has also taught and choreographed for numerous schools and has performed in a wide range of ballets and modern/jazz works throughout the US. She was a company member of Fuzion Dance Artists for 4 years. She is also a member of National and Florida Dance Educators Organization, National and Florida Dance Association, and AAHPERD: American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Ms. Grindley currently resides in North Port, Florida with her husband Eric, and has a baby girl on the way!

**Mitsie Kraak** - Mitsie Hilburn Kraack is the Owner and Artistic Director of Theatre Arts and Dance Alliance (TADA) located in Lithia, FL. She is an Atlanta native and has lived in the Tampa Bay area for more than 15 years. A graduate of the University of South Florida (B. S., Dance Education), Mitsie has been a professional choreographer of Musical Theatre, Modern, Jazz and Tap for more than twenty years. Her teaching and choreographic

experience in the Tampa area includes work with Steps School of Dance, Firethorn School of Dance, Next Stop Broadway – Ruth Eckerd Hall Summer Musical Theatre, New Tampa Dance Theatre, Jansen Dance Project and local schools in the Hillsborough County School District. Her professional dance background includes work and training with Gary Harrison and Company (Atlanta) and as Co-Director and performer of *Souls of the Feet* with The Dance Theatre of Georgia, Inc. Most recently she was commissioned to choreograph *Footloose* for the Camden County High School Theatre Program in Kingsland, GA. Her Regional and High School Musical Theatre choreography credits include: *Annie, No Frills Review, Bye, Bye Birdie, Nunsense, Grease, Narnia, Wizard of Oz, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Footloose, excerpts from Westside Story, Carousel, Music Man, Cabaret, 42nd Street, and Crazy For You*. Directing credits for children's theatre include: *School House Rock Live, Jr., Narnia, Disney's Cinderella Kids, Mr. Toads Mad Adventures, 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, Disney's 101 Dalmatians, Kids, The WizKid, Dear Edwina, You're a Good Man Charlie Brown, Who Me, Yes You and Twinderella* Mitsie is the resident choreographer for the Randall Middle School Showchoir Encore. She is currently working with Randall Middle School Chorus on their upcoming performance of *Dear Edwina* and Newsome High School Chorus performance of *Grease*.

**Alexandra Carstarphen** - Alexandra M. Carstarphen began dancing in North Carolina where she later graduated from East Carolina University with a degree in Theatre & Dance Education. Her background includes Ballet, Modern, Character, Tap and Musical Theatre with an emphasis on Jazz and Lyrical. Mrs. Carstarphen was a founding company member of Dance Arts Theatre and has studied under Marcus Alford, Jay Norman, Reginald Yates, Chuck Davis and trained at the North Carolina School of the Arts, NC Academy of Dance Arts, New World School of the Arts –Florida, Joffrey Ballet, Steps & Broadway Dance Center – NY. She was Artistic Director for Pitt County Arts Council Festival of Dance for 3 years. Currently on staff of the Dance Department at Manatee School for the Arts in Palmetto, Florida. She teaches the Intro to Dance to incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Modern, Choreography and Ethnic Dance to Middle & High School Students.

**Leymis Bolaños Wilmott** is the Co-Founder/Artistic Director of Fuzión Dance Artists; Sarasota/Bradenton's 1st Contemporary Dance Company. She is a recipient of the 2008 Arts Leadership Award for Artistic Achievement from the Sarasota Arts Council, 2006 Sarasota Artist Fellowship, and was nominated in 2005 by Sarasota Magazine as best choreographer in a musical for *Miss Saigon* presented at the Players Theatre. Most recently she was listed as one of the top 28 Most Powerful People In The Arts for 2009, and received the Dance Magazine award in 2002 for Southeast Best Choreographer. Her work has been performed nationally at the John F. Kennedy Center, Shaw Center in Baton Rouge, Chicago Theatre Building, Florida Dance Festival, Merce Cunningham Studio and Ailey City Group Theatre in NYC, the Birmingham Jefferson Civic Complex Theater, Koger Center of the Arts in South Carolina, and the Manatee River Front Theater in Bradenton, Florida. She continues to choreograph for local groups like Westcoast Black Theater Troupe and

Kaleidoscope (Asolo Repertory partnership with the Community Haven for adults and children with disabilities). Wilmott has collaborated with renowned composer, Edward Cosla on original scores for Fuzión, A. Paul with the Hello Dali project at the Dali Museum, and with Francis Schwartz on Kinda Cage-y which has been seen all over the world as part of the John Cage Trust. Ms. Wilmott was first in the state to receive a certificate in *Dance and Healing* from the University of Florida and has a Master of Fine Arts in Performance/Choreography from The Florida State University. Her deep love for education and community building continues as she advocates for dance as a Teaching Artist through the Sarasota Arts Council, Manatee Arts Council, and Van Wezel Performing Arts Center. She also teaches at Booker High School and is an Adjunct Professor of Dance at New College of Florida. Ms. Wilmott is a certified Pilates Instructor and proud wife to a supportive husband Kavin Wilmott and mother to four- month-old Charles Edward.

## DRAMA JUDGES

**Don Jones** - Mr. Jones has been a theatre director in Wisconsin and a high school drama teacher in New York City, on Long Island and in Florida. His academic credits include Yale Drama School, HB Studios in New York City and New York University School of the Arts. Willem Dafoe and Jill Clayburgh began their careers under his direction. He has also had a life-long love affair with films of all genres and has studied film at NYU and with Hitchcock authority Donald Spoto at The New School in New York City. He has been recognized as Teacher of the Year by the Florida Association for Theatre Education and the Florida Theatre Conference. He was the recipient of the first Florida State Thespian Lifetime Achievement Award. He serves as Program Chair and Main Stage screener for Florida State Thespian Conference, a task he has performed for the last 19 years. He has adjudicated and presented workshops at several SETC Conferences as well as five State Thespian Conferences. He serves on various boards and committees at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, where he is a trustee as well as the board of directors of the Pinellas County Cultural Arts Council. In the summer of 2006 he returned to Wisconsin to play Henry, the old actor, in *The Fantasticks*. He has the long underwear and will travel at the drop of an invitation. [Donejonesjr@aol.com](mailto:Donejonesjr@aol.com)

**Susan Demers** - Susan Demers is a graduate of Stetson University with a baccalaureate degree in Speech and Theatre and holds a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Florida College of Law. A member of the bar since 1975, Ms. Demers has taught and spoken on a range of legal topics but in recent years she has focused on the intersection of law and presentation skills. Since 1982, Ms. Demers has served as the coordinator of and an instructor in St. Petersburg College's Paralegal/Legal Assisting Program, teaching a variety of law-related classes. She is a frequent lecturer on law office topics both for law related professions and the Bar. Ms. Demers often performs on area stages and has had the opportunity to sing Gershwin, Porter and Sondheim with some of the Bay area's most

talented musicians. Favorite roles include Reno Sweeney in *Anything Goes*, Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd* and Anna in *The King and I*.

**Murray Mintz** - Murray Mintz is the Executive Director of The Florida Association for Theatre Education, the state's organization of theatre instructors at the elementary through university levels. A retired high school theatre teacher, Murray was recognized by the Florida Theatre Conference as the state's Secondary Theatre Educator of the year in 2002, and was listed in *Who's Who among America's Teachers* for several years. He has directed more than 90 productions in professional, community and educational theatre, and taught acting and directing at St Petersburg College. Murray has been an international trainer and examiner for theatre teachers in the International Baccalaureate program. He has directed several Lary Award winning productions including *The Foreigner* and *The Lion in Winter* at Francis Wilson Playhouse, and *Sylvia*, *Noises Off* and *My Fair Lady* at St. Petersburg Little Theatre.

**Karla Hartley** - Karla Hartley received a BFA in Theater Studies from Boston University in 1992. She is currently Associate Producing Artistic Director for Stageworks Theater and was the Producing & Educational Programming Manager at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center for fifteen years. She was the Advance Production Manager for the national tour of *Ferocious Beauty:Genome* for the Liz Lerman Dance Exchange and is an at-large board member for IPAY-International Performing Arts for Youth. She is the resident Production Manager for GALA Choruses' International Gay & Lesbian Chorus Festival. Directing Credits include: *Greetings*; *Ladies at the Alamo* (Boston); *The Seahorse*; *Christmas with Elvis*; *Girl Detective*; *Cut the Ribbons* (Florida tour); *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*; *Always*; *Patsy Cline*; *The Goat or Who is Sylvia?*; *The Mystery of Irma Vep*; *Jewtopia*; *Hats! The Musical* (Florida tour); *Boston Marriage*; *The Rocky Horror Show* and *Waistwatchers* as well as five upcoming productions: the world premier of *Key Pin It Real* (with Kathie Lee Gifford); the world premier of *Party Animals* by Kathie Lee Gifford and David Friedman; *Respect*, *Little Dog Laughed* & *And Baby Makes Seven* by Paula Vogel.

**Barry Hamilton** - Barry E. Hamilton, Division Manager of Instruction at the Marcia P. Hoffman Performing Arts Institute at Ruth Eckerd Hall, is a graduate of Florida State University where he received a BFA in Theater Performance. For several years he has served as Production Manager for American Stage's "Shakespeare In The Park" productions in St. Petersburg as well as the LiveArts production of *Webb City, the Musical*. Barry authored the American Stage tour production of *NewsRock 2000* and, in 2001, acted as Camp Director for the American Stage's Summer Theater Camp. He served as Production/Stage Manager for the Eckerd Theater Company for six seasons and eight years as the adjunct Drama Focus teacher at Perkins Elementary where he has collaborated with Tim Topper on several original scripts and three original musicals.

**Kay Campbell** was a Theater major at Ole Miss and has a BA in Education with graduate work in special education, administration and theater. She taught theater at St. Paul's Episcopal School and served for nine years as Associate Education Director and Education Director at Ruth Eckerd Hall. She joined the staff of the Pinellas County Arts Council (which became the Pinellas County Cultural Affairs Department in October of 2006) in 1997, where she serves as Education and Grant Services Director. Ms. Campbell is responsible for administering the Arts in Education programs which include artist residencies, teacher professional education in the arts, and "The Prince of Frogs" a musical theater production which teaches the water cycle and water conservation; the Cultural Development and Cultural Tourism Grants programs for organizations; the Individual Artist and Arts Teacher Grants programs; grants writing, grants management and technical assistance. Ms. Campbell is chair of the Education Consortium, a group of over twenty-five arts education directors, curators and coordinators from arts and cultural organizations throughout Pinellas County. Since 1966, Ms. Campbell has appeared in, directed, costumed, served as wardrobe mistress or worked on the crew of over 80 amateur and professional theater productions, and most recently appeared with her husband, Don Moyer, in an original play by Sylvia Reed, *Full Moon Rabbit Dance* at Ruth Eckerd Hall and *The Players* in Sarasota.

## **INSTRUMENTAL JUDGES**

**Anthony Fuoco** - Since graduating from the University of South Florida ('88) with a B.S. in Music Education, Mr. Anthony Fuoco has been teaching instrumental music in Pinellas County. Currently, he is the Band/Orchestra Director of the 210 member Oak Grove Middle School Band/Orchestra program in Clearwater. His bands have performed for the National Middle School Association Convention, Florida Music Educators Conference, and with the Dallas Brass at Ruth Eckerd Hall. In addition, his bands have appeared on the award winning Pinellas Television Student Measures Program! Mr. Fuoco is a proud alumnus of the Pinellas Youth Symphony, and conducted the Philharmonia Winds for 5 years. His high school teaching experience includes the Clearwater High School Jazz Band, Northside Christian High School assistant band director, Seminole High School sectional coach, and the Ruth Eckerd Hall Youth Jazz Program. Adjudicator experience includes: Ruth Eckerd Hall Scholarship Program, Pinellas Youth Symphony placement, All County Band placement, and Walker's Rising Stars instrumental adjudicator.

In addition to teaching music, Mr. Fuoco performs professionally throughout the Tampa Bay area and is involved in his church's music ministry. He would like to thank his wife Carrie and his two children, Austin and Chloe for their love and support! Website is <http://it.pinellas.k12.fl.us/teachers/fuocoa/>

**Dr. Jonathan Steele** - Dr. Jonathan Steele is the Dean of Humanities & Fine Arts at St. Petersburg College. He holds a Ph.D in the College Teaching of Music from the University of Florida, a M.M. in Music Theory from the University of South Florida and B.A. in Biblical

Literature from Clearwater Christian College. Before his appointment to Dean, he was the Program Director for Humanities & Fine Arts at the St. Petersburg/Gibbs Campus from 1993 until the summer of 2008. In addition to serving as the administrator for the College's music program, he served as the Director of the SPC College Band from 1991 to 2006 and Director of the Clearwater Community Band from 1995 to 2000.

**Svetozar Ivanov** - Pianist Svetozar Ivanov has made numerous appearances as recitalist and orchestra soloist in Europe & North America. All Music Guide praised his two recent solo CD's; the CD *Naked Tango* was called "superbly original, quite moving, personal and musically absorbing" while his CD *Vers la flame* was celebrated for performances which were "played with aplomb, panache and complete conviction" and interpretation "filled with sensual longing, anguished yearning, anxious dread and provocative energy." Svetozar's recent performance venues include Seiler Piano Festival in Crete, Association Philomuses in Paris, Mansfield 22 in London, Bethaniënklooster in Amsterdam, Icontra sulla tasteria in Italy, "Salon des Arts" and "Sofia Music Weeks" in Bulgaria, Royal Irish Academy of Music, North Netherlands Conservatory, Zurich Conservatory in Switzerland, Vicenza Conservatory in Italy, Robert Helps International Competition & Festival at Merkin Concert Hall in New York City, Fox River Chamber Music Festival in Wisconsin, Chautauqua Music Festival in New York, Sequoia Concerts in San Francisco, The Steinway Series and the Encore Series in Florida and numerous concert series at universities throughout the U.S. Svetozar Ivanov is Associate Professor of Piano at the University of South Florida, serves as Artist Faculty member at Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival in Vermont, and is the Artistic Director of the Steinway Piano Series at USF. He has served on juries for the Konzertheum International Piano Competition in Greece, the Seiler International Piano Competitions in Crete, the International Youth Music Festival & Competition in Bulgaria, and the Chautauqua Music Festival Piano Competition. Svetozar holds degrees from the Bulgarian National Conservatory and the University of Michigan (DMA).

**Calista Zebley** - Mrs. Calista Zebley is a native Floridian and a product of the Hillsborough County public school system. She attended Hillsborough Community College where she earned an Associate Arts degree. She then spent one year studying music at the University of Tampa before transferring to Florida State University where she earned a Bachelor's degree in music education. Mrs. Zebley began her teaching career in 1990 as the band and chorus director at Azalea Middle School. In 1993 she opened Carwise Middle School and was the band director until 1998 when she was recruited to open John Hopkins Middle School for the Arts. From 2001-2008 Mrs. Zebley ran a music studio teaching private instrument lessons to both middle school and high school students. In 2008 Mrs. Zebley returned to the classroom at Coachman Fundamental Middle School (which is now called Clearwater Fundamental School) where she is currently the band and chorus director. Mrs. Zebley is a concert band and solo and ensemble adjudicator for the Florida Bandmaster's Association. She has been an All County clinician in many different counties. She has served as co-chair for Pinellas County Music Educator Association. She has also served as district

chair for the Florida Bandmasters Association. Mrs. Zebley is married, has two children ages 6 and 10, and currently resides in Clearwater, Florida.

**Dr. Scott Rudes** became the Assistant Principal for Magnet Curriculum at Howard W. Blake High School in July of 2008. Prior to coming to Blake, Dr. Rudes was an Assistant Principal for Curriculum at East Bay High School and an Assistant Principal for Student Affairs at Bloomingdale High School. He also served as the Orchestra Director and Assistant Band Director at Bloomingdale High School for many years prior to becoming an administrator. He received his PhD in Educational Leadership and Research and Masters degree in Music Education from the University of Southern Mississippi. He received a Bachelors degree in Music Education from Florida State University. Dr. Rudes currently serves as the President of the Florida Orchestra Association and has conducted All-County orchestras throughout the state.

### **VIDEO ARTS JUDGES**

**Dick Crippen** – Mr. Crippen is the Senior Advisor for the Tampa Bay Rays. He has 40+ years of broadcasting experience - 35 years as sports director at WTSP-Ch. 10 and WFLA-Ch. 8; Dick has spent many years as a free lancer with ESPN, Speed, ESPN2 and others.

**Sean Clark** – Sean Clark works for Pinellas County Schools, as an ITV Broadcast Specialist. He has worked in the TV industry for six years; also a videographer for Sirius Satellite Radio; currently works for the Bucs and USF Bulls as a videographer.

**Jonathan Ogle** – Mr. Ogle works for Pinellas County Schools as a Visual Arts Technology Specialist. He has a B.A. in Art Education and Elementary Classroom Education from Upper Iowa University and an M.A. from Iowa State University. Jon has 11 years art education experience was a 2009-10 Outstanding Educator semi-finalist in Creativity & Innovation; and was the recipient of the 2010 Davis Publications Arts Advocacy Movie National Award.

**Jack Tovey** – Mr. Tovey works for Pinellas County Schools as a Visual Arts Teacher on Special Assignment. He has a B.A. and M.A. from USF, emphasis on computer graphics. Jack has 29 years teaching experience including four years at Northeast High, in computer graphics and multimedia design. Jack was a 2010 National Video Award for Arts Advocacy Davis Publications recipient.

**Cindy Seletos** – Ms. Seletos is an Account Executive for Apple, Inc. She has Judged video projects from school districts across the state for more than 15 years and has extensive background in technology consulting and planning for educational institutions.

## VISUAL ARTS JUDGES

**David Shankweiler** is the Executive Director of the Beach Art Center in Indian Rocks Beach, FL. He spent nineteen years in a variety of capacities at the Dunedin Fine Art Center, Dunedin, FL, including Communications Director, Curator and Preparator. He also directed the Greenville Museum of Art, Greenville N.C. and the Tampa Bay Automobile Museum, Pinellas Park. He had the opportunity to work with some of the best Florida-based curators and created a number of notable exhibitions as a curator. Watching young talent develop has been a highlight of his career. Shankweiler earned a BA in English Literature and Visual Art from Georgia State University, Atlanta.

**Rebecca Sexton Larson** is a Tampa based studio artist working with alternative photographic processes. She graduated from the University of South Florida with a degree in Fine Arts and Mass Communications. She was awarded Florida Individual Artist Fellowships in 1998, 2002, and 2008. In 2006, she received an Artist Enhancement Grant from the State of Florida and, in 2005, was commissioned by the City of Tampa to be its Photographer Laureate for a year. During the past 15 years, Larson has taught, lectured and exhibited work nationally at numerous arts institutions and organizations. Larson's photographs are in major collections throughout the country, including: Polaroid, Progressive Corporate Art, Graham Nash (Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young), Holland and Knight Law Firm, Polk Museum of Art, and the Tampa Museum of Art, to name a few. Currently Larson's work is featured in the book, *Pinhole Photography: Rediscovering a Historic Technique* by Eric Renner. In addition to being a studio artist, Larson has worked in various positions at several Florida Museums including Curatorial Assistant at the Tampa Museum of Art and Curator of Education at the Polk Museum of Art in Lakeland. Currently she is Associate Curator/Registrar at the Leepa-Rattner Museum.

**Michele Tuegel** is Media Relations & Arts Specialist with the Pinellas County Cultural Affairs Department. Also an arts administrator, she was Executive Director for 18 years of the statewide craft organization, Florida Craftsmen. Michele opened the group's first statewide gallery in downtown St. Petersburg in 1986, and by 1995, Florida Craftsmen Gallery moved to larger headquarters on Central Avenue, where they were quickly coined 'the pioneer and anchor of the city's downtown cultural revitalization" efforts. Michele has also served regionally and nationally as a juror, lecturer and grants panelist, and sits on the board of the American Craft Council Southeast. She received her Master of Fine Arts from the University of South Florida in Tampa, and her artworks are in museum, corporate and private collections throughout the U.S. She most recently completed a large commission for the Hospice of the Florida Suncoast. Her art career began at age 5 when her father took her out in the middle of a busy street in Pittsburgh and taught her how to achieve perspective in her drawings. Later on, in her high school days in Miami, Michele was a National Gold Key scholarship recipient.

## VOCAL JUDGES

**Theresa Andrasy-Sokol** - Theresa Andrasy-Sokol has directed for the St. Petersburg Opera, Opera Theatre of Lakeland, at the Wesley Balk Music Theater Institute and at the University of South Florida while functioning as Coordinator of Opera and Professor of Voice. Currently Resident Director for the Opera Theatre of Lakeland, she has staged over twenty-five opera and musical presentations, among them *Don Giovanni*, *Barber of Seville*, *The Magic Flute*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Die Fledermaus*, *The Tender Land*, *Suor Angelica*, *The Turn of the Screw* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. As mezzosoprano under the name Theresa D'Aiuto, she sang extensively in European opera houses including Berlin, Krefeld, Karlsruhe, Munster, Kassel, Wuppertal, Trieste, Italy and Ghent, Belgium. She performed with the New Haven Opera, the Opera Ensemble of New York, Brooklyn Opera, and Lake George Opera. Her most frequently sung roles are Rosina, Hansel, Cherubino, Nicklausse and Siebel. Her international concert performances include appearances in Austria, Belgium, Germany, New York, Connecticut, Florida and Pennsylvania. She is a member of two chamber ensembles, *East West Dancing Tiger*, and *Two T's & a Cup of Joe*, whose debut performances launched a music series at the Leepa Rattner Museum in Florida. She released *Tribute*, a solo vocal chamber music CD in 2005, and performs with *East West Dancing Tiger* on Capstone Records 2008 release *Cross-cultural Collisions*.

Ms. Andrasy-Sokol graduated from Manhattanville College in New York and received her Masters in Music Performance from the University of South Florida. She studied with Cynthia Hoffman, of the Juilliard School in New York and Giulio Gari of the Curtis Institute, coached with author and pianist Stanley Sonntag and conductor Martin Rich of the Metropolitan Opera, and engaged in further study at the Mannes School of Music and the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria.

**William Cusick** - Bill Cusick has a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education with a minor in Mathematics from The State University of New York at Fredonia and a Master's Degree in Piano Performance from USF in Tampa. Bill's teaching experience includes private voice & piano, teaching humanities and math, vocal and choral teaching in private & public schools in Pinellas County. He has also adjudicated many District & State Thespian Festivals in Hillsborough and Pinellas. Presently Bill teaches music, voice & keyboard at Renaissance Academy in Pasco County and voice & piano at the Marcia P. Hoffman Performing Arts Institute at Ruth Eckerd Hall. Bill has worked in several community theaters in Pasco, Pinellas and Hillsborough counties. He credits his many accomplishments with his love of the piano and ability to teach and inform.

**Maria Zouves** - Maria Zouves is the director of V.O.I.C.Experience and founded the program in 2001. She teaches and produces outreach all around the world, having worked with IVAI in Montreal and Puerto Rico and IIVA in Chiari, Italy. Maria has taught workshops at Southern Illinois University, Drake University and worked as interim opera

director at Northwestern University. Zouves made her Carnegie Hall debut in 1997, singing in concerts four consecutive seasons, including the Rutter Requiem under the baton of John Rutter. Her extensive concert work includes performances with the Stuttgart Philharmonic, Prague Philharmonic, Metropolitan Opera Guild Series, the Austrian Consulate, and the Athenian Ball with Thannos Microutsikos (a gala telecast with the Bucharest Radio Orchestra. Maria and her husband Sherrill Milnes enjoy their family and building VE in Florida.

Maria Zouves is now the Associate Director of Opera Tampa, building the company with the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center and running its first season of the Opera Tampa Apprentice Program in conjunction with her summer V.O.I.C.Experience programs and continues to teach master classes, write columns and direct singers towards their career goals.

**Maggie Coleman** - Mrs. Coleman is a native of San Juan, Puerto Rico, where she studied voice with Maria Esther Robles at the Conservatorio de Musica de Puerto Rico. She earned a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance at Iowa State University, and subsequently moved to Tampa in 1987. Since that time has been soloist and section leader at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. She has also been seen as a soloist for the Sarasota Choral Society, Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, Master Chorale of Tampa Bay, Oratorio Society of Tampa, Mendelssohn Choir at St. John's Church and Mostly Pops Orchestra. She is a frequent guest soloist for several bay area churches, performing recitals and sacred works, including Handel's "Messiah," and Fauré's "Requiem." She has performed supporting roles with Tampa Bay Opera, and performed leading and supporting roles with Spanish Lyric Theater. Mrs. Coleman has also been a cantor at Nativity Catholic Church since 2003. She has taught voice privately in her home, on and off, since residing in Florida. Mrs. Coleman currently resides in Clearwater with her husband, attorney, Jeff Coleman, and their beagle, Maria Constanza.

**Dr. JoAnne Stephenson** - JoAnne Stephenson is an active performer, lecturer, adjudicator, and choir director. Performances abroad include Beijing, China in 2005, where Dr. Stephenson sang, "The Umokoro Songs" written for her by Dr. Wallace Cheatham at the Beijing Conservatory. European performances include a tour to Leipzig, Prague, Vienna and Melk, where she sang the Mezzo Soprano solos in the J.S. Bach, "Magnificate," and the W.A. Mozart, "Mass in c Minor" with the Bach Society of Winter Park. Other European engagements include four solo recitals, two of which were sung at Cambridge University in Cambridge, England, and two at the University of London. Additional European performances include solo recitals and performances in Paris, France, Ragusa, Italy and Vevey, Switzerland.

Dr. Stephenson has presented several lecture/recitals around the United States. One lecture of note was her presentation in conjunction with a grant for the National Endowment for the Humanities where she lectured on "An Interdisciplinary Approach to

Music by African Americans.” Other lecture recitals include her research on Florence Price where two presentations were given for the College Music Society’s National meetings in San Juan Puerto Rico, in and Portland, Oregon. Additional presentations include lecture recitals at Hampton University, University of Dayton, and Agnes Scott College where her presentation was recorded and aired on Atlanta’s classical station, WABE.

#### Education

- D.M.A. in Voice Performance from University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana (1995)
- M.M. in Voice Performance from Washington University (1986)
- B.M. in Voice Performance from University of Missouri (1983)

**Won Cho** – Won Cho is Assistant Professor of Voice and Director of the USF Opera Program. He performs bass-baritone operatic and concert repertoire throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe, the Middle East and his native Korea. Known for the range and quality of his voice, as well as his outstanding acting ability, Cho is on the roster of Thea Dispeker Artist Management in New York City. Cho debuted in Mexico as Sprecher in *Die Zauberflöte* with the Xalapa Symphony Orchestra and has also performed with Mercury Opera of Rochester, the Western New York Chamber Orchestra in Buffalo, the Southern Illinois Music Festival, the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus/Orchestra, Tampa Oratorio Society, Sarasota Chorale Society, and the Classical Music Festival in Eisenstadt, Austria. He won third place at the 31<sup>st</sup> Vincenzo Bellini International Opera Competition in Italy, first place at the Artist International Music Competition in Toronto, Canada and was a regional finalist at the Metropolitan Opera’s National Council Audition. He was also recognized at the Amici Vocal Competition, Operafest! of New Hampshire competition. Cho received a voice scholarship from Boston University and was a Hohenberg-Scheidt Opera Fellow at the University of Memphis. Won Cho received his degrees from Manhattan School of Music, Boston University and his ABD at the University of Memphis.