

PLAYBILL®



SIEMINSKI THEATER
CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

G. Donizetti



Light Opera of New Jersey

L'Elisir d'Amore



November 8 & 9

SieminskiTheater.org 908-580-3892

SIEMINSKI THEATER ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM



Brian Lawrence – President and CEO

Brian Lawrence has over 20 years of Health Care and Life Plan Community (CCRC) experience. He began serving Fellowship Senior Living, Inc. as Chief Financial Officer in 1999 and in 2006 the title of Executive Vice President was added. With a very well-rounded understanding of the Life Plan Community and Health Care business and ten years of progressively senior responsibility at FL, Mr. Lawrence assumed the duties of President and CEO in 2009. An avid lover and supporter of the performing arts, in 2012 Mr. Lawrence embarked on the journey to design and build a premier arts venue at the Fellowship Village campus. In 2019 the Cultural Arts Center opened and now serves as a cultural destination for the village residents, family, and friends, and all of Somerset County and the surrounding communities.



Patricia Yannotta - Executive Director

Patty brings over 20 years of professional leadership experience working in the arts to the Sieminski Theater. She joined Fellowship Village in 2018 and worked closely with Brian Lawrence, the architects, experts, and designers to open the Theater in 2019. Patty oversees the Theater business operations and team. She is dedicated to executing its artistic vision, ensuring it is a cultural hub for our residents and the greater community, providing the best in entertainment, arts, and culture. She brings her expertise in the contemporary fine art field to the art gallery space as well.

She also directs the resident programs including arts, entertainment, special events, education, and wellness activities for the residents. She is also committed to creating a welcoming, engaging, and vibrant atmosphere for the Theater and the Fellowship Village campus.



Scott Hart – Theater and Programing Manager

Started his theatrical career at the age of 13, often getting out of school early for matinee performances. After graduating high school, he went straight to NYC and attended the New York Academy of Theatrical Arts. His acting career included Off-Broadway, tours, regional theater, stock, and dinner theater. Over the years his attention turned more towards producing, directing and management. He is a Drama Desk and Tony Award nominated Producer of the hit Broadway musical, "A Christmas Story-The Musical" which broke box office records at the famed Lunt Fontanne Theater on Broadway in 2012. He is a multi-award-winning director and has served as Artistic Director for several theaters over the years. Most recently he served as Entertainment Project Manager for Norwegian Cruise Lines where he was responsible for the production and installation of Broadway shows on several of NCL's newer ships. With over 40 years of experience in the theater industry, he is now very excited to be an integral part of the Sieminski Theater team, managing the daily operations of the theater and overseeing all programing and performances.



Molly Fandel – Digital & Social Media Marketing Manager

Molly Fandel is the Digital & Social Media Marketing Manager for FellowshipLIFE. After graduating from college she worked as a Market Sales Manager for the Patron Spirits company representing the luxury brand throughout NJ. After serving in this role for 5 years Molly decided to pursue her MBA with a concentration in Marketing at Pace University in New York City. She recently graduated and is enthusiastic about focusing on marketing and media applications. Molly enjoys bringing recognition through social media and marketing outreach to the arts and culture programming offered at the Sieminski Theater.

Light Opera of New Jersey

proudly presents

L'Elisir d'Amore

G. Donizetti

*A Co-production between Teatro Grattacielo,
Camerata Bardi International Academy and Light Opera of New Jersey*

Executive Producer & Conductor: Jason Tramm

Director: Stefanos Koroneos

Producer

Chris Dzerovych

Stage Manager

Gregory Pernicone

**Lighting Design &
Operator**

Nick Caburis

**Projections Operator &
Technical Assistant**

Quinton Tramm

**Costume Coord. &
Hair and Make-Up
Assistant**

Sarah Rose Johnson

Hair & Makeup

Alexa Fremount

Production Assistant

Beth Gleason

Set Designer

David Santiago

**Opera for All
Coordinator**

Teresa Giardina

Company Manager

Denise Szabo

Social Media

Edward Wolf

Webmaster

John Lamb

Mission Statement

The mission of Light Opera of New Jersey is to present treasures of musical theater and light opera with professional caliber performers, musicians and production teams.

We educate our performers by casting local talent of all ages alongside seasoned professionals; we educate our communities by bringing our shows to audiences who otherwise might not experience these art forms.

Through our work, we strive
to keep this superb genre alive for future generations.

Synopsis

L'Elisir D'Amore is a comic opera which unfolds in two acts.

One of the best loved of all Donizetti's operas, this two-act romantic comedy follows the fortunes of poor villager Nemorino who is in love with wealthy, beautiful heiress Adina.

She rejects him and travelling quack Dr. Dulcamara takes advantage of the desperate Nemorino, selling him a fake love potion which is really just red wine. Drunk on the wine, Nemorino feigns indifference to Adina and in her confusion, she agrees to marry the arrogant Sergeant Belcore.

Nemorino begs Dulcamara for another, stronger potion. The quack is only too happy to oblige. However, unbeknown to Nemorino and Adina, he has come into an inheritance and is now a wealthy man. The village women pursue him, and Adina's jealousy grows; does she love him after all?

The pair kiss and are caught in an embrace by Belcore. The wedding is off, the happy couple admit their feelings and Belcore shrugs it off, saying there are plenty of women in the world. Even Dulcamara is happy as his love potions appear to work and are suddenly in great demand.

Disproving the theory that opera must end in tragedy, they all live happily ever after.

Credits: OperaForAll, on <https://www.operaforall.co.uk/in-brief-lelisir-damore/>

Meet the Performers



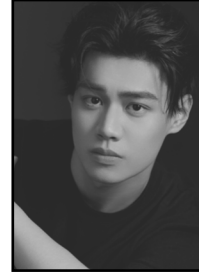
Tiernan Chase
Adina (11/9)



Yoonji Kim
Adina (11/8)



Pedro Barrera
Nemorino (11/9)



Zhedong Ren
Nemorino (11/8)



Bryan McClary
Belcore (11/8 & 11/9)



Valia Karagiorga
Gianetta (11/8)



Taylor Consiglio
Gianetta (11/9)



Alejandro de Los Santos
Dr. Dulcamara (11/8 & 11/9)

Krystel Juvet, *Groovy Girl*

Natasha Scheuble, *Teleprompter Girl*



Jason Tramm
Executive Producer/ Conductor



Stefanos Koroneos
Director

Ensemble

Kiana Afsharnia, Soprano
Diana Malenkova, Soprano
Natasha Scheuble, Soprano
Allysa Totten, Soprano
Teresa Giardina, Mezzo-Soprano
Sarah Joseph, Mezzo-Soprano
Tasiah Mayfield, Mezzo-Soprano

Keilly Wilson, Mezzo-Soprano
Jeremy Knapp, Tenor
MJ Lintern, Tenor
Jaden Skeeter, Tenor
Ronald Campbell, Bass
Zachary Tupajic Evinger, Bass
Nicholas Ferrante, Bass

Orchestra

Susan Heerema, Concert Master

Gregor Kitzis, Violin 2

Arman Alypsaev, Viola

Natalie Galebsky, Cello

Noah Strevell, Bass

Mitzy Nonaka, Flute

Michael Dwinell, Oboe

Nikhil Bartolomeo, Clarinet

Susanne Chen, Bassoon

Bryan Meyer, Horn

Mason Tramm, Percussion

Jason Tramm, Conductor

Francisco Miranda, Assist.

Conductor, Rehearsal Pianist and
Subtitles

Biographies

Pedro Barrera, Nemorino (11/9) - Colombian tenor Pedro Barrera, born in Barranquilla, moved to the United States in 2017 after receiving a full scholarship to do his Master's degree at the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music. Originally classified as a baritone, Barrera started transitioning to tenor in 2019. His tenor debut was that same year in *Gianni Schicchi* (Gherardo), and later on in *Madama Butterfly* (Goro), both performances took place at the Newman Center For The Performing Arts. In 2016 in Colombia, Barrera performed baritone roles with Opera de Colombia including in *Fidelio* (Second Prisoner), in *La Cambiale di Matrimonio* (Norton), and was also the baritone soloist for *Durufle's Requiem* with the Bogota Youth Philharmonic Orchestra. Barrera was a national finalist of the Bogotá Philharmonic Orchestra Singing Competition in 2015 and 2016. Recent performances in the United States include *Don Giovanni* (Don Ottavio) in June of 2023 with Camerata Bardi - Teatro Grattacielo, *Lucrezia Borgia* (Vittellozzo) with New Amsterdam Opera in New York City, as well as *La Traviata* (Gastone) with New Jersey Lyric Opera.

Tiernan Chase, Adina (11/9) - Soprano Tiernan Chase earned a Master's degree from Manhattan School of Music. In 2019, Tiernan made her Italian debut in Verdi's *Rigoletto* (Gilda) as part of the Voce nel Montefeltro Festival in Novafeltria, Italy. She was scheduled to return there in the summer of 2020 to sing Verdi's *La Traviata* (Violetta Valery). Tiernan was scheduled to make her mainstage debut as the title role in Manhattan School of Music's Graduate Opera Theatre production of *Martha* in their 2020 Spring production. In 2021, Tiernan sang with the Brooklyn-based opera company The Opera Next Door in their inaugural performance of Mozart's *Così fan Tutte* (Despina). During the summer of 2022, Tiernan returned to Italy to make her role debut in the Voci nel Montefeltro Festival's production of *La Bohème* (Musetta). In the 2023 season, Tiernan made her Bronx Opera debut with her performance in their production of Kurt Weill's *Lady in the Dark* (Alison)

Du Bois), and in Francis Poulenc's *Les Dialogues des Carmelites* (Soeur Constance). She appeared as a featured soloist for the United Nations Symphony Orchestra in December 2023. This is Tiernan's first production with Camerata Bardi/Teatro Grattacielo.

Alejandro de Los Santos, Dr. Dulcamara (11/8 & 11/9) - Alejandro De Los Santos is a Colombian Bass-Baritone specializing in Italian Opera and Spanish Zarzuela. He has performed internationally, including in Italy, France, Belgium, and the Czech Republic, as well as in various U.S. cities such as San Antonio, Great Barrington, and New York City, where he currently resides. Alejandro's recent achievements include his Carnegie Hall solo debut with the United Nations Chamber Ensemble, performing the role of Figaro at the Estates Theatre in Prague, and being part of the Grammy Award-nominated Trinity Wall Street Choir. Originally from Dover, NJ, Alejandro is deeply grateful for the support from his hometown community, which has been instrumental in his journey.

Valia Karagiorga, Gianetta (11/8) - Valia Karagiorga, an Athens native, seamlessly integrates her love for arts and science. Holding dual certifications in Adult and Child & Adolescent Psychiatry from the American Board of Psychiatry & Neurology, along with a medical license in New York. Valia is also a graduate of the National Theatre of Greece Drama School. Her musical journey commenced in a children's choir in 1996, evolving into classical and modern singing at Athens' Halandri National Conservatory and Filippou Nakas Conservatory from 1998 to 2009. She has additionally completed studies in dancing, freehand, and technical drawing. Spending seven years in New York City, Valia began studying classical singing under Stefanos Koroneos before returning to Greece in 2021. In addition to clinical and academic roles, Valia has performed at prestigious venues, including the National Theatre of Greece, the Greek National Opera, the Ancient Theater of Epidaurus. She has also participated in various concerts in Greece and New York. Recently, Valia adapted clinical stories from Dr. Nancy Davis's book, "Therapeutic Stories that Teach and Heal," into the original play "The Keys," currently premiering on a prominent stage in Athens. Valia embraces her dual roles as a psychiatrist and performer, expressing a sincere passion and dedication for both fields.

Yoonji Kim, Adina (11/8) - Soprano Yoonji Kim was born in South Korea. She graduated from the Yewon School and Seoul Arts High School, known as the prestigious arts school that produced musicians such as Heikyung Hong, and Sungjin Cho. She graduated Hanyang University *summa cum laude* where she also received a Dean's award and an excellence prize. She studied with Jungwon Park when she was

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in Hanyang University. She continued her studies in Mannes School of Music obtaining her Master degree and is currently in Mannes pursuing a PDPL. She is studying with Arthur Levy and Joshua Greene. She was a semi-finalist in Premiere Opera Foundation Competition in 2022. In the summer of 2023, she made her debut in the opera *Hänsel and Gretel* (Gretel) in the Miami Music Festival.

Stefanos Koroneos, Director - As both General Director and Artistic Director of Teatro Grattacielo, Stefanos Koroneos brings a deep passion for multidisciplinary arts and creative vision to all his endeavors. His extensive experience as a performer gives him a unique perspective from the singer's point of view, allowing him to expertly draw out excellence from his collaborators. Koroneos is a skilled consensus-builder, effectively bridging artistic, collaborative, and administrative aspects to achieve outstanding results. Recent successes include the critically acclaimed curation and direction of Mozart's *Idomeneo* and *Don Giovanni* in Greece and the U.S, as well as his award-winning visual treatment of Zandonai's *Giulietta e Romeo* in Battery Park City, NY. In 2023-24 he reprised *Don Giovanni*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Carmen*, and *La Vestale* for Light Opera of New Jersey, La Tech in Monterrey, Mexico, the Cultural Center of Crete, the Megaron Thessaloniki and Teatro Grattacielo, *I Am A Dreamer Who No Longer Dreams* for Tri-Cities and Syracuse Operas, *Carmen* for Boheme Opera, *Domme + Giovanni* for White Snake Projects and *L'Elisir d'Amore* for Teatro Grattacielo. Upcoming productions include *The Magic Flute* for Tri-Cities Opera and the Luma Festival and the world premiere of Nicolas Flagello's *Beyond the Horizon* at La Mama in NYC. Mr. Koroneos has had the privilege of collaborating with some of the most renowned directors and conductors in the opera world, including Franco Zeffirelli, Fabrizio Melano, Moisés Kaufman, and Richard Bonyng. Through working with these esteemed artists, he has gained valuable insights and inspiration that have shaped his own unique directorial style, which continues to evolve and grow as he incorporates their expertise and vision. His international career as a baritone featured appearances with Teatro alla Scala, Teatro Regio di Torino, Bolshoi Theater, New York City Opera, Palm Beach Opera, Tampa Opera, Gotham Chamber Opera, Greek National Opera, Den Nye Opera Netherlands, Staatstheater Freiburg, Theater Osnabrück.

Bryan McClary, Belcore (11/8 & 11/9) - Bryan is recognized for his warm and rich baritone voice. He was recently a studio artist with Teatro Nuovo Covering the title role for their production of *Crispino e la*



Made possible in parts by funds from the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission, a partner of the NJ State Council on the Arts, the Green Family Foundation.

Comare (Don Asdrubal) by the Ricci Brothers during their summer festival. Along side local productions Bryan has made his international debut in Greece performing with The Camerata Bardi Vocal Academy in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* (Masetto) and covering the title role. He will also be joining the Camerata in *L'Elisir d'Amore* (Belcore) by Donizetti. In 2020 Bryan received a Bachelors in Music from Westminster Choir College studying with Sharon Sweet and received a Masters in Music in 2023 from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music studying with Peter Volpe.

Zhedong Ren, Nemorino (11/8) , tenor, earned his BM and MM at China Conservatory of Music, Beijing. Now he's pursuing his PDPL under the guidance of Prof. Arthur Levy and Mr. Joshua Greene at Mannes School of Music. He has performed at the National Stadium, National Center for the Performing Arts, Fujian Minnan Grand Theater, Shandong Provincial Grand Theater, Peking University Centennial Lecture Hall, and so on. As the closing ceremony singer for the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics, he performed and recorded theme songs for the event. In addition to singing, he also performs as a piano accompanist for singers.

Jason Tramm, Executive Producer/Conductor - Maestro Tramm has been hailed as a "conductor to watch" by Symphony Magazine, "filled with Italianate passion" by the Huffington Post, and an "orchestra Pied Piper" by the New York Concert Review. Maestro Tramm's work in the operatic, symphonic, and choral realms has received critical acclaim throughout the United States and abroad. He holds the following appointments: Executive Director, LONJ, the Director of Music Ministries, Ocean Grove Great Auditorium, Artistic Director, MidAtlantic Artistic Productions, Music Director of both the Taghkanic Chorale and Putnam Chorale, and Principal Guest Conductor of the Long Island Concert Orchestra. Dr. Tramm serves as an Associate Professor and Director of Choral Activities at Seton Hall University, where he conducts the University Chorus, Chamber Choir, and Orchestra. As a guest conductor, he has led symphonic and operatic performances in Italy, Romania, Hungary, Czech Republic throughout the United States. He is also the host of Music Matters with Jason Tramm, a podcast that explores artistic innovation under extreme circumstances, as seen through the eyes of distinguished artists. Music Matters can be seen on YouTube and has over 350,000 views.

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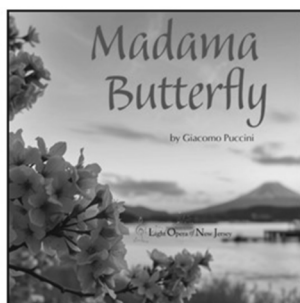


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*Celebrating our
30th Year*

Season 2025



Madama Butterfly

February 8 and 9, 2025
Sieminski Theater
Basking Ridge, NJ



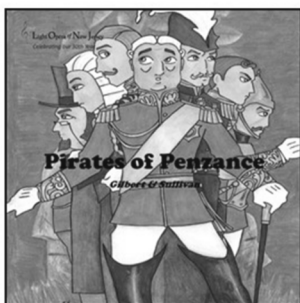
Stars of Tomorrow

April 5, 2025
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Basking Ridge, NJ



A Cappella Jamboree

May 2, 2025
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Basking Ridge, NJ



The Pirates of Penzance

July 11, 12 & 13, 2025
Sieminski Theater
Basking Ridge, NJ



A Celebration of the Stage

October 5, 2025
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Basking Ridge, NJ



Savoy Faire Program

Iolanthe
Check website:
<https://lightoperaofnewjersey.org/savoy-faire/>

Light Opera of NJ
POB 402
Basking Ridge, NJ 0 7920
www.LONJ.org

Please help support the Sieminski Theater.

Your tax-deductible donation is important to us!

Join us at The Sieminski Theater as we continue our 2024 season by giving to our vibrant local arts community. Your support has the power to transform, inspire, and elevate the performing arts, making a lasting impact right here in our community.

The Sieminski Theater is more than just a theater, it's a hub of creativity, a space where stories come to life, and dreams take center stage. By supporting The Sieminski Theater, you're investing in the heartbeat of our local arts scene. Your donation fuels captivating performances, supports emerging talent, and ensures that the magic of live theater continues to thrive.

Ticket sales alone do not cover the high costs of quality entertainment. Like most theaters, The Sieminski Theater relies on donations from patrons and corporate sponsors to help offset the significant costs of our operation. Your donation or sponsorship is tax deductible and helps ensure our goal of keeping the arts alive.

This 2024 season let's come together to nurture the arts and build a legacy of creativity that future generations will cherish. Your support is the gift that keeps our local arts community thriving. Join us in making a difference – because when we give, we not only support the arts, but we also cultivate a richer, more vibrant community for all.

Corporate and Seasonal Sponsorships.

If you work for a corporation, this is a wonderful opportunity to help support the Arts! Your *tax-deductible donation* or sponsorship comes with a whole list of benefits for your company. Sponsorships can be for a specific show or for an entire season. Corporate sponsorships to the theater can be beneficial to the sponsoring company and receives public recognition as a major sponsor of the Sieminski Theater, in addition to your company logo appearing in Playbills, press and marketing, you will receive complementary tickets to shows which can be used for VIP's, etc.

Individual sponsorships are also available. For more information, please contact Scott Hart at 908-580-3892 or by email at ScottH@SieminskiTheater.org.

This holiday season give the gift of the Arts

A Sieminski Theater Gift Certificate can be purchased for any amount you choose, used towards any productions and never expires. It's the perfect gift for those who love the Arts! May be purchased online through our website or at the Box office.



Upcoming Productions

Act 2 of our 2024 Season



Music Director David Wroe

Broadway through the Ages!

New Years Day @ 2:30pm

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or Instagram**

Visit our website at SieminskiTheater.org for more information, promo videos of shows and much more!