

*The*  
SULLIVAN  
FOUNDATION

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**2023 WILLIAM MATHEUS SULLIVAN FOUNDATION AUDITION AWARDS**

The William Matheus Sullivan Musical Foundation awarded **\$85,000** to **thirteen early career opera singers** who auditioned for the Foundation in New York on October 29 and 30, 2023. Sullivan Award winners participate in a five-year program of grants for preparing new roles, a unique feature of the Foundation's professional development support.

The seven winners of **\$10,000 Sullivan Awards** and five years of role preparation assistance are sopranos **Amber R. Monroe, Murrella Parton, and Teresa Perrotta**; mezzo-sopranos **Meridian Prall and Michelle Mariposa**; tenor **Moisés Salazar**; and bass-baritone **Le Bu**.

The panel also awarded **\$2,500 Career Development Grants** to six singers: sopranos **Mary Evelyn Hangley and Kathleen O'Mara**; countertenor **Kyle Tingzon**; tenors **Lawrence Barasa and Thomas Cilluffo**; and baritone **Sankara Harouna**.

Audition judges were Sullivan trustees **Susanne Mentzer, Evans Mirageas, and George Shirley**, joined by **Khori Dastoor**, General Director and CEO of Houston Grand Opera. Application judges were Sullivan trustees **Erie Mills and Marietta Simpson**, along with past Sullivan grant recipient **Patrick Carfizzi**. The audition pianists were **Adam Nielsen and Jinhee Park**.

Awards designated in memory of distinguished Sullivan Foundation board members are Meridian Prall's award for soprano **Rose Bampton**; Murrella Parton's award for soprano **Gail Robinson**, director of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program and National Council Auditions; Amber R. Monroe's award for mezzo-soprano **Betty Allen**, the second president of the Harlem School for the Arts; Moisés Salazar's award for tenor **David Lloyd**, executive director of the Sullivan Foundation and director of the Juilliard American Opera Center; and Le Bu's award for baritone **Theodor Uppman**.

**About the Foundation**

The Foundation was established through the estate of **William Matheus Sullivan**, a New York attorney and opera lover who presented performances sung by Metropolitan Opera artists in his country home in Ridgefield, Connecticut. Nearly 1,100 early career singers have earned funding from the Sullivan Foundation since 1957.

**Evans Mirageas**, the Harry T. Wilks Artistic Director of Cincinnati Opera, serves as the Foundation's President.

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