

REDWOODS OPERA WORKSHOP

Find your inspiration in beautiful Mendocino

June 18–28, 2020



A matchless
summer opera experience
in a matchless setting





Welcome to the Redwoods Opera Workshop, affectionately known as ROW.

Our focus, our scale, our faculty—and particularly our setting in glorious Mendocino, California—make us unique among summer opera programs.

We accept just 15 young singers each year, but have eight faculty members, making the faculty–student ratio more intimate and congenial than almost any other workshop.

Students receive a great deal of individualized attention through one-on-one coaching on arias and scenes, in acting classes, movement classes, master classes, lectures, and daily yoga (sometimes against the backdrop of the headlands of Mendocino).

The program is dedicated to equipping singing artists with the technique and the principles that will aid them throughout a career in music, whether it be on the international stage, regional stage, or teaching young people to love the craft of singing.

My hope is that at the end of our intensive but rewarding week each ROW student returns home with an enhanced knowledge of stagecraft, more insights on how their signing body works, new tools to conquer performance fears, professional information that will help in confidently charting the next steps in their career—and an aria that’s polished and ready to be added to their audition repertory.



I have seen the beginnings of lifetime friendships forged and careers launched at the Redwoods Opera Workshop. Actually, we’re more than “a workshop.” The opportunities and the experiences offered here have been described as life-changing by many of our former participants.

I warmly invite you to learn why, by joining us for a week in June that you’ll always remember.

Elizabeth Kirkpatrick Vrenios
Artistic Director

Benefit from
individualized attention
from an exceptional faculty



ELIZABETH KIRKPATRICK VRENIOS, Artistic Director, has been a respected and renowned teacher for more than 40 years. She is professor emerita at The American University, Washington, D.C., where she directed operas and musicals for more than 30 years. As a soprano, she has performed professionally in recital and opera across the United States and Europe. As a director and educator, she has influenced and trained students world-wide through her workshops in opera and vocal production conducted across the United States, Europe, Scandinavia, South America, and Japan. She is listed in the *International Who's Who of Musicians*, *Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities*, and *Who's Who of Women in the United States*, and is a past president of the National Opera Association.

ADRIANA HARDY is a voice teacher, director, and Feldenkreis practitioner. She also conducts her own workshops in body, breath, and sound. She combines a background in singing, dance and choreography, movement therapies, yoga, and Alexander technique. Her work as both a director and performer spans all music theatre genres and includes plays and reader's theatre. She is a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing and the National Opera Association.

LAURIE VIVONA BUNN, coach, is well-known for her artistic collaborations with vocalists, instrumentalists and dancers. She is active in the greater Washington, D.C., area as a chamber and symphony musician, choral and dance accompanist, and freelance keyboardist.

LOUISE COSTIGAN-KERNS is a voice and opera coach, recital pianist at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and senior lecturer in the Musical Arts department at Notre Dame de Namur University. She was the founding director of the New England Conservatory Extension Division Opera Studio, a member of the Opera Department faculty at Boston University, and has worked for Opera San José, Stanford University, and the San Francisco Symphony.

PAUL HAMILTON is a pianist, composer, musical director, and filmmaker. His experience covers classical music, musical theatre, opera, and dance. He made his solo piano debut with Gus Giordano Dance Company in Chicago, and was a featured piano soloist in Chicago Ideas Week: The Edison Talks, performing his original music. He has collaborated with baritone Robert Sims at Carnegie Hall, composer Charles Strouse, Odetta, Simon Estes, George Shirley, Jubilant Sykes, and the Ravinia Festival Orchestra. He co-produced *Koentopp*, which has been included in the Chicago Music & Movies Festival and Macon Film Festival.

THOMAS HETRICK is a coach and accompanist in the Washington, D.C., and Maryland area. He has been a coach at the Wolf Trap Opera Company, chorus director of the Prince George's Opera, and music director of the Crittenden Opera Studio.

STEVEN JORDAN, guest clinician, has worked with San Francisco Opera, Philadelphia Opera, and San Diego Opera and Central City Opera. He has directed more than 40 opera productions for companies including Nevada Opera, San Diego Opera Center, Marin Opera, and the San Francisco Opera's Adler Fellowship Program. He was production stage manager for the PBS presentation of *The Merry Widow* with Beverly Sills.



The beauty and charm
of Mendocino is the perfect
backdrop—and inspiration



Your first look at Mendocino is a moment you'll never forget.

As you ride north on a scenic coastal highway, the rolling hills and vineyards give way to stately redwood forests.

Then, tucked between the ocean and the redwoods, a village perched on a stunning peninsula comes into view. You've arrived in Mendocino, the one-of-a-kind place that's home for your memorable 10 days of music.

Those days will be filled with classes, coachings, and rehearsals, but time to explore the attractions of Mendocino County plays an important part of the Redwoods Opera Workshop experience.

You might choose to hike one of the many trails along the Pacific, explore the forests of a state park, visit the historic Point Cabrillo Lighthouse, or a stroll through a renowned botanical garden.

You can also peruse the charming shops and galleries in town, gather around a campfire on the beach, guide a canoe down the Big River Tidal estuary, or simply soak in the beauty of the headlands. There's so much to discover in a place that's been dubbed "Mendolicious" by our students.

ROW singers start their day with breakfast at the charming Victorian-era Mendocino Hotel. And they add to the community's cultural scene in two performances: an elegant evening at the Standford Inn, one of the area's leading resorts, and a final concert of scenes at Preston Hall, a much-anticipated local summer tradition.



Learn why students
rave about the value of
their Redwoods experience



“The Redwoods Opera Workshop was an incredibly supportive experience! The training and knowledge I received from the staff and coaches was so insightful, and really helped me grow as an artist and singer. I would recommend this program to anyone!”

“In 10 days, you not only transform your performance skills, you gain a Redwoods family. Instructors, coaches, and participants bond in such a short time.”

“Redwoods is all-encompassing. It not only addresses your development as a singing actor, but also your health, well-being, and the emotional impact of choosing a singing career. This program caters not only to those seeking a career in opera, but also to any singer who is looking to advance in their craft.”

“This is an incredible learning experience, with knowledgeable and helpful teachers. The workshop was a perfect blend of challenges and encouragement. I highly recommend it to anyone wanting a deeper understanding of acting and movement in opera.”

“The first time I attended, I was drawn by the beauty of Mendocino and by the small number of participants. The kindness, understanding, and informed instruction of the faculty drew me back year after year.”

Redwoods Opera Workshop photos by Nicholas Wilson



Make this the summer
you discover new
musical confidence
and theatrical artistry
at Redwoods
Opera Workshop



GENERAL INFORMATION

- Workshop cost: \$550 tuition; \$600 room and board; lunches are on your own.
- There is a \$35 application fee.
- A limited number of scholarships are available.
- Audition materials may be provided by CD, DVD, MP3 file, or links to online performances; materials may be submitted electronically.
- Registration is limited to 15 students.

INCLUDE WITH YOUR APPLICATION

- A \$35 application fee payable to Elizabeth Vrenios (or use PayPal)
- A résumé and list of scenes and roles performed
- A photograph
- A CD, DVD, MP3 file, or link to online performances of two contrasting arias
- Digital audition materials may be e-mailed to **evrenios1@gmail.com**

MAIL TO

Elizabeth Kirkpatrick Vrenios, ROW

PO Box 1155

Mendocino, CA 95460

For more information contact **evrenios1@gmail.com**

or visit **redwoodsoperaworkshop.org**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 15

APPLICATION

Redwoods
Opera Workshop

June 18–28, 2020

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Home Phone _____ Mobile Phone _____

E-mail _____

Date of Birth _____ Height _____ Weight _____ Voice _____

School attended _____

Degree _____ Date _____

Teacher (s) _____

Teacher(s) e-mail _____

I would like to use PayPal for the application fee

I am submitting digital audition materials to **evrenios1@gmail.com**

I am interested in learning about scholarship opportunities