



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

7 APRIL 2014

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THIS YEAR'S FANFARE COMPETITION

Eleven young composers aged between 11 and 16 have been selected as winners of this year's Fanfare Competition. The 11 selected composers beat off stiff competition to win this year's competition, as there were over 260 entries from across the UK. This is the fifth year that the Royal Opera House has run this competition for young composers. By the end of May this year, the Royal Opera House will have recorded 50 Front of House Fanfares as part of the Fanfare Competition.

The winning compositions have been selected by a panel of Royal Opera House professionals, including **Antonio Pappano**, Music Director of The Royal Opera, **Barry Wordworth**, Music Director of The Royal Ballet and composers **Judith Weir** and **Duncan Chapman**.

The finalists are:

Jack Griffiths, aged 11, Kings House School, Richmond, London

Morgan Overton, aged 13, Oakham School, Rutland

Martha Herring, aged 14, Oakham School, Rutland

Theo Bently Curtin, aged 14, Exeter School, Devon

Joshua Dreyer, aged 12, Burgoyne Middle School, Bedfordshire

Aliyah Vara and **Zara Lawrence**, both aged 12, Burgoyne Middle School, Bedfordshire

Daniel Harding, aged 14, Marling School, Gloucestershire

Willow Mickel, aged 14, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Kent

Tobias Clark, aged 14, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Kent

Tom Gibson, aged 12, Cottenham Village College, Cambridge

The 11 composers will take part in orchestration workshops this month with composer **Duncan Chapman**, who has been involved with the Fanfare Competition since it was initiated in the 2009/10 Season, and seven players from the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House. They will also join Music Director of The Royal Opera **Antonio Pappano** and members of the **Orchestra of the Royal Opera House** to record their Fanfares on 24 May in the main auditorium pit. The Fanfares will be played to Main House audiences in our Front of House spaces for the first time before and in the intervals of a matinee performance of *La bohème* on 19 July. The composers will be credited in performance programmes and invited to attend the performance of *La bohème* at the Royal Opera House to hear the world premieres of their Fanfares. The winning Fanfares will also be available to listen to via our website: www.roh.org.uk/fanfare.

The competition, which is open to 11 to 16-year-olds across the UK, invites participants to create and record a short, attention-grabbing composition that will be played to audiences before and during the intervals of performances to let them know that it's time to take their seats. The competition has a significant geographical reach and aims to encourage young people to develop their composition skills through working with the internationally acclaimed musicians at the Royal Opera House.

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