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MINNESOTA OPERA ANNOUNCES RESIDENT ARTISTS FOR 2025-2026 SEASON

**Cohort will consist of five returning and one new artist;
group will develop career skills and perform in season productions**

MINNEAPOLIS (March 18, 2025) – Minnesota Opera is proud to announce that all five current Resident Artists will return for the 2025-2026 season. That group, consisting of **mezzo-soprano Kara Morgan (Andover, MN)**, **tenor Ángel Vargas (San Juan, Puerto Rico)**, **baritone David Wolfe (Shamokin, PA)**, **bass John Mburu (Warwick, RI)**, and **pianist/coach Fumiyasu Kawase (Chiba, Japan)**, will continue working under MN Opera’s Resident Artist Program Director and Head of Music Mario Antonio Marra, receiving career guidance from MN Opera staff and guest clinicians while performing and understudying important roles throughout the company’s upcoming season.

The company also is excited to welcome one new singer this season. **Soprano Kylie Kreucher (Detroit, MI)** will join the company in August.

Selection for MN Opera’s Resident Artist Program involves a rigorous multi-round audition process that begins with nearly a thousand applicants. The final group was selected based on technical and artistic prowess, overall coachability, and the company’s production needs. Because MN Opera casts its Resident Artists in leading and featured roles—a rarity in the opera industry—the program is highly sought after by young artists advancing their careers.

All five Resident Artists played key roles in MN Opera’s production of *Romeo and Juliet* in November. Vargas, Mburu, and Wolfe just completed a run of *The Snowy Day* last month, and the majority of the cohort will appear in *The Barber of Seville* in May. The group also performed on a pair of recitals over the past several weeks as part of the company’s MNOP+ series.

“I am thrilled to continue working with all five of our returning artists and to welcome Kylie for the upcoming season,” says Marra. “This gifted cohort of young artists embodies the creative, artistic, and collaborative ideals that MN Opera strives for, and this program will guide them toward bright futures in the opera industry.”

Founded in 1997, MN Opera’s Resident Artist Program is now one of North America’s premier opera training programs. More information on the program, as well as past participants, may be found at mnopera.org/resident-artist-program.

Headshots and full bios for the Resident Artists are available [here](#).

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Minnesota Opera advances the art of opera for today and future generations by expanding the circle of musical storytelling.