

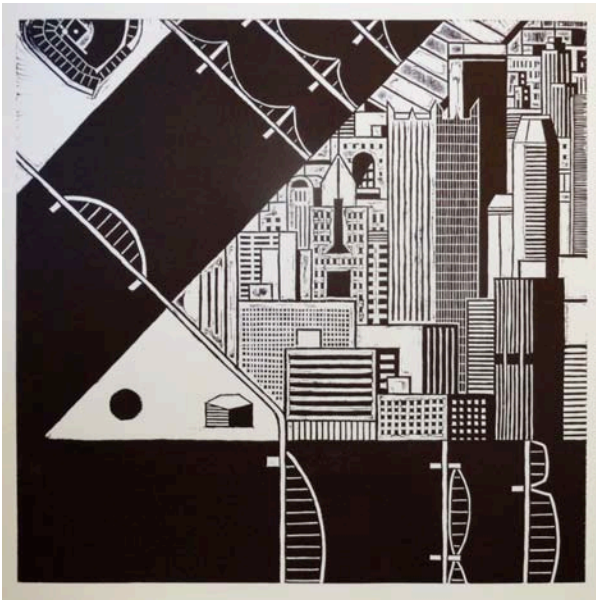


## ***President's Newsletter*** ***February 2013***

Dear NSAL Friends,

As I write this, the 2011 and 2012 issues of ***The Record*** are being prepared for mailing to each of our members. Producing these valuable documents is an enormous task, and we owe huge thanks to our literature maven, **Carey Wall**, for collecting and collating the various reports; **Judy Park**, our loyal photographer who captures our special NSAL memories for posterity and who worked with Twyla to select the photos for the 2011 *Record*; **Twyla Martins**, who has done yeoman service laying out the 2011 *Record* and working with **Carla Batka Jones** to layout the 2012 issue; and **Doni Lystra**, **Jane Pearson**, and **Carey**, all superb proofreaders who have a gift for detail, and have made sure there are as few errors as possible. These people have given untold hours of their time and professional expertise to create these two documents. Thank you, thank you.

### **Pittsburgh Conference: Tuesday 14 May - Sunday 19 May 2013**



Pittsburgh  
Wood block print by Jim Rugg  
[www.JimRugg.com](http://www.JimRugg.com)

The National Conference will be in Pittsburgh from Tuesday May 14 (if you're on the Executive Committee or National Board, Wednesday evening for others), through Saturday, May 18th. But plan to stay an extra day because on Sunday our hosts have organized a fabulous post conference day trip to Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater and Kentuck Knob with a final stop at the Touchstone Center for Crafts. It will be a rich, fascinating, fun, full day. To learn more about each stop on the tour, here are links:

<http://www.fallingwater.org>;  
<http://www.kentuckknob.com>; and  
<http://www.touchstonecrafts.org>

We will be staying at the **Sheraton Station Square Hotel** with riverfront views. NSAL has arranged a special rate for you. Call the hotel at (412) 261-2000 to enquire. <http://www.sheratonstationsquare.com>



Pittsburgh skyline view from Sheraton Station Square Hotel lobby.

**Workshops:**

In addition to the National Printmaking Competition and the many special Pittsburgh venues for dinners and conference activities that the Pittsburgh Chapter has planned for us, this year National is offering a series of valuable workshops at the Conference for NSAL members. There will be a **fundraising and grantwriting** session where attendees will come away with basic skills for succeeding in those ever-so-necessary endeavors for chapter survival.

We also will be offering each chapter an NSAL website template, created in WordPress. At the **Web Lab Workshop**, an instructor will walk you through the process of customizing the template for each chapter’s individual needs. Each person will come away with the beginnings of a custom website for their chapter and the skillsets to complete the job at home. For chapters that do not have a website, and those who would like to update their website look to be consistent with National, this is an unprecedented opportunity. Chapter Presidents, be sure you send at least one representative from your chapter to learn this invaluable skill.

Finally, we will offer a session on using **DropBox**, a modern way of sharing documents and information between chapters. Anyone is welcome to attend these workshops.

**Make it a Road Trip**

Pittsburgh is a day’s drive away or less for 12 of NSAL’s chapters. Plan a road trip with your chapter friends, fill a car, and drive to this beautiful city located on three rivers.

**NSAL CHAPTERS A DAY’S DRIVE OR LESS TO PITTSBURGH**

To Sheraton Station Square Hotel, 300 West Station Square Drive  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Chapter City	Driving Time
Chautauqua, NY	2 hours, 45 minutes
Lexington, KY	6 hours, 45 minutes
Ann Arbor, MI	5 hours
Bloomington, IN	7 hours, 15 minutes
Urbana, IL	8 hours, 15 minutes

Evanston, IL	8 hours, 30 minutes
Morristown, NJ	6 hours, 5 minutes
Marietta, OH	2 hours, 45 minutes
Parkersburg, WV	3 hours
St. Louis, MO	10 hours, 30 minutes
Charlottesville, VA	5 hours, 45 minutes
Washington, DC	4 hours, 45 minutes

In the spirit of Jay Leno, here are:

### 10 Reasons to come to Pittsburgh

10. Bond with your chapter friends on a road trip together.
9. Take the optional Sunday tour featuring two 20<sup>th</sup> century iconic homes designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.
8. Explore the beautiful city of Pittsburgh
7. Enjoy unique access to some of Pittsburgh's beautiful private homes and clubs.
6. Be part of the leadership of NSAL and have a voice in the organization.
5. Take part in the free workshop to learn the power of DropBox and how to use it effectively.
4. Take part in the free workshop on fundraising and grant proposal writing.
3. Take part in the free workshop to create a customized website for your chapter.
2. Connect with NSAL friends from around the country.
1. Meet the National contestants and share in the joy of the National Competition.

**The Call to Meeting Newsletter** with the conference registration forms will be arriving in your mailbox in the next couple of weeks. Meanwhile, start making your plans. See you in Pittsburgh!

### News of Our Winners:



Megan Hilty's debut solo album

### Megan Hilty, First Place 2004 Musical Theater

**Megan's** debut album, *It Happens All The Time*, will be available March 12, 2013. The album is produced by Grammy-winners Andy Zulla and Jimmy Hogarth and showcases a different side of Megan.

The key to her debut album was finding songs that she could identify with. "Stylistically these aren't the type of songs that I'm used to singing. It was exciting and challenging, for example, to take a song written by Ne-Yo and make it my own," says Megan.

"I was looking for lyrics I could connect with," she explains, "which comes from another part of my theatrical background: I always feel that there has to be a point to what I'm singing, instead of it just being a pretty *sound*. The lyrics reflect the year I've had in breaking up and finding new love, whereas the music shows my eclectic tastes. While it wasn't intentional, the album took on a break-up theme, "not a sad one so much as the end of a chapter and wondering what comes next," she says.

When taken together, the songs on *It Happens All The Time* instill great pride in Megan as "the first recording that's just me. It's really thrilling to hear and I can't wait to share it with my fans."

Follow Megan on the following television shows:

Tuesday 26 February - The Today Show and Live with Kelly and Michael

Monday 11 March - The View

Tuesday 12 March - Anderson Live and The Chew

Wednesday 13 March - Fox & Friends

Monday 18 March - Watch What Happens Live

Tuesday 19 March - Rachel Ray

**Nadine Sierra: 2008 National second place voice winner** The February 16, 2012 issue of Sun Sentinel in Florida featured the following profile of **Nadine**.

NSAL Boca Raton Winner - 2008  
National 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner - 2008

4A | Sun Sentinel SunSentinel.com Thursday, February 16, 2012 5A

Can't get enough entertainment news?  
Go online to [SunSentinel.com/entertainment/news](http://SunSentinel.com/entertainment/news)

## People

### At 23, a seasoned opera veteran returns home

**BY PHILLIP VALYS**  
Staff writer

Nadine Sierra spent most of her strict childhood watching, almost to an obsessive degree, a grainy VHS tape featuring Puccini's "La Bohème" at the Metropolitan Opera.

Then 10 years old, she'd divide her time between vocal lessons ordered by her mother and over the performance footage, scrutinizing every rich harmony, example of dramatic flair and theatrical sensibility within the work.

"My mom rented the videotape from the library, and I don't think she ever returned it," says Sierra with a laugh, speaking by phone last week. "I watched it every day and cried every single time. My late grandmother on my mom's side used to sing professionally and knew what a special voice sounded like, and she encouraged me to practice it. They wanted me to excel, and so did I."

That was how the former Delray Beach resident discovered her own soprano. A decade later, she became the youngest person ever to win the Metropolitan Opera's prestigious National Council Auditions.

Now, she's returning home to South Florida to don the female lead Gilda in Giuseppe Verdi's "Rigoletto," a production from Florida Grand Opera that recently hosted a of shows at Miami's Adrienne Arsht Center before heading to the Broward Center for the Performing Arts tonight and Saturday.

At 23, Sierra is a seasoned opera veteran. By 14, the soprano was cutting her teeth at Alexander Dreyfoos School of the Arts.

A year later, the buzz-generating virtuoso crowned Puccini's "O Mio Babbino Caro" live on NPR's "From the Top."

By 16, she was belting Humperdinck's "Hansel and Gretel" for Palm Beach Opera's Young Artists Program before relocating to New York to study opera at Mannes College of Music.

"They offer me a full scholarship to Juilliard, but I didn't want to go to a big school. No, no, no," Sierra says. "The training, not the school, mattered to me more. To continue growing with healthy vocals, you a teacher who nurture your voice for many years, and I felt like I could get that serious education at Mannes."

It was this same reasoning — valuing vocal work over the spotlight — that Sierra declined an offer to join the Met Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program for a smaller, but no less prestigious school.

Sierra's currently a second-year Adler Fellow in the San Francisco Opera's young-artists program, sharpening her radiant high notes with polish and accuracy but steeling herself to the country's most-prestigious opera houses.

Florida Grand Opera is one of them. For "Rigoletto," which is directed by FGO's Jeffrey Marc Buchman, Sierra trained two months for each act in the three-act libretto. The story follows a court jester who infamously mocks the husbands of the young women the kingdom's duke has seduced, until the jester's daughter herself becomes one of the duke's victims.

Sierra says she often does vocal exercises and bikram yoga immediately before a show, which helps during more challenging arias, such as the "Caro Nome" cadenza that she performs lying on her back.

"It's not that hard anymore. It's not because I'm superhuman — it's because a lot of teachers wanted me to lay on my back and sing, releasing all the tension in your back and neck that you build up," she says.



Nadine Sierra, above, is back in South Florida, appearing as Gilda, below, in "Rigoletto."



GASTON DE CARDENAS/COURTESY

**If you go**  
**Rigoletto**  
When: 7:30 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. Saturday  
Where: Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 S.W. Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale.  
Cost: \$21 to \$200  
Contact: 954-462-0222 or [Browardcenter.org](http://Browardcenter.org)



DECEMBER 2012/JANUARY 2013 NEWSLETTER

I hope everyone is having a Happy New Years. Here are some quick updates. I am doing "Arts After School" again. It is an afterschool program where I work with younger kids in elementary school grades kindergarten through fifth. This is my second year participating. My lesson involves drawing cartoons with them. Its been really rewarding for the children and I. They Love it!



student work

Below I have two big paintings I finished for clients. They each were really fun to work on. One in particular was done for the Bishop at my church, and it was such an honor to paint it. I usually don't work in landscapes, so that one definitely stretched my spirit and my abilities for the better. The other piece was a painting I did of picture over 30 years old. They gave it to me, and told me they wanted to capture an intimate moment in time. I really enjoyed the composition in both pieces. God is good.



oil on canvas, 30x40

oil on canvas, 30x40

This month I also have work featured in the "small works show" at Glave Kocen Gallery, 1620 West Main St. Richmond VA, 23220. This is my second year participating and I'm very excited. I've attached one my newest drawings for my next exhibit in 2014! This drawing is of an african sculpture. It will be on display at Glave Kocen until the end of January. I've also attached two sketches I drew for two other families.



pencil on paper, 9x12

pencil on paper, 11x14

pencil on paper, 11x14

Lastly I want to thank you for supporting me last year and keeping my family and I in your prayers. Even though my father passed away It was an excellent year for me and I thank God for it! I have been very blessed! I pray this year all your plans for 2013 manifest into reality, and I hope you share about your blessings as they come. Thank you.



Warmest Regards,  
Stanley Rayfield Studio  
  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Virginia/North Carolina Chapter  
Winston Art Winner **Stanley Rayfield** sent the following new year's thank you card with an update of his activities. He certainly is someone who is giving back, and a talented artist.

In his card, he mentions his father passed away. Here is a portrait he painted of his father while he was ill. The 48 x 60" portrait won second place in a Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery competition.

To see more samples of his excellent work, check out Stanley's website at: <http://stanleyrayfield.com>



## NSAL National Judge Biographies 2013 Printmaking Competition



Daniel Baumann is considered one of the most innovative contemporary curators in Europe

**Daniel Baumann** is an art historian, curator, and critic. He is the director of the Adolf Wölfli-Foundation, Museum of Fine Arts in Bern, Switzerland; co-founder of New Jerseyy, an internationally acclaimed exhibition space in Basel dedicated to contemporary art, film, music, and publishing; and, since 2004, curator of an ongoing exhibition series in Tbilisi, Georgia. Considered one of the most innovative contemporary curators in Europe, he has organized more than 60 exhibitions in museums and galleries throughout the world in such cities as Kyoto, New York, Vienna, Hong Kong, Glasgow, Tbilisi, and Basel, Switzerland. In addition, Baumann has published more than 100 articles in catalogues and publications such as *Camera Austria*, *Kunst-Bulletin*, *Flash Art*, *Mousse*, *Pacemaker*, *Parkett*, *Piktogram*, and *Spike Art Quarterly*.



Eric C. Shiner, director of the Andy Warhol Museum

**Eric C. Shiner** is director of The Andy Warhol Museum. He joined the museum in 2008 as the Milton Fine Curator of Art, and he has served as director since January 2011. A curator, professor, writer, and translator, Shiner was an adjunct professor at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, and in 2007 he curated *Making a Home: Japanese Contemporary Artists in New York at*

*Japan Society in New York City*. He also served as assistant curator of the *Yokohama Triennale 2001*. After joining The Warhol, Shiner organized the large-scale exhibition, *The End: Analyzing Art in Troubled Times*. Shiner received his Bachelor of Philosophy in the History of Art & Architecture and Japanese Language & Literature at the University of Pittsburgh's Honors College. He went on to receive the Japanese Government's Ministry of Education Monbusho Prize and attended graduate school at Osaka University, where he earned an MA in the History of Art.

## Susan Kemenyffy, Judge and Master Class Teacher



Printmaker Susan Kemenyffy in her studio.

Printmaker **Susan Kemenyffy** was the recipient of a fellowship grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. She has lectured and exhibited her work both nationally and internationally, including at the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC; at the University of Applied Arts & Crafts in Prague, Czech Republic; The International Ceramic Studio in

Kecskemet, Hungary; Escuela Madrilenia de Ceramica de la Moncloa, Madrid; and The New Zealand Society of Craftsmen in Wellington, New Zealand. In addition, she is the Chairman Emeritus of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

## Chapter Membership Chairs and/or Chapter Website

**Administrators:** Please make sure your chapter membership directory is up-to-date on the National website. That list is the source for our mailing labels to send the upcoming Call to Meeting Newsletter with all the information and registration forms for the National Conference in Pittsburgh. We want to be sure it goes to everyone. If you are unsure how to add or correct names on the National website, please contact Nancy Morrow at [morrowtwo@gmail.com](mailto:morrowtwo@gmail.com); (205) 870-8784. She'll be glad to help you

Hope to see you in Pittsburgh! It's going to be legendary!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catriona".

Catriona Tudor Eler  
NSAL National President