

# Joyce Dutka Arts Foundation NEWS



Volume 8 – Summer 2009

## Greetings from the President



Our tenth year is off to a great start! Eleven visual artists in the field of oil, acrylic and mixed media were awarded monetary prizes and certificates of achievement at our annual JDAF event in memory of our esteemed board member Lenore Segan.

Our past competition winners are also thriving. Many of our contestants have made great progress in their careers.

Thank you, our loyal supporters, for continuing to lend a helping hand and for bringing new friends to the JDAF. We look forward to having you join us at our fundraising activities, art tours and theater parties throughout the coming year.

For your convenience, we have included a tear sheet at the end of this newsletter. All donations are exceedingly welcome.

Heartfelt thanks go out to the professionals who in addition to me composed our jury for the recent Visual Arts Competition: Joan Busing, Richard Klein and Knox Martin.

Yours for the Arts,  
*Joyce Dutka*

## LENORE SEGAN VISUAL ARTS COMPETITION WINNERS EXHIBITION

On Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, JDAF hosted the 2008-2009 Lenore Segan Visual Arts Awards. The event took place at the Hollis Taggart Galleries on Madison Avenue from 5 pm to 8 pm.

The gallery filled up quickly as our JDAF family and friends came out to admire the work of these eleven talented artists. Upon entering the gallery, the first paintings in view were the work of Bronx, NY artist and first place winner, Matthew Turov. His stunning use of color and form demanded attention with *Eye of the Day, Swirling Octagon Vortex and Carnival*. Cathy Pitts, also a first place winner, wowed us with her oil paintings that combine realistic images with great emphasis on movement, drama, and creative abstract colors. Her painting *Magenta Sunset* was a favorite of the JDAF panel of judges. A definite crowd pleaser was *Tower of Babel* by third place winner, Josh Dorman. This 8ft X 4ft mixed media piece painted on antique maps impressed with its intricate details.

At 6:30 pm JDAF President, Joyce Dutka, greeted the audience and announced the winners. Leon Segan and Lloyd Segan gave out the awards to the artists.

The guests enjoyed a wonderful reception of wine compliments of Arno Bortizer and a delicious array of hors d'oeuvres and pastries compliments of Stephen Fried and Metro Catering.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## 2008-2009 Lenore Segan Visual Arts Competition Winners

FIRST PLACE	SECOND PLACE	THIRD PLACE	HONORABLE MENTION
Cathy Pitts	Veronica Jaeger	Mariella Bisson	Luke Ahern
Matthew Turov	Valeri Larko	Josh Dorman	Stacey Cushner
	Stephan Phillips	Wei-Hui Hsu	Barbara Rachko

### Visual Arts Awards Photo Gallery



Stacey Cushner in front of *Gourd With Black Pitcher*, 2008, Oil on Canvas.



JDAF Board members attending from left to right: Marjorie Oberlander, Bobbie Lefkowitz, Joyce Dutka, Haryette Helsel, Suzanne Nason and Rhoda Klein.



Joyce with Third Place Winner, Josh Dorman.



New York artist Barbara Rachko won an Honorable Mention for *Scene Twenty-One: Living Room*, 2006, Soft Pastel.



A First Place Winner, Cathy Pitts, from Palm Beach, CA poses with Joyce.



Second Place Winner, Stephan Phillips by his winning painting *Books*, 2008, Oil on Canvas.

#### JDAF OUTREACH

**MELODIA WOMEN'S CHOIR** of New York, an ensemble of women who create and perform music for female voices, was the recipient of a \$500 outreach grant. The funds will support the commission of a new musical composition by Chris Lastovicka.

**UNDERWORLD PRODUCTIONS** received a grant of \$500 to create subtitles for its production of Mozart's *Così Fan Tutti*. This community opera company seeks to attract a wider audience for opera including those of diverse backgrounds and ages.

#### FUNDRAISER IN MARCH

In March 2009, JDAF sponsored a theatre party for "Irena's Vow" starring Tovah Feldshuh. The play is the story of Irena Gut Opdyke, a Polish Catholic woman who during a two-year period was able to protect twelve Jewish refugees while working as the chief housekeeper in the home of a German officer. An after play discussion ensued between the actors, the daughter of Irena Gut Opdyke, and the audience.

*\*For information on future fundraising events and to view our newsletter in color, visit us online at: [www.jdutka.com](http://www.jdutka.com).*

## SOME HIGHLIGHTS



**First Place Winner, Matthew Turov** was born in Oceanside, Long Island and received his education at the Art Students League of New York and Hunter College. His recent exhibitions include: *Paradise Lost* at the Williamsburg Art & Historical Center in Brooklyn, *Came to Believe* at Monkdogz Urban Art in New York City and *Skies: Unlimited* at the Paramount Center for the Arts in Peekskill, New York. He now resides in the Bronx.



**Second Place Winner, Veronica Jaeger** is an artist whose work has been exhibited in solo shows throughout the Texas Valley. Her group exhibitions include the International Museum of Art and Sciences in McAllen, Texas, Broward College in Miami, Florida and the *Museo Contemporaneo de Arte* in Tamaulipas, Mexico. She lives and works in South Texas, has an M.F.A. in studio painting from the University of Texas Pan-America, and was recently awarded a grant from the *National Association of Latino Arts and Culture*.

### LETTERS FROM OUR WINNERS:

"I am thrilled and delighted to be a Lenore Segan award winner. I feel honored to incorporate her memory in the work I will be doing." **Mariella Bisson, Second Place Winner, 2009**

"I want to thank the board for their belief and appreciation for my art. It is a great feeling to be validated and the exposure that you gave me at the prestigious Hollis Taggart Gallery will be forever embedded in my memory." **Cathy Pitts, First Place Winner, 2009**

"Help like yours brings the dream of a career closer to reality. You made the concert possible, and you can imagine how much better prepared I am now to go to Natchez for my debut". **Malena Dayen, JDAF finalist, 2004 (Sang the lead in Carmen in Natchez Mississippi, May, 2009).**

### HELP US KEEP THE ARTS ALIVE!

Your support will enable us to continue to assist worthy artists through awards, performances or exhibition opportunities and outreach programs. Please help us make their dreams a reality.

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form with your check made payable to:  
JOYCE DUTKA ARTS FOUNDATION, INC. P.O. BOX 630053, Riverdale, NY 10463

## More Kudos to our Winners



**Chris Atzinger**, 2007 First Place Winner for piano. Upcoming engagements include a recital at St. Martin-in-the Fields, London, a concert broadcast live on KCSN-Los Angeles, a seminar at the Juilliard School, and recordings for Naxos and MSR Classics.



**Orly Alonso**, 2007 First Place Winner for piano. On May 13, 2009 Orly returned to the stage at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall playing his unique interpretation of the classics through exploration of the theme of *The Immortal Beloved Songs, Op. 98* (as transcribed by Liszt) that courses through various works including *Beethoven Sonata Op. 110* and *Schumann Fantasie Op. 17*.



**Othalie Graham**, 2005 award for Dramatic Soprano. She recently starred in the Chorus Pro Musica's concert production of Puccini's *Turandot* at Jordan Hall in Boston. *"The Canadian soprano's timbre and power are thrilling-steely ring from top to bottom-and her path from imperiousness to passion was convincing."* -Boston Globe, June 2009



**Tamara Mumford**, 2004, Third Place Winner. Tamara recently sang the starring role in *Rigoletto* at the Metropolitan Opera. Joyce Dutka attended the April 1<sup>st</sup> performance and was invited to meet Tamara backstage.



**Daniel Okulitch**, Bass-baritone, 2004 award winner. In 2009-2010 he will debut the role of Nick Shadow (*The Rake's Progress*) at Pacific Opera Victoria. In 2010-2011, he will return to the Los Angeles Opera as Figero in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro* and to Teatro alla Scala for the role of Swallow in *Peter Grimes*.



**Tara Venditti**, Mezzo Soprano, 2004 First Place Winner for Art Songs. Upcoming engagements include the title role in *Carmen* by Bizet, Staatstheater Mainz with Maestro, Daniel Barenboim. In 2010, she will sing the title role in *Tamerlano* at London's Royal Opera House with Placido Domingo as "Bajazet."



**Jesse Blumberg**, Baritone, 2004 First Place Winner for Art Songs. In June, 2009, Jesse appeared as Adonis in John Blow's *Venus and Adonis* at the Boston Early Music Festival.



**Stephen Ebel**, Tenor, 2004 Finalist. He recently debuted as Victoria/Gaston in the UK and Royal Opera House premiere of Korngold's *Die tote Stadt* at Covent Garden. In September, 2009, he begins his tenure for the next two seasons with the *Jette Parker Young Artists Programme* at London's Royal Opera House.

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