

Diane Garton Edie (Artistic Director/Librettist/Stage Director) has worked with Opera for the Young since 1992 in various capacities: singer, board member, librettist, stage director, company manager and, since 1996, Artistic Director. Diane's work as director, librettist and primary artistic outreach/education coordinator has been recognized and supported locally, regionally, and on the national level. Her libretti for OFtY's hailed collection of adaptations have been enjoyed by school and family audiences throughout the upper Midwest since 1994. Diane has adapted/created libretti for *The Barber of Seville*, *Cinderella*, *The Elixir of Love*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Orpheus Returns*, *The Magic Flute*, *Rusalka*, and *Hansel and Gretel*. Her latest libretto is an exotic retelling of *Beauty and the Beast*. The recent publication and rental of these works now makes this uniquely accessible repertoire available to an even wider audience. Diane has enjoyed a combined career in performance, play writing and directing, and arts administration. With degrees in theatre and drama from Smith College and Indiana University, her special province is out-of-the-mainstream cultural arts programming for participants and audiences from a broad age, geographic and socio-economic range. Previous projects include Creative Arts Over 60; the International Youth Arts Festival, a performing and visual arts showcase; regional operetta/opera/musical theatre productions; and several original artist-in-residence programs. During her time at Opera for the Young, more than 1.5 million children have been introduced to opera through her work.

Dan Plummer, D. Mus. A. (General Director/Music Adaptor and Arranger) Dan's career in opera began on stage. He made his European debut singing at the Silesian Theatre in the Czech Republic at the age of 21. For Opera for the Young, Dan initially joined the company as a performer in their 2001 tour of *Magic Flute* returned for *Barber of Seville* in 2006. Dan's singing can be heard on the recordings *Collage* (UW Press, 2001) and *Beauty and the Beast* (OFtY, 2014). Other singing career highlights include creating roles for world premieres in Bishop's *Esperanza* and Niblock's *Ruth*, as a Metropolitan Opera Competition District Finalist, and in performances with the Aspen Opera Theater and Lyric Opera of Chicago chorus. In 2005, Dan's operatic career moved off stage when he joined the Madison Opera; he was Director of Community Affairs. Joining the Opera for the Young administrative staff in 2007 was a natural next step. As a performer, Dan saw the impact OFtY's operas had on children in inspiring their love of the arts, and now as an administrator he has been a part of expanding programming with projects like Family Opera Day and Build Your Own Opera. In addition, Dan has arranged the musical scores for OFtY's adaptations of Massenet's *Cinderella* and Grétry's *Beauty and the Beast* - both of which have been honored with National Endowment for the Arts project grants. Dan holds a Bachelors and a Doctorate from the University of Wisconsin and a Masters from The New England Conservatory of Music. In service to the non-profit profession, he has been Board President of the Association of Fundraising Professionals; he currently chairs Madison's National Philanthropy Day and volunteers on the Business Development Board for the Dane County Humane Society. In 2013, Dan was named one of Madison's *40 Under 40 Executives* by *InBusiness Magazine*.

Clinton Smith, D. Mus A. (Music Director/*Beauty and the Beast* Music Director) is also Music Director of Orchestra Seattle and the Seattle Chamber Singers and Artistic Director of the St. Cloud Symphony. This season he will guest conduct *Il barbiere di Siviglia* for the University of Michigan Opera Theater and will return to cover performances at Santa Fe Opera. The 2012-13 season saw Clinton on the music staff of Santa Fe Opera, Juilliard Opera, Portland Opera, Kentucky Opera and Ash Lawn Opera. For six summers he worked in France, Italy and Austria as a conductor and coach with the Franco American Vocal Academy in Perigueux, the International Institute of Vocal Arts in Chiari and the Austrian American Mozart Opera Academy in Salzburg. He has also worked for San Francisco Opera's Merola program as assistant conductor & chorus master, assistant conductor for Glimmerglass Opera and led a workshop of Minnesota Opera's Pulitzer Prize-Winning commission *Silent Night* which premiered in 2011. Recently, Clinton conducted performances for Skylark Opera and prepared the chorus in workshop for Minnesota Opera's commission *Doubt* by Douglas J. Cuomo. Clinton obtained his formal training at the Universities of Texas and Michigan before being engaged by Minnesota Opera as assistant/cover conductor and chorus master preparing over 20 productions and conducting main stage performances. Clinton has been a guest conductor/coach at the National University of Taiwan, Western Ontario University, Hamline University and has lectured at St. Cloud State University and the International School Dhaka in Bangladesh.

Karen Brown Larimore, (Costume Designer) returned as resident costumer for Opera for the Young in 2008, and is a favorite with Madison arts organizations including Madison Opera, Madison Ballet, Madison Savoyards, University Opera, University Theatre, and Children's Theatre of Madison. She has created the designs for two world premier operas, *Tight Rope* and *Esperanza*. You might even see her work in your home as she is the designer of the original Molly, Samantha, and Kirsten doll clothes for American Girl Collection. Ms. Brown-Larimore toured with Broadway shows as star dresser, wardrobe and wig coordinator. She holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in Costume Design from the University of Wisconsin and ran the UW Theater costume shop. She is currently costume and make-up coordinator at Mallat's in Madison.

Tiffany Fier, (Set/Prop Designer) became OFtY's resident designer in 2008. Ms. Fier is a free-lance set designer, scenic artist, and props artisan. She is also the resident set designer for Alley Stage and has worked as a set designer with: Iowa State University, Phipps Center for the Arts, Madison Opera and Madison Repertory Theatre. In 2010, she took over as scenic charge artist for American Players Theatre. She has an Master of Fine Arts in Set Design for the theatre from Purdue University. In 2012, she joined the faculty of North Dakota State University at Fargo.