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## **Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist Eric Ferring wins Sullivan Grant**

Pittsburgh Opera [Resident Artist Eric Ferring](#) was named a winner of the prestigious 2017 William Matheus Sullivan Foundation Singer Auditions earlier this week, where he earned a Career Development Grant.

This is the third consecutive year a Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist has won an award at the exclusive competition. Soprano Claudia Rosenthal won a Sullivan Award in 2016, and baritone Brian Vu did in 2015.

“We are delighted for Eric”, said Pittsburgh Opera General Director Christopher Hahn. “He continues to blossom and grow with each performance. It’s no surprise he’s a fan-favorite here in Pittsburgh.”

Mr. Ferring was named one of Pittsburgh’s “Who’s Next in Music” by [The Incline](#) in October, where he was on a vibrant list of “21 young leaders defining the new Pittsburgh sound.”

During Pittsburgh Opera’s 2016-17 season, in his first year as a Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist, Mr. Ferring he performed as Gastone in [La traviata](#), the Fourth Jew in [Salome](#), and Señor Alcalde in the world premiere of [The Summer King- the Josh Gibson Story](#). He received critical praise for “making the most” of his “brief opportunities.”

This season, as a second-year Resident Artist, Mr. Ferring is being showcased in more prominent roles. The [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#) said his “bright, penetrating tenor was a standout as Scarpia’s henchman Spoletta” in [Tosca](#) last month. [Pittsburgh In The Round](#) raved that his performance as both Don Basilio and Don Curzio in [The Marriage of Figaro](#) “took on a prominence that was out of the ordinary.”

Still to come this season are roles as Ricky in [The Long Walk](#), the Protagonist (and sole singer) in the world premiere of [Ashes & Snow](#), Flask in [Moby-Dick](#), and Nemorino in the student matinee of [The Elixir of Love](#).

See photos and performance excerpts of Mr. Ferring on [Pittsburgh Opera’s website](#), or on [his personal website](#).

The [Sullivan Foundation](#) “was established through the bequest of a prominent lawyer, William Matheus Sullivan, to identify talented young singers and help them develop professional careers through a unique program combining major awards with five years of additional support.”

For additional information about the Sullivan Awards, contact:  
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*Pittsburgh Opera celebrates its 78th season in 2016-17. Established by five intrepid women in 1939, Pittsburgh Opera is viewed as one of the most vibrant opera organizations in the U.S., with a rich artistic tradition, outstanding educational programs, an acclaimed artist training program, and a progressive outlook toward the future. Its green initiative culminated in LEED® Silver certification for its Strip District headquarters, and its capacity as a true community partner has increased significantly under General Director Christopher Hahn’s leadership.*