



# The Mendelssohn Club of Albany

## Joel Dolven Vocal Awards Competition

January 2, 2010

Mendelssohn Club Vocal Awards Committee  
25 Dublin Drive  
Ballston Spa, NY 12020  
518-885-5488

Dear Friend of Music:

The Mendelssohn Club of Albany, an 70-voice male chorus and the longest standing performing arts group in the Capital District, is sponsoring the 2010 Joel Dolven Vocal Awards Competition. This competition was established in 1975 to encourage the study of voice and to honor its former conductor.

The competition will be held at the New Covenant Presbyterian Church, 916 Western Avenue, Albany, on Saturday, March 20, 2010, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The competition is open to the public and free of charge. **The deadline for applications is March 1, 2010.**

The Club will offer up to four awards for men or women in each of three categories: **Novice Student Division**, for students aged 16 through 18; **Intermediate Student Division**, for students aged 19 through 22; **Advanced Student Division**, for students aged 23 through 29; and the **Joy B. Misenhimer Encouragement Award**, open to any student in the competition who demonstrates outstanding singing potential. Award winners also receive two tickets to our Spring Concert at Chancellors Hall in Albany on May 14 where they will be recognized and their awards handed out. In addition to the awards, students gain valuable experience through participation in the audition recital. Some past winners have even appeared as soloists with the Mendelssohn Club.

Contestants will sing two selections. One of the selections should be from the concert, lieder, opera, or art song repertory. There is no language or memorization requirement, although memorization is strongly recommended. **Contestants are encouraged to invite guests to attend the audition.**

The application form accompanying this letter gives more details about the competition. Feel free to photocopy this form if necessary. If you desire any further information, please contact us.

Your cooperation in letting possible participants know of this competition is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Louis W. Leatso, Jr., Chairman  
Mendelssohn Club Vocal Awards Committee

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## Joel Dolven Vocal Awards Competition

### Rules

1. The audition recital will take place at the New Covenant Presbyterian Church, 916 Western Avenue, Albany, NY, on Saturday, March 20, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. This is located between the entrance to the State Government campus and the Route 85 overpass.
2. The audition is open to any vocal student whose current mailing address is within 60 miles of Albany, NY, and who is 16 through 29 years of age on the date of the competition.
3. The Mendelssohn Club offers up to four cash awards for men or women in each of three categories: **Novice Student Division**, for students aged 16 through 18 on the day of the competition; **Intermediate Student Division**, for students aged 19 through 22 on the day of the competition; and **Advanced Student Division**, for students aged 23 through 29 on the day of the competition. An additional cash award, the **Joy B. Misenhimer Encouragement Award**, is available to any student aged 16 through 29 on the day of the competition who demonstrates outstanding singing potential.
4. Judges may reduce the number of awards offered if they feel that an award in any one division is not warranted. If too few candidates apply in a given division, the competition may not be held for the corresponding award.
5. Each contestant must sing two selections in open competition at the audition recital. One selection should be from the concert, lieder, opera, or art song repertory.
6. Judges will evaluate vocal ability, interpretation and musicianship, and will provide a written assessment to each contestant.
7. Each contestant should provide his or her own accompanist. If this is not possible the contestant should inform the committee by February 22, 2010. We may be able to find an accompanist for you to hire. Avoid electronic accompaniment, and, if possible, avoid reading music during the audition.
8. The **deadline for applications is March 1, 2010**. We will accept a limited number of contestants from applications that are postmarked by the deadline. Accepted contestants will be notified by telephone.
9. Complete the application form below, detach and return to:

Mendelssohn Club Vocal Awards Committee  
25 Dublin Drive  
Ballston Spa, NY 12020  
518-885-5488



### Application PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:

1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2 Current residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

3 Telephone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime \_\_\_\_\_

Evening \_\_\_\_\_

4 Age as of March 20, 2010: \_\_\_\_\_

5 Have you ever participated in this competition before?

If so, when? \_\_\_\_\_

6 Voice register: \_\_\_\_\_

7 Voice teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

8 Accompanist: \_\_\_\_\_

9 Selections to be sung:

First Selection Title \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Composer \_\_\_\_\_

Second Selection Title \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Composer \_\_\_\_\_