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The Wagner Society of Washington DC and the Institute for Young Dramatic Voices Announce a New Collaboration for 2013

The Wagner Society of Washington DC, one of the city's most vibrant cultural institutions, and Dolora Zajick's Institute for Young Dramatic Voices have announced a new collaboration for 2013. The Wagner Society will fund the participation of a specialized German-language coach for the Institute. The coach will teach individual and group classes, with a focus on German language skills and repertoire. In 2012, the Washington Wagner Society provided financial assistance to an emerging singer to attend in the Institute.

As part of this collaboration, the Wagner Society will offer a special evening with Dolora Zajick, on Thursday, March 14, at the Goethe Institute, starting at 7:30 pm. Taking a break from her role as Adalgisa in WNO's production of Bellini's *Norma*, Dolora will join host Peter Russell for a delightful evening of discussion and Q&A.

Chairman of the Wagner Society, Jim Holman, commented: "We are delighted to be able to collaborate with the Institute for Young Dramatic Voices in order to further the development of the opera stars of the future. In 1999, the Wagner Society board formed a partnership with opera greats, Evelyn Lear and Thomas Stewart, to coach and mentor American singers with potential for operatic careers singing Wagner. This collaboration with the Institute for Young Dramatic Voices is a natural extension of this partnership – the Institute's mandate to develop wonderful voices and unparalleled training opportunities complements perfectly the goals of the Wagner Society."

Founder and General Director of the Institute, Dolora Zajick, said that "the support of the Wagner Society of Washington is critical to the ability of the Institute to provide the level of training in German language and repertoire for which the Institute is renowned. We are very grateful for the Society's belief in our program and look forward to an ongoing partnership."

The Wagner Society of Washington, DC serves the Washington community in many ways – through monthly lectures, semi-annual concerts, and special events through a network of collaborating institutions such as the Smithsonian Institution, the German Embassy, and the Kennedy Center.

Now fifteen years old, the Wagner Society is dedicated to two principal goals:

- (1) To enrich the cultural life of the Washington Metropolitan area, by regularly providing the general public with lectures, concerts, opera performances, trips, and special events;
- (2) To assist the development of American singers who have demonstrated the potential for successful careers singing opera.

For more information please visit: www.wagner-dc.org

The Institute for Young Dramatic Voices

The mission of the Institute for Young Dramatic Voices is to identify and nurture dramatic and unusual voices and guide those unique talents so that they reach the world's great opera stages. Created by Dolora Zajick in 2007, the Institute offers an innovative 3-week intensive summer program to singers with large or unusual voices ages 15-36 at varying levels of vocal development. Recent participants have gone on to attend the Merola Program in San Francisco, Houston Grand Opera Studio, and the Young Artists Program at the Washington National Opera. Former students are also beginning to make their presence known in professional venues such as Covent Garden and San Francisco Opera. For more information, please visit www.instituteforyoungdramaticvoices.org

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