

**Daniel Bruce** is a professional pianist and conductor who holds degrees from the Hartt School of Music and Northwestern University. Widely sought after as a performer and teacher, Mr. Bruce is Director of Music at Peoples Academy in Morrisville, and has been on the faculties of Hobart and William Smith Colleges as well as in the Northfield and Barre (Vermont) school systems.

Mr. Bruce is a highly versatile musician, with experience that ranges from solo and collaborative piano to music direction in nearly every genre, from classical to Broadway to jazz. His performing credits include an acclaimed performance of Mendelssohn's *Piano Concerto No. 1 in G Minor* with the Vermont Philharmonic, as well as two-piano concertos by Mozart and Poulenc (with

Alison Cerutti). He has performed Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* with the Montpelier Chamber Orchestra, the Vermont Jazz Ensemble and the Burlington Civic Symphony—the latter two performances conducted from the piano.

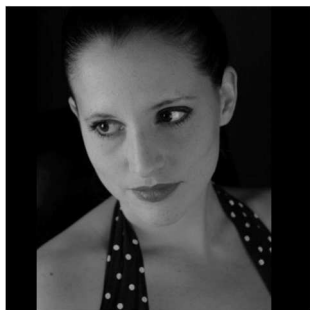
Mr. Bruce is founding music director of the Burlington Civic Symphony, Burlington's premier auditioned community orchestra, now in its seventh season. In addition to his duties directing the BCSO, he is music director of the Amateur Musicians Orchestra in Burlington, which welcomes musicians of all levels of ability and experience. He is past conductor of the Vermont Philharmonic and Barre Choraleers, and has taught students of every age from pre-schoolers to retirees. Mr. Bruce has also worked extensively in music theatre, having directed music and played piano or percussion in over 100 school, amateur, and professional musical theatre productions in Vermont, Illinois, and New York. Before returning to Vermont in 2005, he was Coordinator of Music for Syracuse (NY) Children's Theatre and Syracuse Civic Theatre. Mr. Bruce has led several readings of orchestral masterworks with the Green Mountain Mahler Festival including works by Mahler and Richard Strauss, and most recently Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*. This marks his eighth year conducting Beethoven's Ninth Symphony on New Year's Day. He lives in East Montpelier with his children, Leni and Danny.

**Steven Klimowski** began his performing career at the age of sixteen as a tour guide at the *Winchester Mystery House* in San Jose, California. With childhood interests of baseball, science and Boy Scouts, his life direction was changed when his high school band director gave him an inspiring recording of Mahler's 10th Symphony. After high school he went to NYC to study clarinet with the famed Leon Russianoff, hitchhiking across the country four times in ensuing summers to get back home. He ushered at Carnegie Hall, was a shopping mall janitor, flipped burgers at fast food restaurants and taught ghetto children at a home for dependent children before landing his first orchestra job with the *Orquesta Sinfonica del Estado de Mexico*. There he met his wife, cellist, Bonnie Klimowski. They moved to Vermont in 1980.



In 1987 Klimowski founded the Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble. He has played with the Vermont Symphony and the Mozart Festival. Steve is currently the principal clarinet with the Burlington Chamber Orchestra and plays with *Raising Cane*, the VSO woodwind trio.

He is the adjunct clarinet teacher at the University of Vermont, Saint Michael's College and Middlebury College. More recently he has taken up choral conducting with the choir at the Jericho Congregational Church and studied choral conducting with James Jordan of Westminster Choir College, attending the WCC choral institute for several summers and the Choral Institute at Oxford in 2017. Mr. Klimowski has twice been honored with an individual artist's fellowship from the Vermont Council on the Arts and received its Citation of Merit. When not absorbed with music, Steve enjoys fine dining, cycling, hiking and cultivating garlic at his home in Fairfax, Vermont where he lives with his wife and three cats.



**Stefanie Weigand** is a graduate of Ithaca College's Musical Theatre program. She has toured nationally with Story Salad children's theatre company and performed with the New York Choral Society. Since moving to Vermont, she has appeared as a vocalist, pianist, and music director for various organizations including TURNmusic, the Vermont Philharmonic, Stowe Theatre Guild, Cafe Noir Productions, Lyric Theatre, Music-COMP, the Green Mountain Mahler Festival, Burlington Civic Symphony Orchestra, and the Green Mountain Opera Festival. In 2015, Stefanie had the pleasure of portraying Bobbie in the

Nielsen/Budbill opera *A Fleeting Animal*.

Stefanie enjoys working as a guest conductor at festivals throughout Vermont, currently serves as President of the VT-ACDA, and is the choral director at Harwood Union Middle and High School in central Vermont. She was also the 2014 recipient of the VMEA's Outstanding New Music Educator Award.

Mezzo-soprano **Erin Grainger (December 30)** is delighted to sing with the Green Mountain Mahler Festival for the first time. In her native Canada, she has performed with the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra, L'orchestre symphonique de Longueuil, Ensemble Telemann, and the Orpheus Choir of Toronto; in Vermont she has been pleased to sing with the Burlington Chamber Orchestra, the Burlington Choral Society, Middlebury Bach Festival, Middlebury College Community Chorus, and the Opera Company of Middlebury. As a professional ensemble member, she is also on the roster of Counterpoint, and the Chœur de l'Opéra de Montréal. Erin teaches at Saint Michael's College, Johnson State College, and is music director at the First Congregational Church in Saint Albans.



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Alto **Linda Radtke (January 1)**, while classically trained, is comfortable with a wide range of musical styles and language. Her vocal style has been described as “engaging, with a warm and expressive style and impeccable musicianship.” A graduate of Rutgers University and the University of Vermont, Linda sings with the professional vocal ensemble Counterpoint, and has sung solos of many great choral works with the Oriana Singers, Vermont Philharmonic, and the Vermont Symphony, and in productions of opera and musical theatre, including *The Sound of Music* (Maria and Abbess), *The King and I* (Lady Thiang), *Camelot* (Guinevere), and most of the alto leads in Gilbert and Sullivan operettas.

A retired high-school English teacher, Linda continues to teach through the VSO's SymphonyKids program, which brings choral music to Vermont schools, and has visited small towns in each corner of the state. Her research on Vermont songs led to three touring programs with the Vermont Humanities Council's Speakers' Bureau with pianist Arthur Zorn and a recording, Vermont History through Song. Other recordings include ten with Robert De Cormier and Counterpoint, Vermont's professional vocal ensemble. Linda hosts a choral program every week on Vermont Public Radio. She lives in Middlesex with her husband Dr. Bob Jervis.

**Kevin Ginter**, Tenor, finished a masters degree program at the Conservatory of Music at Brooklyn College. At the conservatory he sang leading roles in Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen*, Weill's *Down in the Valley*, Offenbach's *Ba-ta-clan*, Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*, and Bizet's *Carmen*. Mr. Ginter has participated twice in the prestigious International Vocal Arts Institute in Tel Aviv, Israel. In 2009 Kevin made his Carnegie Hall debut singing in The Remarkable Theater Brigade's production of Opera Shorts. Other highlights include singing Tamino in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, covering Don José in Bizet's *Carmen* with the Green Mountain Opera Festival, Rodolfo with the Amore Opera in Puccini's *La Bohème*, and Belmonte in Unadilla Theater's production of *The Abduction from the Seraglio*. Kevin was also a finalist in the Arkadi Foundation Opera Idol Competition at the Bruno Walter Auditorium in Lincoln Center. In 2013 and 2014, he toured the southeastern United States singing in FBN productions opera outreach program for kids. Recently, Kevin has had many soloist opportunities in Vermont and sang the role of Ferrando, in Mozart's *Così Fan Tutte*, with Echo Valley Community Arts. Kevin currently resides in Williston, Vermont and teaches K-8 music at Christ the King School in Burlington.



**Erik Kroncke** has been described as “engaging...a bass of astounding depth and warm timbre...an important voice and artist...” He has been in demand by opera companies as Fiesco in *Simon Boccanegra*, Philip II in *Don Carlo*, Enrico VIII in *Anna Bolena*, Leporello in *Don Giovanni*, Ramphis in *Aida*, and Mephistopheles in *Faust*. He has appeared with many companies including the Sarasota Opera, Opera San José, Chautauqua Opera, Opera Colorado, New Jersey Verismo Opera, Green Mountain Opera, and Austin Lyric Opera. He was an award winner of the Gerda Lissner Wagner competition in 2010, the American Wagner and St. Bonaventura award winner from the Liederkrantz competition in 2008, and a winner of the 2002 and 2003 Friedrich Schorr Vocal Competition. His symphonic and oratorio performances have included engagements with the National Choral, Sarasota Opera Orchestra, Chautauqua Symphony, New York Philharmonic, Korean Philharmonic and the American Classical Orchestra, as well as appearances in “The Three Bases” concerts. In the last year, Erik sang the bass soloist in the Beethoven 9th with the National Chorale at Lincoln center and sang the role of Tackleton in the North American premier of Zandonai's *Il Grillo del Focolare* with Teatro Grattacielo. He also opened the 27th season of the Capriccio concert series in recital with pianist Mary Jane Austin. He will be performing more recitals with Ms. Austin throughout the United States as well as on the Vermont Virtuosi concert series. He has performed in opera concerts in Oderzo and Feltre, Italy every summer since 2011. Erik is a student of Claudia Pinza.

