

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we moved into the second half of 2020 it was important that we acknowledge the realities of the world we are living in. The pause in in-person gatherings and programming created space to strengthen our administrative foundation, evaluate our structure, identify areas for improvement and better ways we can support our programming and organization for sustainability and growth. We are excited to welcome three new team members to Lyrica Baroque bringing strong talents in each of their fields.

- **SACHA PEISER** joins us as our new NOLA Chamber Fest Director. Sacha is a soprano, music theorist, arts administrator, and voice and piano teacher based here in New Orleans. Not only does she have an impressive artistic background, but she also shines in the work she has done on the administrative side. You can learn more about Sacha [here](#).
- **ASHLEY MILLS** joins the Lyrica Baroque team as our grant writer, bringing with her almost two decades of fundraising and development experience across a range of organizations from health charities to advocacy organizations in New Orleans.
- **IZZIE KEIM** joins Lyrica Baroque to establish a social media strategic plan in order to build and diversify the organization's community of audience, students, collaborators, and funders. Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) to check out her work!

## PROGRAMMING UPDATE

While in person programming has taken a hard pause due to the Coronavirus, we are excitedly planning two Lyrica Baroque staples, Winterreise 2020 (December 17) and NOLA Chamber Fest 2021 (March 18 - March 22).

- Music Coordinator, Ben Atherholt is creating a COVID-19 adjusted, virtual **Winterreise** program for 2020 to assure a beautiful and memorable performance keeping the tradition going that so many enjoy. The ensemble will be smaller this year consisting of a double reed trio featuring visiting pianist Patti Wolf from Austin.
- The format for **NOLA Chamber Fest 2021** will adjust based on public health guidance to be either in person, virtual or hybrid. Participants will have plenty of advance notice as to the format and can stay up to date on the latest announcements by following the NOLA Chamber Fest [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages
- **NOLA Chamber Fest 2020** wrap up continues! Winners of NOLA Chamber Fest's 2020 Ranney and Emel Songu Mize Graduate Division, Lyrica Baroque organized Group 2 performed in a live-streamed event on August 29th on [Groupmuse](#). We are excited to explore more partnership opportunities with the platform bringing "live" performance back as we wait for a time when live, in-person performances can happen.

## HIGHLIGHTS



Sacha Peiser



Ashley Mills



Izzie Keim



Group 2 performing for Groupmuse