

## About Seagle Music Colony

Seagle Music Colony (SMC), founded in 1915 by Oscar Seagle, has trained several thousand vocal artists. In the past 20 years, under the direction of Darren K. Woods and Tony KostECKi, the Colony has been recognized as the premiere training program in the United States, helping launch the careers of successful artists such as Ava Pine, Sean Panikkar, Tyler Simpson, Seth Carico and many others. SMC is well known to opera companies, artistic directors, artists' managers and academics for the professional qualities of its alumni. Now SMC has boldly kicked off its second century by expanding its reach to those who create new opera, fostering new works from their inception.



Above: Scenes from Seagle Music Colony's 2016 world premiere production of *Roscoe* by Evan Mack & Joshua McGuire

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Wes Mason in 2015 workshop of *Roscoe*

American Center for New Works Development  
Advisory Council

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# American Center for New Works Development

at Seagle Music Colony



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[seaglecolony.org](http://seaglecolony.org)

## American Center for New Works Development: Vision

Seagle Music Colony's Board of Directors has adopted a Strategic Plan that will expand its mission of cultivating new artists and art, and provide composers and librettists from around the United States with exactly the facilities and services they need to develop new works. A distinguished council of composers, librettists and opera industry professionals are consulting with SMC to ensure the program provides exceptional value to the artists who create new pieces.

Seagle Music Colony, which has already successfully workshoped eight new operas, held a successful world premiere and a piano-vocal premiere, will now offer its fall season (mid-August through November) to advance development of new works.

SMC will initiate its new developmental program in the fall of 2017. When fully implemented, SMC will be able to fully stage 4 workshop productions, hold 4 piano/vocal workshops and 2-3 libretto readings, all for extremely reasonable and competitive costs. When fully implemented, SMC will employ up to 24 singers, 3 pianists, a stage director, a conductor and technical theater crew to conduct the necessary work. Companies or creators will be able to see their work fully on its feet, or listen to it in whatever stage the new work is in.

In addition to facilitating premieres commissioned by other companies, SMC will become a force in seeking funding to enable composers without a commission to workshop their creations. SMC will actively seek a diverse range of composers to give a broader voice to the operatic canon.

The long term vision for the new works program also includes mentoring programs for composers, librettists and dramaturgs as well as writers' retreats patterned after programs like Yaddo, but with a focus solely on staged musical works.

## SMC Resources & Assets



Nestled in New York's Adirondack Mountains on a beautiful 32-acre campus are a theatre, generous rehearsal space, housing and a dining hall for up to 40 people. Four of the campus buildings are less than 10 years old and the remainder are being continually upgraded.

SMC can offer, when desired, an audience of long-time patrons who have a degree of musical sophistication. SMC is located 4.5 hours from New York City. Albany International Airport is a 1.5 hour drive and an Amtrak station is 30 minutes away. US I-87, the interstate from New York to Montreal, is 8 minutes away from the campus.

SMC will continue its primary program of singer training during the summer months. To integrate the focus of the developmental program into the summer training program, each year one of the mainstage presentations will be a full production of a new work. These may be brand new pieces or recently premiered works that may need a fresh look - pieces with good bones, but a realization by the creators that more work can be done to make the works viable for continued production.



"Libretto" housing unit and "White House" Dining Hall

## Cost Advantages

The American Center for New Works Development at Seagle Music Colony has a proven ability to host workshops for pennies on the dollar compared to traditional opera company workshop processes. For example, Fort Worth Opera workshoped two new pieces in 2009 for a cost of only \$20,000, approximately 20% the cost if it had been done in Texas.

With a flexible menu of available items depending on the size and scope of the development work being done, costs will be as low as \$7,500 for a five day workshop.

Some Examples:

- 5-day workshop including 15 persons (company provides their own singers) with minimal staging needs (i.e. PV Reading):  
~\$7,500-\$10,000
- 5-day workshop - SMC provides 6 singers, conductor, pianist - semi-staged workshop:  
~\$15,000-\$20,000
- 6-day large-scale staged workshop - SMC provides 10 singers, pianist, conductor, dramaturge:  
~\$20,000-\$30,000



View from  
Seagle Music Colony  
Campus