

Soprano **Kathryn Drake Hedlund** joined the voice faculty at University of Mobile as Assistant Professor of Music in Voice in 2012. A native of Big Rapids, Michigan, her recent performances include La Suora Infermiera in *Suor Angelica* with Mobile Opera, and the soprano soloist in Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* with the Eastern Shore Choral Society. Kathryn represented the Southeastern region last summer at the the NATS Artist Awards National Semifinals in Chicago, IL. An active local and regional performer, other recent performances include Mobile Opera's Winter Gala Concert, singing the role of La Ciesca in Mobile Opera's *Gianni Schicchi*, as well as soloing with the Eastern Shore Choral Society, Mozart's *Requiem* with Florence Camerata, and a Valentine's Day concert for Mississippi Opera with tenor Robert Grayson. Favorite performances include Marguerite in Gounod's *Faust* with Opéra Louisiane, the soprano solo in Beethoven's *9th Symphony* with the Acadiana Symphony Orchestra, the role of Juliette in Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette* with LSU Opera, and the soprano solo in the Brahms *Requiem* with the Memphis Symphony under the baton of Dr. Kenneth Fulton. She was the soprano soloist in the Fauré *Requiem* and Handel's *Messiah* with Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra, and sang the roles of Pamina in *The Magic Flute* and The Sandman in *Hansel and Gretel* with Opéra Louisiane.

Kathryn completed her Master's of Music and Doctorate of Musical Arts degrees from Louisiana State University, studying under soprano Patricia O'Neill. Roles with LSU Opera include Female Chorus in *The Rape of Lucretia*, Euridice in *Orfeo ed Euridice*, Violetta in *La Traviata*, Laetitia in *The Old Maid and the Thief*, Anne Stanton in *Willie Stark* (on DVD by Newport Classic, Ltd), the title role in *Suor Angelica*, Blanche in *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, and Micaëla in *La Tragédie de Carmen*. Other roles include Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*, the Countess in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, and Beth in *Little Women*. She earned her Bachelor of Music from the University of Michigan in 2003, where she studied with soprano Shirley Verrett. Dr. Hedlund spent the summers of 2007 and 2008 as an apprentice artist at Des Moines Metro Opera. She was chosen as a Gulf Coast Regional Finalist at the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions from 2006 through 2008. She served as Associate Director of Opéra Louisiane until 2012.

Kathryn resides in Mobile with her husband Ryan, son Theo, and giant, grumpy cat Micio. She frequently adjudicates for local competitions, enjoys working with area high school choirs, and will begin her certification process in the Alexander Technique this fall. She serves in the choir and as a soloist at All Saints Episcopal Church. Other interests include running, soccer, languages, and enjoying the great outdoors with her family.