

PROFESSORS COEFIELD & BRATZ PRESENT RECITAL FEB. 8

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BILLINGS – Rocky Mountain College professors Carolyn Coefield, soprano, and Dr. Jennifer Bratz, piano, will present a recital in Losekamp Auditorium Feb. 8, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. The recital is free and open to the public.

The performance will include music by Hahn, Bellini, Korngold, Lehar, Larsen, and Heggie.

A Montana native and resident of Billings, Ms. Coefield has performed with Rimrock Opera, Portland Opera Works!, Portland SummerFest, Helena Symphony, Helena Chamber Singers, Astoria Music Festival, Bel Canto Northwest, Portland Opera Guild, and The Illustrious Virginia City Players.

Most recently, she sang the role of Micaëla in the 2009 production of “Carmen” with Rimrock Opera. In 2008 she sang the role of Giannetta in Rimrock Opera’s production of “L’Elisir D’amore.” In 2005 and 2006, Ms. Coefield joined Portland Opera Works!, the apprentice and outreach program affiliated with Portland Opera. She performed the roles of the Mother in “Hansel and Gretel,” Papagena and 2nd Lady in “The Magic Flute.” Ms. Coefield was the soprano soloist in Beethoven’s “Ninth Symphony” for the inaugural performance of Music Director Allan R. Scot with Helena Symphony, and returned to sing Johanna in “Sweeney Todd” the following year. More recently she sang Vivaldi’s “Gloria” and “Carmina Burana” with the Helena Chamber Singers. She was also a soprano soloist in the Billings Messiah Festival.

Ms. Coefield has performed at the International Music Festival, Stuttgart, Germany, and throughout Greece. Other roles are Musetta in Puccini's “La Bohème,” Pamina in Mozart's “Die Zauberflöte,” and The Countess in Mozart's “Le Nozze di Figaro.”

In 2010, Carolyn will return to Rimrock Opera to sing the title role in Franz Lehar’s “Merry Widow.” Ms. Coefield received her B.A. in Music at Rocky Mountain College and her Master of Music in vocal performance at Portland State University. She has returned to Rocky as adjunct vocal faculty.

Dr. Jennifer Bratz is in her second year as RMC assistant professor of music where she teaches piano and accompanying. As a pianist, Jennifer is interested in both solo and collaborative playing and has performed throughout the United States. Her programs

often reflect her interest in new music and she was recently involved in a collaborative composition performance that connects the visual and musical arts with colleague Dr. Sam Hamm and photographer Joe Decker. In 2005, Jennifer performed in the Colorado premier of Ned Rorem's "Evidence of Things Not Seen," a monumental song cycle for soprano, alto, tenor, bass, and piano.

Dr. Bratz completed her DMA at the University of Colorado at Boulder in piano performance and holds her Performer's Diploma, MM, and BM degrees from Indiana University. Previous positions include adjunct faculty at Metropolitan State University, sabbatical replacement at the University of Colorado, and accompanying coordinator at Indiana University.

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