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Bronx Council on the Arts' BxIndie Music Series presents an Evening of Operatic Selections by Soprano Melissa Primavera and Tenor Brandon McReynolds at the Riverdale Y at 7:00pm on Tuesday, June 29th

(June 10, 2010 — Bronx, NY) The Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) BxIndie Music Series presents soprano **Melissa Primavera** and tenor **Brandon McReynolds**, both 2009 BCA BRIO winners, performing selections for opera lovers of all ages in a 7:00pm concert at the Riverdale Y PerformanceSpace on Tuesday, June 29th. All are welcome.

Tickets are \$10 (general) and \$8 (students & seniors) and can be purchased at riverdaley.org and at the door. A \$2.00 discount will be offered to holders of BCA's Bronx Cultural Card. The Riverdale Y is located at 5625 Arlington Avenue in the Riverdale section of the Bronx. For information about the Y, call 718-548-8200 or visit their website. The Riverdale Y is wheelchair accessible.

Noted for her "glowing" and "sumptuous" voice, soprano **Melissa Primavera** has delighted audiences in the greater New York City area. Of her performance as "Antonia" in *Tales of Hoffmann* Michael Caruso wrote, "She sang with dramatic intensity, impassioned lyricism and touching intimacy." She has delighted audiences with her comedic portrayals of "Susanna" in *The Marriage of Figaro*, "Despina" in *Così fan tutte* and "Adele" in *Die Fledermaus*. Melissa's operatic repertoire also includes: "Nannetta" in *Falstaff*, "Magda" in *La Rondine*, "Monica" in *The Medium*, "Constance" in *Dialogues of the Carmelites* and "Frasquita" in *Carmen*. In 2009 Melissa was awarded the BRIO Award and made her European and Italian concert debut as a member of the Incontro Accademico Internazionale di Musica e Teatro Bolzano, Italia. She resides in the Bronx and studies privately with Amy Johnson.



Soprano Melissa Primavera and Tenor Brandon McReynolds, both 2009 BCA BRIO winners, will perform operatic selections in a 7:00pm concert at the Riverdale Y on Tuesday, June 29th as part of The Bronx Council on the Arts' BxIndie Music Series. All are welcome.

Photos courtesy of the performers.

One who "delivers considerable thrills" is how the *New York Times* describes young, American tenor **Brandon McReynolds**. The Sweetwater, Texas native has been seen on stage as a member of the Sarasota Opera Studio and il Conte d'Almaviva with Oklahoma University Opera. Recent engagements include *il Duca di Mantua* with Montana Lyric Opera and *Alfredo* with Volkstheater Rostock in Germany. Brandon McReynolds is the recipient of numerous awards and scholarships, among them the Daniel R. Mandelker & Marlene N. Harris Fund Award, Caruso Memorial Scholarship, the Loretta Lewis Award in voice, and BCA's BRIO Award for vocal performance. He has been honored with a Lucrezia Bori Grant for foreign study from Juilliard as well as a tuition scholarship for the Centro Studi Italiano in Urbania, Italy. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Rice University and a Master of Music degree and Artist Diploma from The Juilliard School.

This event is a part of BxIndie programming sponsored by BCA. BxIndie events are designed to encourage artists and arts collectives to explore new performance sites, to break new ground in various disciplines and to get closer to their audience, thus increasing community participation while fostering an environment for the arts to thrive. BxIndie is a NYC Cultural Innovation Fund project funded by the Rockefeller Foundation.

Directions to the Riverdale Y: By Express Bus: Riverdale-Mid-Manhattan Express bus to Riverdale Avenue & 256th Street. **By Subway:** IRT No. 1 train to Broadway and 231st Street. Take bus No. 7 or No. 10 (must indicate stops above 246th St.) to 256th Street, cross over Riverdale Avenue, turn right on Arlington Ave., Y is on your left.

The Riverdale YM-YWHA provides individuals and families of all backgrounds and abilities an environment to grow, to learn, and to deepen their understanding of themselves and their connections to one another. Their cultural, social, educational, health and wellness programs offer members of all ages multiple pathways into the richness of our local community life.

This event was made possible with funding by the NYS Council on the Arts, the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs Greater New York Arts Development Fund, Department of Youth & Community Development, Scherman Foundation, Carnegie Corporation, Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., the Bronx Delegation of the City Council, and Council Members Maria del Carmen Arroyo and James Vacca.

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