

ALUMNI SHOWCASE

Jeffrey Goldberg, Class of 2013



Jeffrey Goldberg, LCHS class of 2013, is a dedicated and talented vocalist with a successful career as a professional opera singer. Upon graduating from LCHS, he enrolled at Chapman University as a Vocal Performance Major. It is no coincidence that Jeffrey chose Chapman to continue his vocal studies. LCHS choir director Dr. Jeff Brookey also graduated from Chapman and this knowledge heavily influenced Jeffrey's choice. He even studied with the same voice teacher that worked with Dr. Brookey when he was in college! Chapman suited Mr. Goldberg perfectly. He spent multiple years in the top choir and performed in operas as well as several student run musicals during his time at Chapman. He then moved on to graduate school at Northwestern University where he earned a Master's degree in Voice and Opera in 2020. Goldberg was most recently seen in a performance of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* presented by Opera NEO in San Diego this past summer.

Jeffrey's first experience with LCHS choir was halfway through his eighth grade. He is quick to note that "it was because my mom forced me into it!" Her pressure was driven by the fact that Goldberg's twin brother had joined the Men's Ensemble which met during zero period and his mother hoped to reduce her morning trips to school. Despite that dubious start, it did not take long for him to fall in love with the choir. His first year in the program was also notable in that it was the year that director Brookey joined the staff at LCHS. Through his high school years, Goldberg made his way from Concert Choir to Chamber Singers... all while continuing to sing with the Men's Ensemble. Goldberg's early singing experiences were all shaped by his time working with Dr. Brookey. He most admired director Brookey's ability to treat everyone in the choir with respect while simultaneously taking care of the needs of both the individual and the group. He adds that Brookey was "also very good at picking repertoire that was challenging, rewarding, and incredibly fun to sing."

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Many of Jeffrey's fondest high school memories were made on the Chamber retreats. They were opportunities to get to know each other and to learn to complement each other with their voices. "Dr. Brookey is an expert at getting a choir to bond together and he knows that a choir that gets along together will produce better music" explains Goldberg. He adds "I remember how amazing it was to be a part of the group after each one." The singer was also fortunate enough to be a part of the very first international tour to Italy. "It was amazing! We sang for the pope and even sang mass at the Vatican... we traveled across the country, eating incredible food and performing in beautiful and historic venues. Our final concert in a little church in the Piazza Navona in Rome was, to this day, one of the most magical chorus experiences I've ever been a part of."



Performing as Gabriel von Eisenstein
in *Die Fledermaus*, February 2020 at
Northwestern University