



LEFT: Deanna Meyler checks her pitch before taking the stage at Carnegie Hall along with the 71 other members of the University Singers. Months of practices and several concerts provided building blocks for singers to know their parts well and overcome nervousness with excitement as they took the stage at Carnegie Hall.  
 ABOVE: University Singer members A.J. Reimer (left) Jessica Huston (center) and Audra Kelley exit their dressing room excited about their upcoming performance at Carnegie Hall as they make their way backstage before their 8 p.m. concert Sunday, Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>.

ABOVE: Choral Director Peter Eklund humors Stacie Vogelsang (left), Rebecca Gruber (center) and Mary Beth Schmit prior to taking exiting their dressing room in order to take the stage at Carnegie Hall. Students and faculty felt their levels of anxiety had been overcome by an overwhelming sense of excitement as a result of their preparedness.  
 TOP: DMA in choral conducting and teacher's assistant Rebecca Gruber performs part of the Mendelssohn Psalm 42 with the University Singers Choir, Hoffstra University choir and New York Chamber Orchestra at Carnegie Hall January 14<sup>th</sup>. Gruber wishes her parents were still around to know about and share in her excitement as a soloist and contributing part of the University Singers performance at Carnegie Hall.

story and photos by nate wagner