

Centralia-Born Opera Soloist to Highlight Astoria Music Festival

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Angela Meade

Angela Meade, right, performs while accompanied by pianist, Amy Glenn, at Corbet Theater at Centralia College on Saturday afternoon.

The 14th rendition of the Astoria Music Festival will feature Centralia's own Angela Meade as a star performer. The popular, and lengthy, festival will run from June 17-July 3.

Meade, who is an acclaimed American soprano solo operaist, will perform the role of Leonora in Verdi's *Il Trovatore*. The role will be a familiar one for Meade who recently participated in the same performance, and drew rave reviews, at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. Meade was born in Centralia and studied at Centralia Community College prior to earning a Bachelor of Music degree with an emphasis on voice from Pacific Lutheran University. Later, she attained a Master of Music degree in voice from the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California. Meade then continued refining her craft by studying at the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia.

During her career Meade has won more than 50 vocal competitions, including the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in 2007. She also won grand prize at the Montreal International Music Competition in 2009, and in 2011 she was awarded the prestigious Richard Tucker award. In 2012 Meade received the Metropolitan Opera's Beverly Sills Artist Award.

The Astoria Music Festival, which has developed a reputation as one of the finest summer music festival in the region, will feature domestic and imported vocal and instrumental musicians. In a press release event organizers noted that, "Summer 2016 promises another exquisite experience of musical performances of the highest artistry amidst the natural beauty of Astoria, Oregon, where the Columbia River meets the Pacific Ocean."

Additional information on the Astoria Music Festival can be found online at <http://astoriamusicfestival.org/>.