

### **MEET LUCY CALAWAY (BUTI'19,'20)**

Meet Lucy Calaway (BUTI'19,'20), a soprano from Winston-Salem, North Carolina! Lucy attended the Young Artists Vocal Program in 2019 and was planning to attend for her second summer in 2020. Lucy was a student in the high school program at University of North Carolina School of the Arts during her senior year. The high school program at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts combines top-tier academics with immersive conservatory training in the arts. In this unique program, you can earn a high school diploma with an arts designation as you refine your art and academic skills alongside talented peers, undergraduate and graduate students.

#### **Why did you choose to attend an arts boarding school?**

"I chose to attend an arts boarding school because I felt I would be able to participate much more in music, and I wanted to attend a school where music and the arts were a priority, rather than just an elective. UNCOSA is unique because it offers a high school program that is alongside their college program. High school students live in their own dorm separate from college students and have their own academic hall, but share music classes, libraries, and cafeteria areas with college students. I was really interested in the opportunity to have my normal academic classes with the rest of the high school students, and then go to my lessons and music classes with a college professor, and my ensembles that combine high school and college students. Attending an arts high school definitely made me feel more prepared and less stressed overall about my college audition experience, because everyone around me was going through the same process, and the teachers completely understood and supported us through every step. UNCOSA also allowed high school students the experiences of things like singing in the chorus of the graduate program opera or scenes, playing in the orchestras of ballets or operas, and performing with guest conductors and in masterclasses that normally would begin in college. "

#### **What is the balance between arts and academics at University of North Carolina School of the Arts?**

"UNCOSA manages the balance between arts and academics by designating every Wednesday as solely for arts classes. All academic classes are taken during the other days of the week, as well as classes like music theory, and Wednesday is used for longer rehearsals, weekly studio classes, and Performance Hour (the School of Music all attends an hour of student performances), and masterclasses. The teachers also understand the schedule of arts students, and are willing to work with students to ensure they stay on track even with things like college auditions."

#### **Why did you choose to attend BUTI?**

"I chose to attend BUTI because I knew of its reputation as one of the best and most rewarding summer programs for high school musicians, and because I was interested in the opportunities within it, like the ability to see Tanglewood performances and masterclasses."

**What was your favorite part of BUTI?**

“My favorite part of BUTI was connecting to other high school musicians. Before programs like BUTI and UNCSA, I encountered very few people who were passionate about music enough to want to pursue it in college. The ability to talk to and relate to other students with the same experiences and goals as myself was awesome. I still have connections with so many people from BUTI, and saw someone from it at almost every college audition.”

**How has BUTI and University of North Carolina School of the Arts helped you grow?**

“BUTI and UNCSA have helped me grow by showing me how rewarding and fun studying classical music can be, and by establishing the skills I will need to succeed in music school.”

**Advice to students interested in attending an Arts Boarding School?**

“I would encourage students who are interested in an arts boarding school to go for it! Even if you know you don't want to major in music in college, prioritizing both arts and academics in high school can be so rewarding and provide you with a unique and really enjoyable experience in high school.”

While at UNCSA, Lucy performed in opera scenes, including Die Zauberflöte and A Midsummer Night's Dream, and was a merit winner nationally for Young Arts. Since her time at BUTI and UNCSA, she has committed to attending Vanderbilt in the Fall.