

**Erin Bardua** will explore “*Imagination and Expressive Musicality for All Disciplines*”. While vocal students have a slight advantage in this area of performance, thanks to the inclusion of text in their pieces, it's still up to the teacher to ensure students are understanding and expressing that text, and using it to inform the character of the musical phrases. Instrumental students can often reach technical proficiency ahead of musical maturity, and thinking more like a singer - using their imaginations to find character, storytelling, imagery, and textual cues - can help them access a wider palette of expression.

Sackville, NB soprano **Erin Bardua** is a frequent concert soloist, who has performed with the Talisker Players, Nota Bene Baroque Players, Pax Christi Chorale, the Toronto Sinfonietta, the Oshawa-Durham Chorus, the Arcady Baroque Ensemble, the St. James Cathedral Choir, Capella Intima, London Pro Musica and the Menno Singers, among others. Her repertoire includes an extensive list of oratorio titles.

Erin is the co-founder of Essential Opera, a concert opera company performing great works in Ontario and the Atlantic. She has an impressive list of operatic roles with EO and other companies encompassing both traditional roles as well as premiering leading roles in several new compositions.

Erin provided dramatic coaching and stage direction for Mount Allison University's Opera Workshop in the 2015-2016 season, including Pauline Viardot's *Cendrillon* and excerpts from Baroque opera. She operates a private voice studio in Sackville and is a regular festival adjudicator.